



ASCENSION: WHY 40 DAYS?

The number 40 has enormous significance in the history of salvation. The rabbinic interpretation connects the number 40 with the time it takes for something to go from its beginning to its fruition.

40 is the number of weeks between the conception and birth of a human being. In some cases, there are 40 days between planting and harvesting. In the Church's calendar there are 40 days between Christmas and the Presentation of the Lord when Jesus was brought by Mary and Joseph to the Temple. Jesus spent 40 days in the desert. 40 days was the length of time a pupil would spend learning from a Rabbi. Jesus' 40 days of appearance and teaching after his Resurrection (Acts 1,3) seems to follow this pattern.

Apart from marking the importance of the feast, celebrating the Ascension of Christ into Heaven 40 days after Easter Sunday also reinstates the possibility of practicing the ancient "10 days of the Holy Spirit" devotion, preparing for Pentecost. This has ecumenical links, as noted by the prayer initiative "Thy Kingdom Come" promoted by the Archbishop of Canterbury in recent years. Celebrating the sacred Liturgy on particular days linked to the mysteries of the great feasts marks another form of love that we can show for God as we praise him for all the wonders he has done for us.

<http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/News/2017/Holy-Days>

ESSENTIAL PARISH INFORMATION:

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Mrs J Lloyd - 01562 754448

- If you would like to speak to someone about Diocesan safeguarding and the Church's work, please call **0121 230 6240**.
- If you would like to speak to someone independent of the Church you can contact the NSPCC on **0800 800 5000**.

HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER: Mr P Bosko

EMERGENCY EXIT: Via sacristy and through the house

ST MARY'S CHURCH HARVINGTON, DY10 4LR

Parish Priest: Rt Rev Mgr Canon John Moran
Telephone: 01562 777319
e-mail: stmarysrc.harvington@gmail.com
Website: www.stmarysharvington.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 234216

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham



Times of Holy Mass and Intentions (YEAR C Readings)

Sunday 26 May

8.30 am -
10.30 am -

Monday 27 May

10.00 am -

Tuesday 28 May

9.00 am -

Wednesday 29 May

9.00 am -
9.30 am -

Thursday 30 May

9.00 am -
7.00 pm -

Friday 31 May

11.30 am -

Saturday 1 June

10.00 am -

(At Harvington Hall in the Georgian Chapel)

Sunday 2 June

8.30 am -
10.30 am -

There will be a second collection on Sunday 2 June for 'Catholic Communications'

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rita Kedward R.I.P.
For the People of The Parish

Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

Doreen Millard R.I.P.

Easter Feria

Andrew Holden R.I.P.

Solemnity of Dedication

For the intentions of Helen Hayden
#Discussion Group in The Stable

Solemnity of The Ascension of The Lord Holy Day of Obligation

Valerie Pinfield R.I.P.
Private Intention

Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

For the intentions of the Blackman Family

Memorial of St Justin, Martyr

Ada Rosinski R.I.P.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

For the People of The Parish
Peter Fernihough R.I.P.



The Wednesday Word Trust leaflets are available from the table in the porch or may be downloaded from:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/parish/index.htm>

Anniversaries in May: Rev Samuel Smallman (1613), Anne Mary Hailes (1924), Rev Thomas Bagnall (1973), Rev Joseph Lacy (1978), Harold Sanders (1981), Teresa Fry (1985), Yvonne Beesley (1994), Raymond Doherty (2001), Jennifer Thompson (2002), Robert Hildebrandt (2002), Lynda Frith (2003), Joyce Jordan (2007), Edward Anthony (2007), Alicia Cox (2010), Patricia Godwin (2011), Marjorie Purcell (2014), Caroline Clist (2017)

Prayers for the sick: Denis Conway, Kathleen Clark, Anthony Mitchell, Jeannie Morrison, Michael Bird, Lucinda Robinson.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sunday 26 May Michael Jones, Helen Raphael
Jean Lloyd, Mary Meese
Sunday 2 June Eddie Picardo, Bridget Robson
Elizabeth Mountford, Denise Grant

READERS:

Sunday 26 May Sheila Hall
Anne Taylor
Sunday 2 June Pat Van Zyl
Tony Blackman

CHURCH CLEANERS:

Friday 31 May Anne Quinn & Pauline Teare
Friday 7 June Teresa & Greg Oakley

MONEY COUNTERS:

For the 26 May collection Mrs Waterhouse
For the 2 June collection Mr & Mrs S Brown

Contributions to the Parish:

Weekly Offertory taken on Sunday 19 May
Gift Aid Direct Debits £259.00
Gift Aid Envelopes £131.50
Loose cash £149.73



Once again a very generous collection for the FOOD BANK on Sunday 19 May amounted to 95.3 kg. (that is a lot of food!) and in addition donations of £225. The volunteers who run Kidderminster FOOD BANK are always very grateful for our generous congregation. Our next collection will be on **Sunday 7 July**.



RAFFLE TICKETS for the Grand Draw to be taken at the end of the Summer Fete on **Saturday 29 June** are available for you to collect from the table in the porch. Please take as many as you are able to sell to family, friends, neighbours and colleagues and, of course, buy some for yourselves too! Some of the amazing prizes are listed on displays in the porch. Completed stubs and payments may be placed in the pre-printed envelopes are on the table in the porch. Please hand these to Fr John or put them through the letter box in the door of the Priest's House.

Fancy a walk? Join fellow parishioners in a walk along the canal towpath from Kidderminster to Stourport on **Tuesday 4 June**. Meeting at 11.00 am outside M&S on Weaver's Wharf the group will walk to the Windlass Café in Stourport arriving at 1.00 pm approx when others are welcome to join the walkers for refreshments



The **PARISH OUTING to Halfpenny Green Vineyard and Craft Centre at Bobbington** is on **Tuesday 20 August**. Please see the clip board in the porch for further details along with pre-printed envelopes for your payment. Please hand these to Fr John or put them through the letter box in the door of the Priest's House.

The **BOOK GROUP** have chosen *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr to discuss at the next meeting on **Monday 17 June at 9.30** in the stable. Everyone is very welcome to come along and join in the conversation (there is often cake on offer as well!).



The next **PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP** lead by Mike Jones is on **Thursday 30 May** meeting at **6.00pm** in the stable.

The Harvington Craft Group invite parishioners to join them in producing '**COMFY CUSHIONS**' for our church pews. The project will commence in September and can be worked on at home at your leisure. Please see the clip board in the porch for further details.



There is still time to join the PARISH 100 CLUB before the first draw of the year at the end of the month. Application forms and pre-printed envelopes are on the table in the porch. Please hand these to Fr John or put them through the letter box in the door of the Priest's House.

The two recent sessions of 'pampering' and demonstrations of *Tropic Skincare* products here at St Mary's presented by Hannah were enjoyed by a number of parishioners and we thank her for her efforts in raising £204 for parish funds. Congratulations to Andrea Quinn who was the lucky winner of the Raffle Prize.



The **SONGS OF PRAISE** service at St Mary's last Sunday was deemed a great success and greatly appreciated by our guests from St Cassian's. We are indebted to all who took part and contributed to the event.