

PARISH CLERGY:

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Ramesh Echu
PARISH DEACON
Rev. Peter Crosby

PARISH REPS:

SAFEGUARDING:
Mr Gerry Wintrip
sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

HEALTH & SAFETY:
Mr Phil Probert
hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH CATECHIST:
Mrs Philomena Mullins
cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

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Aldridge
Walsall
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Tel:01922 452316

Parish Website:
www.catholicaldridge.co.uk

Parish Email:
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Fr. Ramesh's Email:
fr.ramesh.echu@rcaob.org.uk

Rev. Peter Crosby
dcn.peter.crosby@rcaob.org.uk

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Registered Charity
N°:234216



DATE
Sunday 8th March 2026

SUNDAY
3rd Sunday of Lent 2026
Year A

DIVINE OFFICE
Week 3

Live-stream: All of our services are now Live-streamed.

Saturday 7 th March 2026 Lent Feria (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	John Doogan RIP ^(J&RL) <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Liz Boring RIP ^(DM)
Sunday 8 th March 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent	8:55am 9:30am	<i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i> <i>Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</i> People of the Parish <i>First Scrutiny for Candidates Preparing for the Sacraments</i>
Monday 9 th March 2026 Lent Feria		<i>No Services Today</i>
Tuesday 10 th March 2026 Lent Feria	9:15am	Glenda Evason RIP ^(FD)
Wednesday 11 th March 2026 Lent Feria	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Mary Gowans RIP ^(TL) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Rosary Devotion Group in Meeting Room (UFN)</i>
Thursday 12 th March 2026 Lent Feria	7:00pm	<i>No Lenten Talk this week</i> Private Intention ^(SMA Confirmations)
Friday 13 th March 2026 Lent Feria	12 Noon 4:00pm	John Doogan RIP ^(DM) <i>Soup will be served in the Meeting Room after Mass</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 14 th March 2026 Lent Feria (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Roy Allsopp RIP ^(J&DC) <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Int. of Cath Mercer ^(DM)
Sunday 15 th March 2026 4th Sunday of Lent	8:55am 9:30am	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments <i>Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</i> People of the Parish <i>Second Scrutiny for Candidates Preparing for the Sacraments</i>

The Holy Communion and Confirmation Classes for Children not at Catholic Schools:

Our Holy Communion Classes and Confirmation **continue** straight after Sunday Mass. For details, please contact our Parish Catechist **Mrs Philomena Mullins:**
cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

Pope Leo

Composed of men and women, the Church is divine. Even in our littleness and limitations, we can always serve as instruments in God's hands to build up His Church.

Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Mary Gowans** upon whose soul, Sweet Jesus have mercy.

Missio (Red Boxes)



Could those who have Missio boxes in their charge please empty them and let Sue W have monies. If anyone has a Red Box that has not been emptied for years, please contact Sue 01922 457247.

The CaFOD Prayer 3rd Sunday in Lent Time



We pray that the Church throughout the world may be a sign of God's love for all people and a beacon of hope for those in need.

Family Fun Afternoon



Family Fun Afternoon, Sunday 29th March at 2-5pm. **Games, Craft Table etc.** - Bring your own food/snacks. Limited spaces.

Please use the signup sheet in the porch.

Piety Stall

Please visit our restocked Piety Stall. We have Gifts and cards to celebrate St Patrick's Day, Confirmations, and Mothering Sunday, Easter and those being received into the Church this Easter. Lots for new babies and children being baptised. If we don't have what you want on the stall, just ask to see the catalogue, we are happy to accommodate special orders.

Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for March is:-
For disarmament and peace Let us pray that nations move towards effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Parish Pastoral Meeting

The proposed February quarterly **Parish Pastoral Meeting** and its **AGM** have had to be postponed. Details of the new date will be published shortly.

Sick in the Parish

Please pray for the sick in the parish, remembering especially:

Sheila Brayford, Geraldine Frith, Andrew Mather, Ann Watson, Anne Mitchell, Maureen Patton, Maureen Carr, Shaun Smith, Kathleen 'Frankie' Smith, Sheila Plimmer, Ann Hornblower, Dennis Poyner, Freddie Evans, Nuala & George Partridge, Hilary Fernandes, Eoghain Devine, Marian Mathews, Marie Wilson, Ian Phipps, Oscar Wordsworth, Nichola Woodhall, Paul Corbett, Carmel Fekete, Lynn Stanley, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Margaret Davis, Joe Bannister, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia (Dotty) Cutler, Keith Allford, Anna Morgan née Meehan, Holly Brady, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.

Nursery places at St Mary of the Angels Primary

Places for the **September 2026** intake at our primary school are now available, see the notice board in the porch. Please contact school on **01922 743411** or email:

postbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk

For more information, or see the notice board in the porch. ⁷

Safeguarding Notice

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mr. Gerry Wintrip. Gerry can be contacted at: sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

RCIA Growing the Faith

The **R.C.I.A** course meeting continues from **7:00 to 8:30pm** this **Tuesday 10th March**. **All are welcome**, those already Catholics wanting to know more about the faith and those who want to become Catholics. That session will be entitled '**Moral Action**'.

Lenten Friday Mass

During Lent, the **Mass on Friday** will be at **12 Noon**. This will be followed by soup with a bread roll in the Meeting Room. All donations will be gratefully received for **Mary's Meals**; it's a great opportunity to help with your Lenten Friday fast.¹

Our Lenten Alms will be for the aid of **Fr. Hudson's Caritas**.

Lenten Talks on Thursday

Evenings

There will be **NO LENTEN TALK** this coming Thursday evening 12th March.

RCIA – First Scrutiny

On the **Third Sunday of Lent**, our parish will celebrate the **First Scrutiny** with those preparing to receive the **Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil**.

The **Scrutinies** are special rites for the Elect - those who will soon be baptised - marking a time of prayer, self-examination, and spiritual strengthening. Through these rites, the Church asks God to deepen their faith, strengthen them against temptation, and fill them with the "living water" of Christ.

Please keep our Elect in your prayers as they continue their journey toward **Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion**. May this sacred season of Lent be a time of grace and renewal for our entire parish community.

Craft & Natter

Can I thank everyone who made, bought, sold or helped in any way to make our **Craft and Natter stall** at Church over the weekend of **28th Feb/1st March** such a success. If you want to see what we get up to, do please come along for a cup of tea and a natter, We meet on **Tuesdays** in term time **from 11am to 3pm**, when everyone is welcome. For more information call me, **Christine** on **07900 604902**.

Whetstone Over-50s

Over 50's Group

The next meeting of the **Over 50's** will be this **Monday 9th March** at **2pm** in the meeting room. We have an excellent speaker **Mary Bodfish** coming along to talk to us about **Edward and Mrs Simpson**. Come along and enjoy the talk; new members are always welcome.

Date for Your Diary

Our **St. Patrick's Day** celebration evening at **7:00pm** on **Friday 13th March** in the Conservative Club. Tickets are available again this weekend **7th /08th Mar** after Masses. You may take refreshments to the club, e.g. sandwiches etc. but **crisps** and **drinks MUST** be purchased from the club⁵.

Will those who have asked for tickets, please collect and pay for them this weekend before the Vigil Mass on Saturday or after Mass on Sunday Morning.

Diocesan Situations Vacant

Parish Mission & Formation Co-ordinator

Job title: Parish Mission & Formation Co-ordinator

Terms: Permanent/full-time, all year round, 40 hours per week (flexible, including evenings and occasional weekends)

Location: Across parishes of the Birmingham East Cluster

Serving: The Divine Mercy Partnership

Reporting to: Designated Parish Priest (Cluster Line Manager), working in consultation with the clergy of the Birmingham East Cluster)

Salary: £37,440 pa.

Please also see notice board regarding an administration vacancy at St Mary of the Angels Primary School

Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform **Fr. Ramesh directly** in case of sickness, especially if it requires hospital treatment or a prolonged absence from Mass. If you cannot inform the clergy yourself it is then your family who should take on this responsibility.



Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to have your child Baptised here at St. Mary of the Angels, please visit the 'Baptismal Enquiry' page of the parish website using the following link:

<https://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/baptismal-enquiries.html>

Here you can complete a '**Baptism Enquiry Form**'. The next available date for Baptism Preparation is:

7:00pm Tuesday 10th March 2026

7:00pm Tuesday 9th June 2026

7:00pm Tuesday 8th September 2026

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 7TH – 8TH MARCH 2026

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	Dawn M
	READERS:	Pat H & Gerry W
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Emma H & Tony M
9:30AM SUNG MASS	WELCOMERS:	Margaret L & Elena S
	MUSIC:	Choir
	READERS:	Edith B & Will B
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Katharine M & Sue ^{Musicians} Catherine C

Duties During the Week: 9TH – 14TH MARCH 2026

CLEANERS:	Team D
FLOWERS:	No flowers for the remainder of Lent

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 14TH – 15TH MARCH 2026

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	Ann & John T
	READERS:	John H & Brian L
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Chris H & John T
9:30AM SUNG MASS.	WARDENS:	Brian L
	WELCOMERS:	Helen A & Elaine A
	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	READERS:	Mark H & Martin B
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Katie & Janet ^{Musicians} Phil P
	WARDENS:	Pat & Sally S
COFFEE:	Frank & Margaret R	

Reflection: In the Gospel, an unclean, ostracised Samaritan woman is given an opportunity to receive the living water. Jesus awakened in the woman at the well a thirst for the wholeness and integrity that she had lost, a thirst, which He had come to satisfy. This Gospel passage also gives us Jesus' revelation about Himself as the Source of Living Water and teaches us that we need the grace of Jesus Christ for eternal life because Jesus is that life-giving water. We need to allow Jesus free entry into our personal lives. Jesus wishes to come into our "private" life, not to embarrass us, not to judge or condemn us, but to free us, to change us, and to offer us what we really need: the living water of the Holy Spirit. Let us find this living water in the Sacraments, in prayer, and in the Holy Bible, especially during this Lenten season. We need to be witnesses to Jesus as the Samaritan woman was. Let us have the courage to "be" Jesus for others, especially in those "unexpected" places for "unwanted" people. Let us also have the courage of our Christian convictions to stand for truth and justice in our day-to-day life.

God bless you all.