



St Chad

# St Chad and All Saints

## St Peter and The English Martyrs

### "The Sunday Parish Newsletter"



St Peter

**Our Parish Priest is Rev. Fr. Paul Edwards, PP ■ Our Parish Administrator is Eileen Dorrian ■ Office Tel: 01902 882215**

e-mail addresses: Fr Paul → [fr.paul.edwards@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.paul.edwards@rcaob.org.uk) ■ Parish Office → [stchadallsaints.sedgley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stchadallsaints.sedgley@rcaob.org.uk)

Parishes in the Dudley and Wolverhampton Deanery of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Registered Charity No: 234216 ■ Parish website: [www.rcsedgley.com](http://www.rcsedgley.com)

St Chad and All Saints, 2 Catholic Lane, Sedgley, West Midlands, DY3 3UE  
Safeguarding Representative: Laura Hughson: [sg.stchadallsaints@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stchadallsaints@rcaob.org.uk)

St Peter and The English Martyrs, Temple Street, Lower Gornal, West Midlands, DY 3 2PE  
Safeguarding Representative: Jean Davis: [sg.stpem.lowergornal@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stpem.lowergornal@rcaob.org.uk)

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - Year C

Confessions: St Peter's on Fridays after 6:30pm Mass ■ St Chad's on Saturdays after 6:30pm Mass  
(Saturday Evening Masses are Vigil Masses)

Sat	29	Mar	5:00pm 6:30pm	Abraham John RIP Angela	St Peter's - Mgr Mark Crisp St Chad's - Fr Guy Nicholls
Sun	30	Mar	9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm	Minnie and Ted Tinsley RIP Frank Shannaghan RIP <b>Baptism: Dominic and Darra Ugochukwu</b>	St Peter's - Fr Alex Taylor St Chad's - Fr Guy Nicholls <b>St Chad's</b>
Mon	31	Mar	-----	NO MASS	-----
Tue	1	Apr	-----	NO MASS	-----
Wed	2	Apr	10:00am	The Stations of The Cross	St Peter's
Thu	3	Apr	11:00am	Eucharistic Service followed by The Stations of The Cross (During Lent)	St Chad's
Fri	4	Apr	1:00pm 6:30pm	Mass for Paul Nicholls RIP NO MASS	St Chad's -----
Sat	5	Apr	5:00pm 6:30pm	PERP PERP	St Peter's St Chad's
Sun	6	Apr	9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm	POP Frank Fox RIP (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniv), Betty and Teresa Fox RIP <b>Baptism: Mabel Jacqueline Rose</b>	St Peter's St Chad's <b>St Chad's</b>

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025: Requiem Mass - Tim Gallagher RIP at 10:30am at St Chad's Church.**

#### OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO TO ALL WHO HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE

*May they rest in peace in Our Lord's Loving Arms*

*We also remember our dearly departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur around this time and pray together in charity for all those who have gone before us, all their loved ones who now suffer their loss, and offer our prayers for those who are left to grieve.*

**May their souls and the souls of all faithful departed rest in peace. Amen**

Please see also our website page **"In Memoriam"** dedicated to the remembrance of all our dearly departed parishioners and all our past clergy

Abraham Chato	Alan Brookes	Albert Wynn	Andy Blunt	Angela Brooks	Ann Allsopp	Arthur Hickman	Astrid Presley	Audrey McDonnell	Baby John O'Brien
Benny Hegarty	Bernard Abbiss	Bernard Ashworth	Bernard Oakley	Bernard Ward	Beryl Turner	Bert Wootton	Catherine Cockings	Cathleen Hopkins	Cecilia Davidson
Cecilia Rollason	Colin McLaughlin	Colin Starkey	Doreen Coochill	Eileen Caddick	Eileen Gilbride	Eileen Sexton	Ellen White	Elsie Holden	Evelyn Parker
Florence Cox	Florence Rollason	Frank McHugh	Fred Birch	Fred Edwards	Fred Wilks	Geoffrey Caddick	Gil Tinsley	Gilbert Fellows	Gilbert Nicholls
Gladys Beardsmore	Glenis Slater	Graham Carter	Graham Edwards	Hedwick Granger	Jean Abbiss	Jean Green	Jerry Mulligan	Jimmy Corcoran	John Fletcher
John Green	John Hradsky	John Morrow	Joyce Hradsky	Kate Blakemore	Kenneth Marsden	Leo Shannaghan	M C Stephen	Maddy Gregg	Malcolm Turner
Margaret Brookes	Marian Wright	Martin Coochill	Mary Bentley	Mary Burns	Mary Kelley	Mary Spiteri	Mary Walters	Maurice O'Sullivan	Michael Abbiss
Michael Grainger	Michael Hytch	Michael McDermott	Michael Oakley	Michael Weaver	Nigel Sommerfield	Pat Hodgson	Patricia Loosmore	Patricia Rivers	Peter Blackwell
Peter Wood	Sally Hickman	Shirley Stanley	Susan Cox	Teresa Fox	Tim Gallagher	Tom McEntee	Tom Reilly	Tommy Caffrey	Tony Walters
Veronica Boyle	Vivian Reilly	Walter Davis	William Cody	William French	William Green	William Lane	Winifred McHugh	Winnie Allen	

*When requesting a Mass Intention, could you please specify your preferred church. Thank You*

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH

*We pray to the merciful heart of Jesus and ask for the intercession of Our Lady; St Chad; St Peter; The English Martyrs; and all The Saints to help all our sick, housebound and their carers, all those who suffer, and everyone in hospital.*

Bernard Mason	Beryl Gayzer	Bill Wire	Brian Ingram	Brian Brennan	Cameron	Clare Mason	Colin Small	David White	Dominic Ward
Geoffrey Worthington	Harmony Riley	Hilda Davis	Irene Clarke	Janet Shorthouse	Janet Wynn	Jisha Philip	Joe Spiteri	Karen Palk	Ken Presland
Kerry Blunt	Liz Ward	Mary Ward	Maureen Fletcher	Maurice Langford	Michael Doherty	Pat Hurst	Patricia Hytch	Patrick Caddick	Paula Rice
Rosemary Ingram	Sean Hunt	Sean Walters	Sharon Jones	Steven Richards	Sue Smith	Theresa Mason	Verity Shepherd	Wendy Grimmet	

#### NOTICE REGARDING THE USE OF THE CEMETERY ACCESS DRIVEWAY CAR PARK BY THE PARISH HALL

We have had to place a restriction of **NO** cars or other vehicles using the High Holborn driveway leading to the cemetery access Car Park, during school term time only, between the hours **► 8:20am to 9:00am and 3:00pm to 3:30pm ◄**

This restriction is to ensure the safety of and prevent any accidents occurring to our school children at arrival and departure from school during the very busy times shown above.

All school parents are thanked for cooperating to safeguard the children.

(See also the homepage of our website for some diagrams - [www.rcsedgley.com](http://www.rcsedgley.com))

#### ► ST CHAD AND ST PETER GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR COLLECTION

The Gift Aid and Planned Giving envelopes for the 2025-26 tax year for both parishes are available for collection from this weekend (29th/30th March) at the back of each church.

Could parishioners collect their labelled box of envelopes as soon as possible.

The new envelopes are to be used commencing next weekend (5th/6th April).

## NOTICES FOR BOTH ST CHAD AND ST PETER

### Father Paul Personal Appointments

To discuss a personal matter with Father Paul please telephone our Parish Administrator and arrange a mutually convenient time.  
Enquiries from both churches → please contact Eileen Dorrian on parish office telephone: 01902 882215 - Thank you.

#### Cheque Payments to the Parish:

To avoid cheques being returned by the bank please use the payee style that is shown in *italics*:

St Chad → Please use the recommended payee style as shown here: *"For RC Archdiocese of B'ham, Sedgley Parish Regd as a Chrt'y"*  
St Peter → Please use the recommended payee style as shown here: *"RC Archdiocese Of B'ham Parish Of Lower Gornal Registered Charity"*

#### HMRC Gift Aid Scheme General Overview Information and Appeal:

- In the tax year 2023-24, His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) returned £5,831.71 to St Chad's and £4,751.00 to St Peter's - a grand total of £10,582.71 to Parish funds - through their tax Gift Aid Scheme for charities. This is a very valuable accrurement to and a booster of funds for both our churches: and a most welcome and vital gift.
- If you are a UK taxpayer and have signed a Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) then your donations, whether made by envelope at Mass collections or by Standing Order, gained the extra 25% as shown above for our Parishes. We would kindly request all parishioners who are UK taxpayers and not currently signed-up for Gift Aid, to please consider signing a Gift Aid Declaration (GAD) form and joining the scheme for the 2025-2026 tax year. There is absolutely no additional cost to yourself and no commitment for you to donate a regular set amount each week.
- Please contact: Paul Abbiss or Nick Ford (see yellow section below for telephones) to join the scheme and receive a box of envelopes for your private weekly Mass contribution.
- All personal information supplied by parishioners is kept securely and controlled under the Data Protection Act 2018 whose UK implementation of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) must be followed under very strict rules called "data protection principles". Thank you for all your support.

#### Other Notices for Both Churches:

- 1: Second Collections: Thank you for your continued generosity in donating towards the many appeals being made.
- 2: Newsletter Printing: If there are any events, news, or any other activities at St Chad's and St Peter's, which parishioners at either or both churches would like to share by publicising them in our weekly newsletter, please send these to reach us *before Fridays* if you wish to have them included in our next edition.
- 3: Parish Website Updates: To stay up-to-date, and you have internet access, please visit our website - [www.rcsedgley.com](http://www.rcsedgley.com) - during the week for any updates.
- 4: St Vincent de Paul Society: The SVP needs volunteers with spare time to visit the elderly. Please contact Vivian Clarke - see yellow section below for telephone.

### NOTICES FOR ST CHAD

- 1: Church Grounds Maintenance Help: The groundforce team meet on Saturday mornings at 10.00 am (weather permitting). We really could do with more pairs of hands over the coming few weeks as things start to grow during springtime. Anyone interested in joining the team to do a bit of litter picking, painting, weeding, trimming bushes and general tidying of the church grounds, please contact Paul Abbiss (phone number given above) or turn up on Saturday morning.
- 2: Second Collections:
 

	22/23	Mar:	Last week's second collection for property maintenance totalled £124.20 which will contribute to the interior refurbishment of the Presbytery.
	29/30	Mar:	This week's second collection is also for property maintenance as the exterior of the Presbytery is due to be painted over the coming months.
	05/06	Apr:	Next week's second collection will be the regular collection we need to make for cemetery maintenance, to pay the professional gardeners for cutting the grass around both graveyards.
- 3: Toilet Facility at Sunday Mass: The original toilet in the courtyard behind the church is now available for use. Please ask any church warden for the key and directions to the facility.
- 4: For Bookworms: Please browse the second-hand books on the shelves in St Chad's Church porch. Take any that interest you and leave a small donation in the box provided. As many have been there for some time we are planning to remove all the old books by the end of March. We intend to replace them with new donations over the next few weeks. Any suitable books you wish to donate would be welcomed. Thank you.

### NOTICES FOR ST PETER

- 1: Food Bank: Please, we are asking for donations for our food bank at St Peter's as a matter of great urgency to help all those who are currently in need and in financial difficulties. Thank you very much in advance for your kind generosity.
- 2: Parking note from the parish office: Please be a little more considerate with parking - people are getting blocked in. Thank You.
- 3: Craft and Chat Group: Our Lenten Project will be Easter Chicks and Bunnies for donation to Mary Stevens Hospice. Also, please continue to bring your completed items for Russells Hall Neonatal Unit.

#### PARISH CONTACTS

Addresses of our two parish churches:  
Parish Treasurers and Gift Aid:  
Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVP):  
Safeguarding Representatives:  
Newsletter Team:

#### ST CHAD AND ALL SAINTS

2 Catholic Lane, Sedgley, West Midlands, DY3 3UE  
Paul Abbiss (07743 782312)  
Vivian Clarke (01902 897768)  
Laura Hughson: [sg.stchadallsaints@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stchadallsaints@rcaob.org.uk)  
Sophia Simpson or any other church warden

#### ST PETER AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Temple Street, Lower Gornal, West Midlands, DY3 2PE  
Nick Ford (07851 681603)  
Jo Tinsley (01384 256673)  
Jean Davis: [sg.stpem.lowergornal@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stpem.lowergornal@rcaob.org.uk)  
Patrick Caddick

- Please see Fr Paul first with your news (or any corrections) for the newsletter or pass them to him via your church "Newsletter Team" (see the yellow section above)

- Some special text and other notices are reprinted weekly for the benefit of new parishioners or visitors; parishioners who do not have Internet; or anyone who missed a recent Newsletter

#### ST MICHAEL PRAYER

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in this day of battle, be our safeguard against wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou O, Prince of the heavenly host, through the power of God, thrust into hell satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

#### POPE FRANCIS MONTHLY INTENTIONS: MARCH 2025

For families in crisis:

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts even in their differences.

#### ST CHAD'S CHILDREN LITURGY AND REFLECTION CORNER

We have a fully supervised Children Liturgy and Reflection Corner at the back of our Church now. If you feel your young child or children will be more relaxed in our Liturgy Corner, please use the facility as you wish. We have toys, drawing materials and books for the children.

#### FORWARD PLANNING DIARY EVENT

We are thinking ahead to our Christmas Fayre 2025 at St Chad's church and are asking parishioners if you could please save your empty Douwe Egberts coffee jars, or any other equally large jars with lids, and bring them to church and hand them to the wardens for storage until the fayre. We are hoping to revive the Jar Tombola and will be in touch nearer the time.

**CARER REQUIRED:** for a delightful, non-verbal child with complex needs, DY1 area, to support the family at home.

After school in term time 3:00-6:00pm (flexible). Every other Saturday 10:30-5:30pm (flexible). School holidays 10:30-5:30pm or 1:30-5:30pm (flexible).

If you think this could be you or want further information then please ask. Send CV to: [info@ibs-ma.co.uk](mailto:info@ibs-ma.co.uk) or call Jordan 01922 716290.

### SPRINGTIME DAY OUT

**A day trip to Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury has been organised by St Peter's parishioners for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Price: £30 includes Lunch and Coach Travel. Further details from Kath Marsh (07816 411196) or Jo Tinsley (01384 256673) - see the poster in the churches - All St Chad's & St Peter's parishioners welcome.**

### PARISH SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT ST CHAD'S CHURCH

<b>SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB</b> Monday Afternoons 2:00pm - 4:00pm. Thank you to all the members for your support and to all who organize this very successful club.	<b>WEDNESDAY CLUB</b> Wednesday Afternoons 1:30pm - 3:30pm. Entry £2. Our weekly get-together for Over Sixties. Come along for a coffee, chat, a quiz and a game of Bingo. Please contact Maureen Burford (Tel: 07976 226950)	<b>SATURDAY NIGHT DANCING</b> Saturdays 7:30pm till late. Tickets £3 include Raffle. Ballroom, Sequence and Line Dancing. Come along, you will be very welcome. Bring your own refreshments.
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*Please: Do not drive on or park any vehicle at the back of St Chad's Parish Hall. The Play Area slabs are of patio quality only and are not designed to be driven upon. Extra car parking is available on our neighbour's ASDA car park but please be aware there is a strict TWO-HOUR limit - even for Blue Badge holders.*

### PARISH SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

<b>COFFEE - TOAST - CAKES</b> Every second Sunday of the month after Mass. Our next "C-T-C" is on Sunday 13 April 2025.	<b>CRAFT AND CHAT GROUP → (See also "Springtime Day Out" above)</b> Every third Wednesday of the month after Mass ■ Next meeting → Wednesday 16 April 2025 from 11:00am-12:30pm. Come and join our "Craft and Chat Group" and learn a new craft or teach one. Our activities include knitting, embroidery, tapestry, crochet, sewing, macramé, quilting, drawing, painting and jigsaws. Come and have a go or just join us for a chat and a cup of tea, coffee and snacks. Come and meet us - Everyone is welcome.
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## Reflections on today's Gospel: "... the Prodigal Son ... "



*The return of the Prodigal Son*

Our Father in heaven is represented by the father in the parable in today's Gospel. He is compassionate to a fault as far as man is concerned. He welcomed lovingly his younger son when the latter returned. There was no demand for explanation. On the other hand, he comforted the older son when the latter got upset about the undue feast given to the younger son.

The younger son committed at least three sins namely: (a) He insulted his own father by asking for his inheritance to be given to him. Normally, the heir waits for the father to distribute the inheritance on his own accord or after his death; (b) He moved out of the family and squandered the money given to him. An inheritance is a gift. It is not earned. In some culture, an inheritance should be passed on to the next generation; (c) He got involved with sinful activities. And finally, to be sent to a piggery to work there is an indication of how low the descent of the younger son. A pig is considered a very dirty animal.

A life of destitution is a direct result of squandering money. The elder brother can be justified for getting angry with his father. After all, he has been a good and obedient son. Yet, it is important for him to respect the decision of his father and to accept back his own brother.

There are important lessons and messages in Jesus' parable.

We must never take for granted our family especially our parents. In time of need, it is to them that we turn to. No matter how low we have fallen, we must always remember that God our Father in heaven is always ready to welcome and forgive us. God does not prevent us from leaving Him. He respects our decision-making process. The younger son can learn about faithfulness from the elder son. The latter can learn forgiveness, humility and acceptance from the former. The brothers need each other so they need to live in harmony.

Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son, is a great timeless story that encapsulates the boundless grace and unconditional love of our Creator. This narrative reminds us that, no matter how far we may stray, our Heavenly Father awaits our return with open arms and a forgiving heart.

The Prodigal Son embarked on a journey of self-discovery, only to find himself broken and destitute. Yet, in his moment of deepest despair, he chose to turn back towards home. This act symbolises the power of redemption and the limitless mercy available to those who seek it.

In our own lives, we may encounter moments of waywardness and mistakes, but the essence lies in the choice to return to the source of unwavering love. The father depicted here does not meet his stray son with judgment or reproach but with joy and celebration.

This teaches us that our past does not define us, and forgiveness is not only granted but celebrated in the eyes of the divine.

Similarly, for those who may feel like the elder son – faithful and obedient, yet perhaps grappling with a sense of entitlement or comparison – the story serves as a reminder to cultivate a heart of compassion and understanding. The Father's response to the elder son's concerns emphasises the importance of embracing all who seek reconciliation, reinforcing the profound truth that each of us is a cherished child of God.

Ultimately, the story of *The Prodigal Son* inspires us to embody the virtues of forgiveness, compassion, and unconditional love in our own lives. It calls us to be vessels of grace, extending the same kindness we receive to others. As we navigate the complexities of human existence, let us draw strength from this parable, finding solace in the knowledge that, in our return to the divine, we are met with boundless love and an eternal embrace.

### April 2025 — Liturgical Calendar

Tuesday	1	Weekday of Lent
Wednesday	2	Weekday of Lent
Thursday	3	Weekday of Lent
Friday	4	Weekday of Lent
Saturday	5	Weekday of Lent
<b>Sunday</b>	6	5th Sunday of Lent
Monday	7	Weekday of Lent
Tuesday	8	Weekday of Lent
Wednesday	9	Weekday of Lent
Thursday	10	Weekday of Lent
Friday	11	St Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr
Saturday	12	Weekday of Lent
<b>Sunday</b>	13	<b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</b>
Monday	14	Monday of Holy Week
Tuesday	15	Tuesday of Holy Week
Wednesday	16	Wednesday of Holy Week
Thursday	17	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
Friday	18	<b>Good Friday</b>
Saturday	19	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	20	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
Monday	21	<b>Easter Monday</b>
Tuesday	22	<b>Easter Tuesday</b>
Wednesday	23	<b>Easter Wednesday</b>
Thursday	24	<b>Easter Thursday</b>
Friday	25	<b>Easter Friday</b>
Saturday	26	<b>Easter Saturday</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	27	<b>2nd Sunday of Easter</b>
<b>Monday</b>	28	<b>St George, Martyr, Patron of England</b>
Tuesday	29	St Catherine of Siena
Wednesday	30	Weekday of Easter

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The readings at all Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses in our Parish  
are from The Revised 2024 Common Lectionary  
Sunday 30 March 2025 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - Year C  
( V : Father      R : People      R: Reader )

**FIRST READING (all sit)** (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12)

**R:** In those days: The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.' While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

**R:** The Word of the Lord      **R** *Thanks be to God*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Psalm 34)

**R** Response: *Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

**R:** I will bless the Lord at all times, praise of him is always in my mouth. In the Lord my soul shall make its boast; the humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

**R:** Glorify the Lord with me; together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord, and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. **R**

**R:** Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This lowly one called; the Lord heard, and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

**SECOND READING** (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

**R:** Brothers and Sisters: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**R:** The Word of the Lord      **R** *Thanks be to God*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (all stand)**

**R:** Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

**GOSPEL** (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32)

**V** The Lord be with you      **R** *And with your spirit*

**V** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**R** *Glory to you, O Lord.*

**V** At that time: The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, 'This man receives sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me." And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

'But when he came to himself, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."'

'And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him back safe and sound." But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, "Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" And he said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found."

**V** The Gospel of the Lord      **R** *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

**HOMILY (all sit)**

**V** Father

**PROFESSION OF FAITH (all stand)**

See "ORDINARY OF THE MASS READINGS".

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

**PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

Look upon those who call to you, O Lord, and sustain the weak; give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death, and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil to reach the highest good. Through Christ our Lord.

**PRAYERS FOR ORDINARY OF THE MASS**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

**I** confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do. Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore, I ask the blessed Mary ever Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you my brothers and sisters to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**GLORIA**

**G**lory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, We bless you, We adore you, We glorify you. We give you thanks for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**THE APOSTLES' CREED (all stand)**

**I** believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord: (bow) *who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary - suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day, he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.* I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED (all stand)**

**I** believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him, all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven: (bow) *and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.* For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

■ The Birmingham Archdiocese operates in accordance with "Statutory Safeguarding". If you have any concern(s), please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team by e-mail at: [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) or telephone: 0121-230-6240. Alternatively, see the top of page one of this newsletter for the contact details of our own Parish Safeguarding Representatives.

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