

## PARISH CLERGY:

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

## PARISH REPS:

SAFEGUARDING:  
**Mr Gerry Wintrip**  
[sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

HEALTH & SAFETY:  
**Mr Phil Probert**  
[hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

PARISH CATECHIST:  
**Mrs Philomena Mullins**  
[cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

# ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

39 Whetstone Lane  
Aldridge  
Walsall  
WS9 0JD  
Tel:01922 452316

Parish Website:  
[www.catholicaldridge.co.uk](http://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk)

Parish Email:  
[smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

Fr. Ramesh's Email:  
[fr.ramesh.echu@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.ramesh.echu@rcaob.org.uk)

Rev. Peter Crosby  
[dcn.peter.crosby@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.peter.crosby@rcaob.org.uk)

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Registered Charity  
N<sup>o</sup>:234216



DATE  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026

SUNDAY  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent 2026  
Year A

DIVINE OFFICE  
Week 4

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

Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>Lent Feria</b> (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Roy Allsopp RIP <sup>(J&amp;DC)</sup> <i>Confessions &amp; Benediction</i> Int. of Cath Mercer <sup>(DM)</sup>
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> <i>Mothering Sunday</i> <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	8:55am 9:30am	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments <a href="#">Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</a> People of the Parish <i>Second Scrutiny for Candidates Preparing for the Sacraments</i>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>Lent Feria</b>		<b><i>No Services Today</i></b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>St Patrick</b> <small>Bishop, Patron of Ireland</small> <sup>Feast</sup>	9:15am	Martin Hoskisson RIP <sup>(SVP)</sup>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>Lent Feria</b>	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Doris Borg RIP <sup>(YD)</sup> <b><i>Stations of the Cross</i></b> <i>Rosary Devotion Group in Meeting Room (UFN)</i>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>St Joseph</b> <small>Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</small> <sup>Solemnity</sup>	6:30pm 7:00pm	<b><i>Lenten Talk</i></b> Private Intention
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 <b>Lent Feria</b>	<b>12 Noon</b> 4:00pm	Michael Sparkes RIP <sup>(ES)</sup> <b><i>Soup will be served in the Meeting Room after Mass</i></b> <b><i>Stations of the Cross</i></b>
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2026 <b>Lent Feria</b> (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Michael Doherty RIP <sup>(HD)</sup> <i>Confessions &amp; Benediction</i> Roger Howell RIP <sup>(SW)</sup>
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2026 <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	8:55am 9:30am	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments <a href="#">Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</a> People of the Parish <i>Third 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](mailto:cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

## Pope Leo

Let us continue to pray for peace in Iran and throughout the Middle East, especially for the many civilian victims, including many innocent children. May our prayer offer comfort to those who suffer and a seed of hope for the future.

## Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **John Francis (Frank) Sheehy** upon whose soul, Sweet Jesus have mercy. Frank's funeral will be at 9:45am on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. He will be received into church on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 5:00pm. with interment at Streetly Cemetery.

## Missio (Red Boxes)

Could those who have **Missio Red 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent Time **CAFOD**

Lord God, have pity on the victims of war in the Sudan, in Gaza, and in Ukraine. Move your people throughout the world. May our prayers lead to the establishment of real and lasting peace in those lands.

## Family Fun Afternoon



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

**Please use the signup sheet in the porch.**

## St Mary of the Angels Primary



**Nursery 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](mailto:postbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk)**

For more information, or see the notice board in the porch. <sup>8</sup>

**Please also see the in church notice boards regarding an administration vacancy at St Mary of the Angels Primary School.**

## 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 quarterly **Parish Pastoral Meeting** and **AGM** are re-scheduled for 7:30pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April.

## 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 <sup>(Dotty)</sup> Cutler, Keith Allford, Anna Morgan <sup>née Meehan</sup>, Holly Brady, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Aine McDonagh.**

## Lenten Talks on Thursday Evenings

There will be another **LENTEN TALK** this coming Thursday evening, 19<sup>th</sup> March. Our theme this week will be 'Understanding Suffering in the Light of God's Love'.

## Lichfield & Walsall Deanery Visitations

The closing gathering for the **Lichfield and Walsall Deanery Visitation** takes place at **Saint Mary's The Mount** (Glebe St, Walsall WS1 3NX).

It takes place on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** at 7pm. and begins with Evening Prayer in the Church, followed by feedback from the Visitation by **Archbishop Longley** and **Bishop Menezes**. It concludes with refreshments in the Parish Centre.

## Second Collection This Weekend

There will be a retiring second collection after both Masses **this** weekend in aid of **Cathedral Maintenance**.

### 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](mailto:sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk) or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 **'Natural Law & the Ten Commandments'**.

### Lenten Friday Mass



During Lent, the **Mass on Friday** continues to 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.<sup>1</sup> Our Lenten Alms box will be for the aid of **Fr. Hudson's Caritas**.

### RCIA – First Scrutiny

On the **Fourth Sunday of Lent**, our parish will celebrate the **Second 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

We will be having our Easter break as usual, so there will be no Craft & Natter on **31st March** and **7<sup>th</sup> April**. We are, back to normal on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**. Everyone welcome only £1 per session for all drinks and any supplies needed.

For more information call me, **Christine** on **07900 604902**.

### Mothering Sunday Reflection

Mothering Sunday is a special opportunity to give thanks for the love, care, and guidance that mothers and mother figures offer in our lives. Their quiet acts of kindness, patience, and sacrifice shape our families and communities in ways that often go unseen but are deeply felt. In our parish, we also remember that "motherhood" can be expressed in many ways - through those who nurture, encourage, and support others with compassion and faith. We give thanks for all who share that generous spirit. As we celebrate Mother's Day, may we take a moment to express our gratitude, remember those we hold dear, and pray for all mothers - that they may know the appreciation and love they so richly deserve.

### VALUATION & BUYING DAY

Next **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**, we are hosting a **T Baker & Co Roadshow** in our church Meeting Room between **11:00am & 4:00pm**.

**Gold, silver and silver plate, medals, watches, clocks, old toys etc.**

### CATEGORIES NOT COVERED BY THE VALUATION:

**Art, Books, Breakables (China etc), cigarette Cards, Clothing, Electronic devices, Furniture, Stamps, Sporting Memorabilia & Vinyl Records.**

### Diocesan Situations Vacant



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

### 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.

**Application Entries** by this **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

### 50/50 Club Winners

The winners of the draw February 2026 entrants drawn on **8<sup>th</sup> March 2026:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>	<b>CL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>£150.00</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>	<b>BL</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>£65.00</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b>	<b>PB</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>£30.00</b>

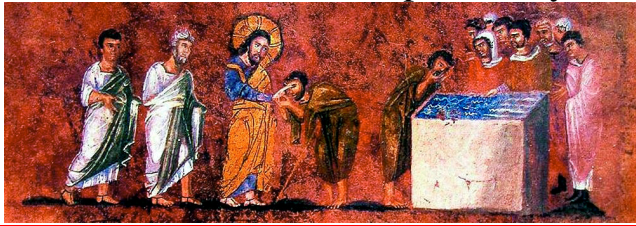
**Total prize money this month: £245.00**

**We would very much welcome new entries into our monthly draw. Tickets (£5 per month).**

**Please speak to Sue W or Fr. Ramesh.**

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026**  
**7:00pm Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

### PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 14<sup>TH</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

<b>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</b>	<b>WELCOMERS:</b>	Ann & John T
	<b>READERS:</b>	John H & Brian L
	<b>E O Each. Ministers</b>	Chris H & John T
<b>9:30AM SUNG MASS</b>	<b>WELCOMERS:</b>	Helen A & Elaine A
	<b>MUSIC:</b>	Folk Group
	<b>READERS:</b>	Mark H & Martin B
	<b>E O Each. Ministers</b>	Katie & Janet <sup>Musicians</sup> Phil P

### Duties During the Week: 16<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2026

<b>CLEANERS:</b>	Team A
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	No flowers for the remainder of Lent

### PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 21<sup>ST</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2026

<b>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</b>	<b>WELCOMERS:</b>	Shelagh G & Anne H
	<b>READERS:</b>	Cathy S & Hugh D
	<b>E O Each. Ministers</b>	Anne C & Bernadette D
<b>9:30AM SUNG MASS.</b>	<b>WARDENS:</b>	Peter H
	<b>WELCOMERS:</b>	Rossella B & Helen C
	<b>MUSIC:</b>	Choir
	<b>READERS:</b>	Helen C & Louis A
	<b>E O Each. Ministers</b>	Will & Katharine <sup>Musicians</sup> Catherine C
	<b>WARDENS:</b>	John O & Elaine A
<b>COFFEE:</b>	The S family	

**Reflection:** Presenting the miracle of Jesus' giving of sight to a man born blind, today's Gospel teaches us the necessity of being willing to have our eyes opened by Faith. It warns us that those who assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision. In this episode, the most unlikely person, namely the beggar born blind, receives the light of Faith in Jesus, while the religion-oriented, law-educated Pharisees remain spiritually blind. To live, as a Christian is to see and to grow continually, gaining clearer vision about God, about ourselves and about others. Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters, saved by the death and Resurrection of Jesus.

**God bless you all.**