

## ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Ascension is the event, where Jesus arose into heaven, at the end of his time on earth. After his Resurrection Jesus spent the next 40 days preaching and preparing His disciples to perform the work of preaching and baptizing all people. At the end of this 40 day period, Jesus ascended into heaven. The Bible tells us what happened on that day:

*While at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is', he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but, not many days from now, you are going to be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come for you to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive the power of the Holy Spirit which will come on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to earth's remotest end.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky as he went, when suddenly two men in white were standing beside them, and they said, 'Why are you Galileans standing here looking into the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will come back in the same way as you have seen him go to heaven.' (Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11)*

By His death and Resurrection, Jesus opened the gates of heaven for all humanity and His Ascension demonstrates this to us. It is His proof that those of us who believe in Him in faith and follow Him will also be raised on the last day, and enter into heaven. From heaven, Jesus hears our prayers and intercedes for us with His Father. *(Catholic online)*



## **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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Deacon John Brindley (*Retired*)

Convent - Daughters of Divine Love 01384 380155

St Mary's Primary School 01384 985005

*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 Miss Lilli Pace. They can be contacted at [sg.olol.kingswinford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.olol.kingswinford@rcaob.org.uk) or [sg.stmary.brierleyhill@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary.brierleyhill@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 / [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B

**5TH MAY 2024**

**PSALM RESPONSE**

The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him".

Alleluia, alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father, and he will send you another Paraclete,  
to abide with you forever, alleluia.

Easter B1	Easter	Intention/Info
Sunday 4th/5th 6th Sunday of Easter	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	People of the Parish Sheila and Graham Jelf
Monday 6th	10am Mass KF	MSP Society
Tuesday 7th	7pm KF	Novena
<b>ASCENSION - HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION</b>		
Wednesday 8th	7pm Vigil Mass for Ascension BH	Christopher Payne
Thursday 9th <b>ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>	9am Mass School 11am Mass KF	School Intention Noel Ryan
Friday 10th	<b>NO MASS</b>	_____
Saturday 11th	5pm Mass KF	People of the Parish
Sunday 11th/12th 6th Sunday of Easter	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	People of the Parish Patrick McCarthy

Please pray for all those whose have died recently especially those on our May 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 Becky Lodge, Chris Payne, Fr Cecil, Irene Brown, Christine Holding, Brian Saunders, 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, Betty Storey and Connie Birch. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

**Collections** BH GA £28.00 Loose £246.61 Sisters £175.08  
KF GA £142.00 Loose £246.24 Sisters £75.40

**SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week for CAFOD Sudan appeal, next week for Catholic Communications.**

**BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group** Mon 13th May 2pm to 4pm in Parish Centre  
**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.**

## ASCENSION

**Thursday is a Holy Day of Obligation for the Ascension of the Lord .  
There will be a vigil Mass at BH at 7pm on Wednesday and Mass at 11am at KF on Thursday.**

**Today (Sunday) at St Mary's** we welcome the children from school to read at our Mass. Please make them and their families welcome.

**Tea/coffee after Mass** - Please join Fr Shanju and stay for tea and coffee after Mass on Sunday morning at BH for a chat and a catch up. No teas at KF until further notice.

**Confirmation** - The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place of Friday 21st June at St Mary's at 6pm for the children from St Mary's school. Please pray for the candidates, their families and their teachers as they prepare for this Sacrament.

**CAFOD Sudan Appeal** The people of Sudan need our help urgently. When violence broke out last year in Sudan between government and paramilitaries, most aid agencies evacuated. Now, humanitarian workers are struggling to get back into Sudan to help, meaning severe delays in getting aid to the people, and the challenges of getting into areas where fighting is still going on remain. The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. The UN is calling it 'the world's worst displacement crisis'.

*"At least 25 million Sudanese need immediate, emergency help. Families are already going hungry and famine is looming. This crisis threatens to become the worst in living memory."* Telley Sadia, CAFOD's country representative for Sudan.

Let us, as Cardinal Nichols wrote recently, *'extend to you the prayerful support of the Church in England and Wales and... express our solidarity with you in your current circumstances of profound distress. We have heard your cry in your recent statement, in which you reminded the international community of the need for support to bring about an end to the civil conflict and allow for immediate humanitarian access to alleviate hunger across Sudan.'*

**Mass intentions** There are vacancies for Mass intentions on weekdays. If you would like the Mass offered for your intention please write the name and Church requested on an envelope and give it to Fr Shanju. Masses can also be requested for weekends but may take longer to be said. Thank you.

**Pope's prayer intention for May** For the formation of religious and seminarians. We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel. Amen