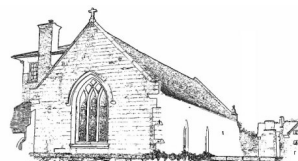


ST MARY'S CHURCH HARVINGTON, DY10 4LR



Parish Priest: Fr Richard Sharples
Priest in Residence: Fr John Moran
Telephone: 01562 777319
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Website: www.stmarysharvington.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 234216 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sunday 29 January

8.30am
10.30am

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass intention for: Mary Reed R.I.P.
Mass intention for: Parishioners of the Parish

Monday 30 January

No Public Mass today

Feria in Ordinary Time

Tuesday 31 January

No Public Mass today

Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest

Wednesday 1 February

10.00 am

Feria in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention for: Private Intention

Thursday 2 February

11.00am

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord World Day for Consecrated Life

Mass Intention for: Private Intention

Friday 3 February

11.00am

Memorial of St Blaise, Bishop, Martyr

Mass Intention for: Private Intention

Saturday 4 February

10.00am

Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday

Mass Intention for: Private Intention

The **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)** is available in church following this Mass and by appointment at other times.

Sunday 5 February

8.30am
10.30am

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Racial Justice Day

Mass intention for: Angela McGarrow
Mass intention for: Parishioners of the Parish

There will be a second collection on this day for Racial Justice

Anniversaries in February: Rev Charles Dodd (1742), Rev James Layfield (1756), Stanhope Pedley (1938), Agnes Drinkwater (1938), Pierce Bradley (1987), Tony Goodyear (1988), Pauline Jack (1992), Jeffrey Nichols(2003), Gertrude Higham (2003), Gerard O’Keeffe (2003), Rose Marie Villiers (2007), Mary Keane (2007), Gerry Costello (2012), Edmund Osborne (2013), Mandy Natalie Bridge (2016), Alan Cox (2016), Liam Buckley (2018), Jean Wilcox (2018), Michael Millard (2019), Vincent Glynn (2019), Dan Brown (2022), Kay Hildebrandt (2022)



In your prayers please remember those who are sick and asked for our prayers: Deirdre Brookes, Lionel Cornish, Beth Downing, Shirley Grant, Jane & Peter Handley, Elizabeth Howell, Ann Murphy, John & Ellen Mottram, Patricia Newton, Ann Parry, Karen Wright.

As a parish community we welcome requests for those in need of our prayers including for those who are unwell. **If the name is to be written and published in the newsletter**, we must be sure that the individual, or their representative, gives permission so their privacy is respected and for us to comply with data protection advice. Written consent forms may be found **in the yellow folder on the notice board in the porch**. When complete either hand it to Fr John, post through his front door or send by mail.



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... for all your offerings and donations.

Contributions to the Parish: 15-22 January

Regular, weekly Gift Aid Direct Debit:	£316.00
Gift Aid Envelopes:	£134.50
Loose cash:	£219.45

Direct Debit, forms are available from the table in the porch. Please complete and either hand to Fr John or post through his house letterbox.

OFFERTORY DONATIONS on **SUNDAYS** will be taken in the pews. On **OTHER DAYS OF THE WEEK** offerings may be placed **in the basket on the sanctuary step in front of the altar**.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE MONEY OR ENVELOPES CONTAINING MONEY IN THE PORCH.

If you should wish to make a donation when Mass is not taking place and the church is otherwise empty, please post your offering (in an envelope) in the letterbox in the door of the Priest’s House.



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COVID PRECAUTIONS: Whilst there is no legal requirement to wear a face covering the government suggests that we still ‘Consider wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces’. In addition, if members of the congregation would like to ensure social distancing they may use a ‘Please Leave Space’ sign (available in the porch) and place it on the seat beside them in their pew.

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PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:

Valerie Nolan, sg.stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk

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 0808 800 5000.

PARISH HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER: Peter Boszko, hs.stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk

EMERGENCY EXIT from the church: is via the sacristy and through the house.



You are invited to join two Ecumenical Pilgrimages this year in prayer for the people of the **Holy Land**

31st January 2023 at 7.00 – 9.00pm:
Pilgrimage at Worcester Cathedral

6th – 8th October 2023:
Pilgrimage to Canterbury

For further details please see the poster in the church porch and/or contact j.quinn789@btinternet.com or phone 01299 851021 or text to 07960 218925

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The Board of Trustees of the Dame MaryYate Charity in Harvington, near Kidderminster, which provides maintenance and governance of four alms-houses, seek to appoint a clerk to the Board.

As well as arranging and minuting Trustee meetings, and maintaining the records and accounts of the Charity, the successful candidate would need to liaise with the residents of the Almshouses, in order to offer support with any issues that may arise and to ensure any legal requirements are upheld.

A generous honorarium is offered, with the expectation of approximately 4 hours per week. Closing date for applications: 28-Feb-2023



For a full job description please contact dmycharity@gmail.com

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WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you.

Continue to enrich your Church by calling forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.



The Story of the Presentation of the Lord

At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her journal, discovered in 1887, gives an unprecedented glimpse of liturgical life there. Among the celebrations she describes is the Epiphany, the observance of Christ's birth, and the gala procession in honour of his Presentation in the Temple 40 days later. (Under the Mosaic Law, a woman was ritually "unclean" for 40 days after childbirth, when she was to present herself to the priests and offer sacrifice—her "purification." Contact with anyone who had brushed against mystery—birth or death—excluded a person from Jewish worship.) This feast emphasizes Jesus' first appearance in the Temple more than Mary's purification.

The observance spread throughout the Western Church in the fifth and sixth centuries. Because the Church in the West celebrated Jesus' birth on December 25, the Presentation was moved to February 2, 40 days after Christmas.

At the beginning of the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemas.

Reflection

In Luke's account, Jesus was welcomed in the temple by two elderly people, Simeon and the widow Anna. They embody Israel in their patient expectation; they acknowledge the infant Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah. Early references to the Roman feast dub it the feast of Saint Simeon, the old man who burst into a song of joy which the Church still sings at day's end.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/presentation-of-the-lord/>