

The Good Shepherd

"Sheep without a shepherd will not know where to pasture. By nature, we have deep spiritual desires. If we do not eat what is good, we will feed upon the garbage of the world. We need the sustenance that will help us continue through the journey of life without becoming discouraged. We need the inspiration that can pull us through our difficult moments. When we eat the garbage of the world, our hearts will remain restless and our souls will be starving. Happy homes are found where parents love their children unconditionally. Flourishing parishes are found where the sheep have plenty of good grass.

Sheep without a shepherd have no defence against the wolves of this world. The human person is a social being and is incapable of living life alone. No one by his own efforts can defend himself from the temptations that assail him and from the evil of the world that attacks him. True shepherding is a life of total self-giving. The true shepherd needs time for renewal in order to shepherd the flock. The true shepherd needs to spend time daily with Jesus, the chief shepherd. He will give us the strength, the inspiration and the sustenance to shepherd the flock. Periodic moments of solitude and silence are essential for the continued ability to give unconditionally.

If we are going to be true disciples of the Good Shepherd, we must forget ourselves completely and be totally dedicated. Jesus calls us to love one another unconditionally."
(Father James Farfagli)

Pope's prayer intention for April For a culture of peace and non-violence We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

Pope's prayer intention for April For Church movements and groups - We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.



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

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

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

30TH APRIL 2023

PSALM RESPONSE

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



| Easter A2 | Psalter week 3 | Intention/Info |
|--|---|--|
| Sunday 29th/30th 4th Sunday of Easter | 5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH | People of the Parish Gareth Floyd |
| Monday 1st | No Service | |
| Tuesday 2nd | 7pm KF | Novena |
| Wednesday 3rd Ss Philip and James | 10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH | Chukwuma Onyekwelu and Martin Emukla Adoration and Confessions |
| Thursday 4th English Martyrs | No Service | |
| Friday 5th | 10am Mass KF 10.30 KF | Tomasso Guerrini Adoration and Confessions |
| Saturday 6th | 5pm Mass KF | Patricia Clark |
| Sunday 6th/7th 5th Sunday of Easter | 5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH | Patricia Clark Mary Saunders |

Please pray for all those whose have died recently especially Brian Sable, Michael Skelding, those on our April deceased lists and for all those whose anniversaries occur this month. May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Bernie Townsend, Ian Manley, Noel O'Reilly, Georgina Kutz, Martha Jones, Mavis Geach, Sheila Rowley, Audrey Berry, Roger Ward, Pauline Bant, Jeanette Amphlett, Dorothy West, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Roy Davies, Chris and Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Rob and Ilona Bryan, Betty Storey, Connie Birch and Stella Jones. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

Collections BH GA £68.00 Loose £218.89 Sisters £131.43, 150 donations £50.00
KF GA £92.00 Loose £85.26 Sisters £91.81 Hall hire £1910.00

SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week for Clergy training fund, next week for Church Maintenance

BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group tbc Mon 2pm to 4pm in Parish Centre
KINGSWINFORD choir practice Wednesday 7pm
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.

NB No Mass on Monday and Thursday of this week .

We welcome Fr Stefan at Mass at KF and Fr Brendan Carrick at Mass at BH. We are grateful to them both for offering our Masses this weekend.

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

Next Sunday there will be free tea and coffee after Mass at BH thanks to Mary Saunders for her birthday. Please join us to wish Mary a happy birthday.

Mike Skelding RIP - Advance notice Funeral will be on Thursday 1st June at 11am at St Mary's

Coronation of King Charles III prayer cards available at the back of Church, please take one.

Multi-cultural Mass Sunday 21st May at BH followed by a cake sale We will be celebrating our varied culture at BH at Mass. After we will have a cake sale reflecting all the history and cultures of our Parishioners. Donations will be very welcome with the proceeds going to our 150th fund. Please see Fr Shanju or Stephanie if you can offer part of the mass in your language. Thanks

Holywell trip 17th June - there are still some places available. If anyone is interested please see Fr Shanju. Cost is £35.00 each please pay as soon as you are able.

Fundraising meeting at BH - Wednesday 10th May at 7.30pm in the Parish centre. Everyone very welcome.

Gift Aid - do you pay tax? There will be short talk after Masses on 20th/21st May to explain how this works. For more information please see **Sheila Jelf at BH or Elaine Gill at KF**. Thank you..

Walsingham Pilgrimage 13th May organised by Fr Philip Griffin. Please see poster at the back of Church for more details.

150 years of St Mary's donations are now being greatly accepted. Please place your donation in an envelope clearly marked. Thank you to all those who have donated already.

Brierley Hill songbook project - the council have commissioned a songbook about the history and life of the town which will be run from our Parish centre. Everyone is welcome to take part, please follow the link for more information : <https://bit.ly/BrierleyHillSongBook>