

Receiving Holy Communion

The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life. In receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, we are united more deeply with our Lord and with one another as the Body of Christ.

The following guidelines are provided to ensure that Holy Communion is received with due reverence and proper understanding:

Reception by Catholics Only

The Holy Communion is a sacred sacrament reserved for baptized Catholics who are properly disposed—that is, in a state of grace. Catholics should approach the Sacrament with faith and reverence, prepared by prayer and, if necessary, by the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Non-Catholics

While those who are not members of the Catholic Church are not permitted to receive Holy Communion, they are warmly invited to come forward during Communion to receive a blessing. As a sign, they should cross their arms over their chest in the form of an "X" to indicate this intention.

Manner of Receiving Holy Communion

Communicants may receive Holy Communion either:

On the tongue, directly from the priest or Eucharistic minister; or

In the hand, placing the left hand over the right to receive the Sacred Host, and then consuming it reverently using the right hand. So make sure your both hands are free to receive communion.

Immediate Consumption of the Host

Those receiving in the hand must consume the Blessed Host immediately, in the presence of the priest or Eucharistic minister. The Host should not be taken away or carried off. This ensures the respect and protection due to the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Receiving a Blessing (and little children)

Those coming forward for a blessing should approach the **priest**, not the Eucharistic ministers, and indicate their intention by crossing their arms over their chest.

Parents bringing small children who are not yet of age to receive Communion are encouraged to bring them to the **priest** for a blessing as well. Please have the child in front of you so you can help them prepare.

Let us always approach the Holy Eucharist with the utmost reverence, recognizing the profound mystery we receive in faith.

Fr Shanju John



Catholic Parishes of St Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill and
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford
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Part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham: Reg. Charity No. 234216



SAFEGUARDING - The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Mrs Epi Pfunde and Mrs Lilli Brice-Bateman. They can be contacted at sg.olol.kingswinford@racob.org.uk or sg.stmary.brierleyhill@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 / safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

17TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR C

27TH JULY 2025

PSALM RESPONSE

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons,
by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'

Alleluia.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 4

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

Ordinary C1		Intention/Info
Sunday 26th/27th 17th Sunday of the year	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	People of the Parish Catenian President's Mass
Monday 28th	10am Mass KF	Peggy Hayes RIP
Tuesday 29th Sts Mary, Martha and Lazarus	NO MASS	_____
Wednesday 30th St Peter Chrysologus	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	Madeleine Wieckowski Adoration and Confessions
Thursday 31st St Ignatius of Loyola	NO MASS	_____
Friday 1st St Alphonsus Liguori	NO MASS	_____
Saturday 2nd	5pm Mass KF	People of the Parish
Sunday 2nd/3rd 18th Sunday of the year	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	People of the Parish Maria Wright

Please pray for all those whose have died recently especially Joyce Southall and Betty Storey, those on our July and August deceased lists and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Harry Brice-Bateman, Ed Benedict, Irene Brown, Christine Holding, Christine, Marlene and Tony Lyons, Ian Manley, Noel O'Reilly, Georgina Czuk, Martha Jones, Mavis Geach, Sheila Rowley, Roger Ward, Pauline Bant, Dorothy West, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Chris and Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Rob Bryan, and Connie Birch May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

Collections w/e 12th/13th July
BH GA £92.00 Loose £219.17 Stella Maris £96.12 Teas £9.61 Keralan Mass £50.00
Summer Fayre £1342.95

KF GA £85.00 Loose £247.16 Stella Maris £121.70 Teas £6.11

Collections w/e 19th/20th July
BH GA £38.00 Loose £181.16 Maintenance £207.43 Teas £13.30 Fayre £25.00 Donation £100.00
KF GA £91.00 Loose £258.40 Maintenance £122.65 Teas £14.50 Candles £90.04

BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group Monday 28th July 2pm-4pm all welcome.

KINGSWINFORD: Friday 9.30 - 11.30am **Foodbank**.

FOODBANKS - If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations as the need is growing.

COLLECTIONS - Second collection this week for our sisters, next week for Church Maintenance

Tea/coffee after Mass - Please join Fr Shanju and stay for tea and coffee after Mass on Saturday evening at KF and Sunday morning at BH for a chat and a catch up.

Quiz/social evening at KF sat 11th October we are thinking of having a joint quiz and social evening for both Parishes on the 11th October at 7pm with proceeds being split between both Churches. If you are interested please add your name to the list at the back of Church by 3rd August so we can see if it is a good idea. Thanks

Mass intentions - there are currently lots of availability for weekday Mass intentions. If you would like a Mass said for your intention please put it in an envelope with the name of the intention and the Church and give it to Fr Shanju please. If you want a Mass said at a weekend please note that on the envelope but it may take a little longer to be said.

Memorial of Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus - 29th July

Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus." This unique statement in John's gospel tells us of the special relationship Jesus had with Martha, her sister, and her brother. Martha welcomes Jesus and his disciples into her home and immediately goes to work to serve them. In Martha we see ourselves -- worried and distracted by all we have to do in the world and forgetting to spend time with Jesus. She is grieving the death of her brother with a house full of mourners when she hears that Jesus has just come to the area. She gets up immediately and leaves the guests, leaves her mourning, and goes to meet him. Her conversation with Jesus shows her faith and courage and she states clearly that she believes in Jesus' power, in the resurrection, and most of all that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus tells her that he is the resurrection and the life and then goes on to raise her brother from the dead. Mary causes a commotion at dinner by anointing Jesus with expensive perfume. But all we hear about Martha is the simple statement: "Martha served." She isn't in the spotlight, she doesn't do showy things, she doesn't receive spectacular miracles. She simply serves Jesus.

We know nothing more about Martha and what happened to her later. But wouldn't it be wonderful if the most important thing that could be said about us is "They served"?

Pope's prayer intention for August - For mutual coexistence. Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult may not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons. Amen.