ST MARY'S CHURCH
HARVINGTON, DY10 4LR



Parish Priest: Fr Richard Sharples
Priest in Residence: Fr John Moran
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Registered Charity No: 234216 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

MASSES THIS WEEK (with YEAR A Readings)

Sunday 8 November	**Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Remembrance Sunday**
8.30am	Mass intention for: *Leonard Gilbert R.I.P.*
10.30am	Mass intention for: *The People of the Parish*
Monday 9 November	**Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran**
No Mass today.	**Basilica**
Tuesday 10 November	**Memorial of St Leo the Great,** **Pope, Doctor of the Church**
10.00am	Mass intention for: *Private Intention*
Wednesday 11 November	**Memorial of St Martin of Tours, Bishop**
10.00am	Mass intention for: *Private Intention*
Thursday 12 November	**Memorial of St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr**
11.00am	Mass intention for: *Private Intention*
Friday 13 November	**Feria in Ordinary Time**
11.00am	Mass intention for: *Peter Handley R.I.P.*
Saturday 14 November #	**Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday**
10.00am	Mass intention: *Roger Adey R.I.P.*
Sunday 15 November	**Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** **World Day of the Poor**
8.30am	Mass intention for: *Stan Robson R.I.P.*
10.30am	Mass intention for: T*he People of the Parish*

 # The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available following Mass on Saturdays and by appointment at other times.

Anniversaries in November: Isabella Ilsley (1866), Laurence Ruck (1916), John Munster (1916), Rev Philip Roskell (1930), Rev Dr Charles Eagle (1947), Cuthbert Watts (1965), Denis Lovekin (1984), Edna Mercer (1983), Ivor Mortiboy (1998), Harold Sanders, Katherine Martin (2002), Sarah Millard (2002), Marie Baylis (2003), Min Young (2003), Grace Haydon (2004), Siobhan James-Moore (2005), Gerard Fox (2007), Rev David Higham (2008),Stephen Pritchard (2008), Julian Davies (2008). James William Finney (2009), Gertrude Mary Savage (2011), James O'Brien (2012) Colin Atwell (2014), Roger Adey (2016), Veronica Mitchell (2018), Oliver Donaghey (2019), Sean McDermott (2021), Roger Ephraims (2021), John Newton (2022), Andrea Barker (2022), Bridget Marie Rochford (2025)

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In your prayers, please remember those who are sick and asked for our prayers: Marian Boultbee Brooks, Deirdre Brookes, Steve Collins, Averil Crofton, Norma Fox, Shirley Grant, Jane Handley, Columb and Merryn Howell, Elizabeth Howell, Darren Jaye, Angela Magaro, Ann Murphy, Ellen Mottram, Catherine Neale, Kevin O'Connor, Bozenna Tommy.

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… for all your offerings and donations.

Contributions to the Parish: 1-8 Nov 2026:

Regular, weekly Gift Aid Direct Debit: ……………...	£405.00
** Gift Aid Envelopes: ……………………………….	£80.00
Loose cash: …………………………………………….	£276.41
Second collection for the Johnson Association …….	£396.17

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

** **DIRECT DEBIT, GIFT AID FORMS** are available from the folder on the notice board in the church porch. Please complete and either hand to Fr Richard or Fr John or put the Priest's House letterbox.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Valerie Nolan.** She can be contacted via: **sg.stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk** or alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 01212306240 / **safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk** if you have any concerns.

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN: Peter Boszko: stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER: Neil Summerfield hs.stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH SECRETARY (Admin): Maggie Skinner: stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH SECRETARY (Finance): Valerie Nolan - stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk

The emergency exit from the church is via the sacristy and through the house.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL: Home-Start Wyre Forest are helping Santa again this year and need **NEW (unwrapped)** presents for young people aged 0-18 years. Please be your usual generous selves and **bring donations to Church up to and including Sunday 29 November** and we will deliver them to the Home Start Wyre Forest headquarters on your behalf.

If you would prefer to donate cash or a cheque, made payable to 'Home-Start Wyre Forest', please put it in the Offertory collection in an envelope marked HOME-START. Donations will be passed directly to the Home-Start Treasurer. THANK YOU in anticipation!

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We are pleased to say that the restoration of our large and beautiful **EAST WINDOW** above the altar is now complete, but it has come at a cost of almost £14000!
If you are minded to, please think about donating towards this cost. Any donation will be gratefully received. Just put your donation in an envelope and post in Fr John's letter box making sure you state that it is a donation for the window.
If our funds are sufficient, then next year, we would like to restore the three windows along the north side of the Church which you will notice are also badly in need of attention. P.B.

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VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BACKBONE OF ST MARY'S PARISH!
Dozens of people give their time, talents and energy in numerous ways to support Fr Richard and Fr John and make it possible for our parish to function as it should. We currently have an urgent need to support our **Cleaning Teams** who volunteer on **alternate Thursdays and Saturdays**. If you could offer your services, we would dearly like to hear from you. Please email stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk at any time or phone 01562 777319 on Fridays.

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In last week's newsletter, and following the meeting at St Wulstan's last month to which we were all invited to attend, Fr Richard reminded us of the background to the necessity of clustering of St Wulstan's, St Ambrose's and St Mary's parishes into one by 2030 as directed by the Archdiocese.

Following the synodal pathway, we are all asked to consider the implications of these changes and to contribute our suggestions on how to make these adjustments work for the benefit of all. Please refer to last week's newsletter to remind yourselves of Fr Richard's tentative 'Plan B' proposal and submit your comments on the slips of paper provided on the table in the porch.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY falls on the Sunday nearest Armistice Day, 11 November, which marks the end of the First World War. On this day we remember all those who gave their lives for their country, all who suffered and died through acts of war and those who were left behind to grieve and mourn.

The poppy, a symbol of Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future: Wearing a poppy is a show of support for the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces, veterans and their families. It represents all those who lost their lives on active service in all conflicts; from the beginning of the First World War right up to present day. It also honours the contribution of civilian services and the uniformed services which contribute to national peace and security and acknowledges innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism.

In Ypres in 1915, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was inspired by the sight of poppies growing in battle-scarred fields to write his now famous poem '*In Flanders Fields*'.

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

The poem inspired American War Secretary, Moina Michael, who bought poppies to sell to her friends to raise money for Servicemen in need after the First World War. This was adopted by The (Royal) British Legion in 1921 who ordered a million poppies from Anna Guérin in France and commissioned a further 8 million to be manufactured in Britain. These were sold on 11 November that year in the first ever Poppy Appeal.

https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/stories/11-things-you-might-not-know-about-the-poppy