

# OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

566 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4AY

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## A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Priest: **Fr. Gerardo Fabrizio**      Parish Deacon: **Rev. Sean Loone**  
*This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Charity No. 234216*

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**19th February 2017**

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sometimes we allow the unworthiness that results from our sinfulness to overshadow the great love and mercy God has for us. We place low expectations on ourselves because, after all, we are unworthy and our sins prevent us from doing great things. This is contrary to what the Bible and Jesus tells us about our identity. The Old Testament begins by telling us that we are created in the image and likeness of God. No other creature can claim that distinction. Of all that God created we, alone, are his image and likeness. In the Reading from Leviticus God tells Moses and the people of Israel to be Holy. In the First letter of Paul to the Corinthians he tells us that we are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in us. These three passages should lift us from feeling that we can do little or nothing with our faith because of our sin, to realize that Jesus, the Word made Flesh, says the word that heals us from sin and makes us worthy to be what God calls us to be. God has not given up on us. He sent Christ to redeem, and the Spirit to sanctify us.

God desires us to have a unique and close relationship with him, and he gives us the gifts we need to draw close to him. As in any true love relationship, it is a commitment that opens us up to receive the blessings and gifts God has for us, as well as the desire to love him with all our heart, mind, soul and spirit, even to the point of great sacrifice. In our relationship with God the blessings, gifts, and ultimate reward, are far greater than any sacrifice we make for him. The gospel today tells us some of what we are called to sacrifice. Because we are God's dwelling place we are expected to live holy lives, and in the Gospel Jesus tells us how to do that. His message is bold and is contrary to the way most people of his time thought. It is a call to no longer look at justice as, "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." It is a call to passivity in conflicts, generous response to those who are in need, and ultimately to love our enemies

## MASSES DURING THE WEEK

### SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

<b>(Vigil Mass)</b> Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	5.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	Thomas and Ellen McManamon Joseph Cronin R.I.P Olive Mary Dunn R.I.P
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Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	<b>Eucharistic Service</b>
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>		<b>No Mass</b>	
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15am	(8.55am) Morning Prayer	Private Intention
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15am	(8.55am) Morning Prayer	Manuel and Luiza Barreto
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	People of the Parish	
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Marie Cornally R.I.P <b>Confessions 11.00am-11.30am</b>	

### EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

<b>(Vigil Mass)</b> Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	5.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	Christine Clark Jackie Anslow R.I.P Susan O'Keeffe R.I.P
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**IN MEMORIAM:** Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls off Frank Stait and Diana O'Reilly who have died recently. May they rest in peace

**NATIONAL LOTTERY FUND GRANT:** We are delighted to announce that the Parish have received a Grant of £9,750. for the complete refurbishment of the Parish Hall kitchen. Many thanks to the parishioner who completed the Grant Application. It is expected that the works will take place over the Easter holidays.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** The Finance Committee met last Thursday and the minutes will soon be available on the Parish website. Highlights are as follows:-

The annual accounts have been approved and will be presented to the Parish on the 4/5<sup>th</sup> March.

The accounts are very healthy given that we have achieved significant savings over the year.

The spire will be inspected Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February by Stone Technical, a Durham based company. Hopefully any remedial works identified can be carried out in March.

Following on from works to the spire, we hope to complete all previously identified repair works to the Church roof in May.

Having achieved approval from the Archdiocese for the redevelopment of the front of the Church site, we are now in the process of applying for Planning Permission to Solihull Council. This will take 2-3 months.

After much preparation, a letter has been sent to the Archbishop from the Parish requesting permission for the sale of St. Aidan's site.

Given the planned expenditure, the Parish has a need for fundraising. Ideas towards this would be welcome.

**COFFEE MORNING:** Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am–1.00pm, 142 Bills Lane, Shirley (park in Tybury Close). Bring & Buy – Books DVD's, handmade cards, tea, coffee & cakes for sale. Proceeds for Father O'Mahony Trust and Downs Syndrome Playgroup Romania.

**FRIDAY CLUB:** Meet on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre. New members welcome as we need to build up our numbers. During the meeting there will be an interesting talk on the history of our Parish and Church of OLOW. Please come and support us. Suggestions for our Summer Outing in June would be welcome.

**RACE NIGHT** – Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February at **St George & Teresa Parish Centre, Dorridge**- Are you tired of waiting for the Grand National or the Cheltenham Gold Cup? Why not bring the family along to the Race Night, next Friday where funds are being raised for the St Vincent De Paul Society, who organise food distribution and soup runs for the homeless and destitute in Birmingham. **Tickets are £5 per head, which includes a hot supper. Bring your own drinks. First Race is at 7.30pm, doors open at 7pm.** The event is being organised by North Warwickshire Catenians. To order tickets please contact Ian on 0776 6011145.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE LAUNCH EVENT:** 'Spiritual Warfare Bootcamp'. Deepen your faith this Lent by coming to learn about the spiritual essentials for the pro-life battle with 7 local priests. **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2.30pm to 4.00pm.** The Oratory (Upper Cloister Room), 141 Hagley Road, Birmingham, B16 8UE.

**40 Days for Life Prayerful Witness, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April.** Marie Stopes Abortion Clinic in Arthur Road, Edgbaston, from 8am to 8pm daily. People are never left praying alone. To find out more or book your slot please contact Isabel on 17773 501721 or email [izzyvs@gmail.com](mailto:izzyvs@gmail.com)

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 at 10.30am at St James, Shirley. WWDP is the largest ecumenical movement in the world covering 170 countries and territories and the only one in which Orthodox, Protestant, Catholic and Evangelical come together to worship. This year's service has been prepared by the women of the Philippines and is open to men and women.

**OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE PRE-SCHOOL:** The closing date for applications for the Pre-School year September 2017-July 2018 is Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Applications for 2017/18 & 2018/19 for both Pre-school aged children and for OLOW Nursery wraparound are currently being accepted. Children are offered a safe and secure environment to play and learn. Highly trained staff ensure a wide range of activities are undertaken daily. A fantastic secure outdoor play area, half undercover fresh air and exercise enable enjoyment in all weather. All children between the ages of 2½-5 years welcome. Pre-School opening hours are 9.15am-12.15pm. Nursery wraroud sessions for OLOW afternoon nursery operate between 9.15am-12.30pm. For further details, to arrange a visit or an application form please contact Pre-School (07474 743744) weekdays 9.00am-12.30pm, visit the website at [www.OLOWpreschool.com](http://www.OLOWpreschool.com) or email [ourladyofthewaysidepreschool@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofthewaysidepreschool@gmail.com).

**COLLECTION:** 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Gift Aid: £310.00. Loose: £490.45. Standing Order: £656. **TOTAL:** £1456.45.

Father O'Mahony Trust: £57.00

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### **TODAY'S MASS:**

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18. You must love your neighbour as yourself.

Responsorial Psalm 102: **R: The Lord is compassion and love.**

Second Reading: St. Paul to the Corinthians 3:16-23. All are your servants, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, Alleluia! Speak, If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!**

The Gospel according to Matthew 5:38-48. Love your enemies.Communion Antiphon: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.