



The Newman Cluster

Parish Priest: Fr Simon Ellis

Parish Office for the Cluster

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Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am- 4pm

The Newman Cluster is a growing into a united Catholic community comprising the following places of worship

Christ the King ("CTK")
124 Warren Farm Road
Kingstanding
B44 0QN

Our Lady of the Assumption ("OLAM")
82 Old Oscott
Maryvale
B44 9SP

St Margaret Mary (SMM)
59 Perry Common Road
Perry Common
B23 7AB

Welcome to Mass on the Third Sunday of Easter:

1st Reading: Acts 2.14, 22-23 *It was not possible for Christ to be held by the pangs of death*

Responsorial Psalm *O Lord, you will show me the path of life*

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1.17-21 *You were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ*

Gospel Acclamation *Lord Jesus, open the scriptures to us, make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us*

Gospel: Luke 24.13-35 *The encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus*

Sat	18/04/2026	Third Sunday of Easter (Vigil Masses) and other events.	12.00 CTK	Recitation of the Rosary
		The 12.30 Mas at CTK will be preceded by the Recitation of the Rosary	12.30 CTK	Declan Butler
			14.00 SMM	Marriage of Natasha McCunnie and Clarke Dutton
			15.00 Con	Half-Day of Recollection
			18.00 OLAM	Micheal Deane
Sun	19/04/26	Third Sunday of Easter	09:30 CTK	Matthew Bridger (Birthday) (RIP)
			11:15 SMM	Evelyn Butler
			16.30 CTK	Holy Hour for the Dignity of Life
Mon	20/04/26	Easter Feria	07:30 SMM	Luke Byrne RIP
			08.00 Con	Cancelled
			11am SMM	Requiem For Henry Cunningham
Tue	21/04/26	Easter Feria	09.30 MPS 16.00 SMM 18.00 CTK	Micheal Canavan (RIP) Reception into Church Kitty Woulfe Induction Mass: Fr Simon
Wed	22/04/26	Easter Feria	08:00 Con.	Cancelled
			09.15 SMM	Patrick Nolan RIP
			11.00 SMM	Requiem Mass Kitty Woulfe
			17.30 SMM	Sycamore: Details on next page
Fri	24/04/26	Easter Feria	09.00 CTK	Private Intention
Sat	25/04/20	Feast of St Mark, Evangelist	10.30am SMM 12.30 CTK	Baptism of Amiri Ezekiel Hickey Kevin Berns
			18.00 OLAM	Grace Deane (Anni)
Sun	26/04/2026	Fourth Sunday of Easter	09.30 CTK	Lawrence & Patricia Tams (Anni)
			11.15 SMM	Barnabas Nchegla Agendia

Prayer of the Faithful

Fr Simon writes: At a recent funeral of a Deacon friend, the Bishop said that the said Deacon had regretted spending 40 years teaching people (in RE) information *about* Jesus instead of helping them to *know* Jesus. That's a fair point- catechesis is important but especially in the culture we are now in, engagement with the heart is even more vital – evangelisation is foundational. Once people encounter the Lord, all the rest follows naturally. St Anselm (1033-1109, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1093) and our saint for the week, put it like this:

"I do not seek to understand in order to believe, but I believe in order that I may understand"

What happens in a Half-Day of Recollection? The format for these events at the Convent is that there is always a talk preceded by some prayer and worship. The guest speaker for the Half-day on 18th April is our very own Deacon Dominic. After a break for tea, there is Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The Half-Day begins at 3 pm and ends just after 5 pm.

Pope Leo's Prayer intentions for April: When we pray for the Pope's intentions at the beginning of the Rosary, our Holy Father asks us during April specifically to pray for priests in crisis: "Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout April, both at OLAM and at CTK, the Sanctuary lamp is dedicated to the intentions of Deacon Gary and his family.

Pray For the Sick: Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Josephine Brown, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Niamh O'Reilly, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Patricia Nash, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan Horton, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head, Anne Cunningham and Anne O'Brien (Deacon Gary's mother).

Please pray for the recently departed: We offer our prayers for the repose of the souls of Alan Horton, Eddie Walsh, Jennifer Harrison, Grazyna Grunau, Brenda Jones, Hughie Patrlcik Underwood, Val Lennon, Danny McCrossan, Peggy Jackman, John Murtagh, Michael Patrick O'Donoghue, Anthony Crear; Ruth Black, Michael Coffey, Fr. Osmond Aisbitt, Esther Hill, Margaret Greenleaf, Deacon Stephen O'Connor, Nola Murray, Edward Oliver Bailey, David Fitzsimons, Takii Mariam, Christopher Diggle, William Vincent Moloney, Alan Horton, Patricia Donnelly, Paul Walker (né Paul Brian Tover), Prof. Judith Champ, Eugene Michael McNally, Michael Long, John Fleming, Nicola Vizard Howell, Christy O'Reilly, Henry Joseph Cunningham, Joan Ivory, Bridget Margaret Hynes, Kitty Woulfe, Lilian Fellows, and Dot (Florence) Myles all of whom have recently died.

Forthcoming Funerals:

Henry Cunningham's Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 20th April at 11.00am at SMM.

John Orange's Funeral will take place at Perry Barr Crematorium on 21st April at 11.30am.

Catherine Woulfe will be received into Church on 21st April at SMM at 4pm and her Requiem Mass will be celebrated in SMM on 22nd April 11.00am.

Michael Long's Funeral Service will take place at SMM on 27th April at 1pm.

Alan Horton will be received into Church on 27th Aril at 4pm at CTK and his Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 28th April at 12 Noon at CTK.

Joan Ivory's Funeral will take place at Sandwell Valley Crematorium on 30th April at 11.30am.

Michael (Eugene) McNally will be received into Church on 30th April at 6pm at SMM and his Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 1st May at SMM at 12.00 noon.

Patricia Donnelly will be received into Church on 6th May at 4.30pm at OLAM, and her Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 7th May in OLAM at 11am.

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Cluster, Deanery and Diocesan Notices

CTK



OLAM



SMM Figures 05:04:26 £308.16

Mass Count 242

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £386.00
 Envelopes: £113.00
 S/O £171.31
Total £670.31
Mass count 362

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose £105.81
 Envelopes: £100.00
 S/O £73.58
Total: £279.39
Mass Count 53

Last Week's Collection SMM

Loose £229.94
 Envelopes: £132.00
 S/O £
Total: £361.94
Mass Count TBC

Term Dates and School Masses: Maryvale Catholic Primary School returns from its Easter Holiday on 13th April and so the Tuesday Mass will revert to being celebrated in the School Hall at the usual time of 09.30. The first Mass of the summer term is on 14th April at which Fr. Jude will preside. St Margaret Mary RC Junior and Infant School likewise returns on 13th April and the first School Mass will be in SMM church as usual at 09.15 on 15th April for Years 1 and 4. Christ the King Catholic Primary School returns on 20th April and so the Mass on Friday at 09.00 will be a Mass for Friday of the Second Week of Easter without the participation of the pupils and staff. Any parishioner is welcome to join any of the School Masses during the week.

Masses in the Convent: We are very grateful to Bishop David who is always willing to celebrate a Mass at 08.00 on Mondays and Wednesdays whenever his diary permits. From time to time, it is not possible to provide Mass in the Convent. **We try to give as much notice as we can but please help the Parish Office by making sure that you put your telephone number on the Mass intention envelope so that we can contact you directly.** If Mass in the Convent must be cancelled, then any Mass intention set for it will be rescheduled. **There will be no Mass in the Convent on either 20th or 22nd April** because Bishop David is at the Plenary Meeting of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

First Friday Masses in the Sacred Heart Chapel, Maryvale: the First Friday in April coincided with Good Friday which is one of the two days in the year when the Church never celebrates Holy Mass. The next First Friday Mass will be on 3rd May at the usual time of 7 pm.

Sycamore Talks at SMM: These take place in the Newman Gallery which is accessed via the steps at the back of the Church. The topic for the forthcoming talk is: "the existence of God". 29 April A God who speaks; 6 May Who is Jesus? 20 May The Holy Spirit and the Church; 3 June The Holy Bible; 17 June Gift of Faith; 24 June Baptism and the Sacraments 1 July The power of Prayer; 8 July Forgiveness, healing and mission

Document on the Ordinariates: The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (a Department of the Vatican in Rome) has recently issued a document concerning the Ordinariates established under the Apostolic Constitution *Anglicanorum Coetibus*. The Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham of which Fr. Simon and Fr. Leonard and others in the Cluster are members is one such Ordinariate. The Prefect of the Dicastery (Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernández) has requested that the document be disseminated as widely as possible. There are copies at the back of each Church and more can always be requested from the Parish Office.

Retrouvaille Marriage Ministry: Retrouvaille is a marriage ministry, run by Catholics, to support marriages in trouble. It runs two programmes each year, catering to about 75 couples, who need help to find hope and healing in their relationship. The majority of couples find out about this ministry through parish newsletters and you might like to include the following in your bulletin: From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443.

Volunteers: Thank you to the volunteers who attended the meeting on 11/04/26, some lovely fundraising ideas are now underway so watch this space. CTK are still looking for volunteers to add to our team to help plan fund raising events and to help bring some much-needed funds into our cluster. more. Please contact Claire in the parish office if you have any free time and are able to help

Highlights of the Easter Season in the Newman Cluster

The parishes in the Cluster are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

21 st April	18.00 CTK	Fr. Simon's Induction as Parish Priest followed by a celebration in the Kingstanding Inn.
24 th April	11.30 E. H	Centenary Coffee Morning: Blessing of the Plaque. Emery House Turfpits Lane B23 5PD
30 th April	19.00 CTK	Remembrance Service for our Faithful Departed
9 th May	11.00 OLAM	First Holy Communion for children in Y3 at Maryvale Catholic Primary School.
1 st May	09.30 CTK	Dedication of the newly baptised (Nigerian Rite)
14 th May	ALL	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)
23 rd May	12.30 CTK	Vigil of Pentecost; Sacraments of Initiation for those in Deacon Gary's Catechism Class [OLAM Mass at 18.00 as usual].
24 th May	CTK	Pentecost: African Mass: time to be confirmed Morning Masses as usual]

Please Put These dates in your diary

Remembrance of our Faithful Departed: Thank you to everyone who supported this initiative either by attending in person or on the live stream. Deacon Gary was greatly encouraged by the kind comments he received afterwards. This service combines Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Official Prayer of the Church for the Faithful Departed and Benediction. Since those watching on-line will not have this service in their Missal, the service sheet will be circulated in advance with the emailed copies of the Newsletter and posted on-line

Rosary in the Easter Season: During the Easter Season, our dedicated Rosary Group has been asked to focus on the Glorious Mysteries. The Glorious Mysteries are more attuned to our celebrations in the Easter Season.

Other Clergy in the Cluster

Assistant Priest: Fr Leonard Cox fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk
Also in the Cluster: Fr Jude Mbonu fr.jude.mbonu@rcaob.org.uk
Cluster Deacons: Rev Mr Gary Obrien dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk
Rev Mr Dominic Fahey dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk

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The Cluster operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives in the Cluster are Caroline Gorman (CTK), Angela Hooker (OLAM) and Renata Olkowska (SMM). To report concerns or issues email Caroline on sg.christtheking.bham@rcaob.org.uk; Angela on sg.ol-assumption.bham@rcaob.org.uk and Renata on sg.margaret.mary.bham@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively concerns or issues can be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on **0121 230 6240** or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk