

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
WS9 0JD
Tel:01922 452316

Parish Website:
www.catholicaldridge.co.uk

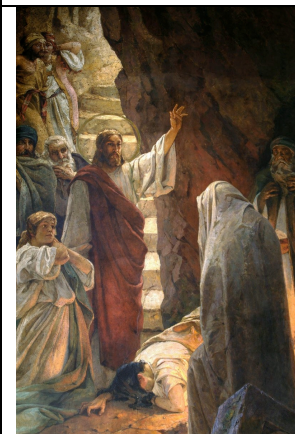
Parish Email:
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Fr. Ramesh's Email:
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Rev. Peter Crosby
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This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Registered Charity
N°:234216



DATE
Sunday 22nd March 2026

SUNDAY
5th Sunday of Lent 2026
Year A

DIVINE OFFICE
Week 1

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

Saturday 21 st March 2026 Lent Feria (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Michael Doherty ^(HD) RIP <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Roger Howell ^(SW) RIP
Sunday 22 nd March 2026 5th Sunday of Lent	8:55am 9:30am	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Sunday Rosary Devotion Group People of the Parish <i>Third Scrutiny for Candidates Preparing for the Sacraments</i>
Monday 23 rd March 2026 Lent Feria		No Services Today
Tuesday 24 th March 2026 Lent Feria	9:15am	Int. of Ian Ralston ^(FH)
Wednesday 25 th March 2026 Annunciation of the Lord Solemnity	9:15am 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm	Nancy Crawley ^(HC) RIP Stations of the Cross John Francis (Frank) Sheehy Received into church. <i>Rosary Devotion Group in Meeting Room (UFN)</i>
Thursday 26 th March 2026 Lent Feria.	9:45am 6:30pm 7:00pm	Requiem Mass for John Francis (Frank) Sheehy Lenten Talk Private Intention
Friday 27 th March 2026 Lent Feria	12 Noon 4:00pm	Anthony Andrews ^(CA) RIP <i>Soup will be served in the Meeting Room after Mass</i> Stations of the Cross
Saturday 28 th March 2026 Lent Feria (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Int. of Wendy Spence ^(AM) (Get well) Retreat Day For the RCIA Group The Practice of Confession - In the Meeting Room <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Int. of Dn. Peter & Anne Crosby ^(TG)
Sunday 29 th March 2026 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	8:55am 9:30am	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Sunday Rosary Devotion Group People of the Parish

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

We thank the Lord for families who, despite difficulties and challenges, live “the spirituality of family love made up of thousands of small but real gestures”

Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Pat Mason** (late of Aston Court) and **John Francis (Frank) Sheehy** upon whose souls, Sweet Jesus have mercy. Frank's Requiem will be at **9:45am** this **Thursday 26th March**. He will be received into church on **Wednesday 25th 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 5th Sunday in Lent Time



I thank you, Lord Jesus, with all my heart, for you heard my prayer and answered me in my distress. I praise your name!

Family Fun Afternoon



Family Fun Afternoon, next 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

We have a good selection of Easter cards on the stall plus cards and gifts for those being received into the church at Easter and confirmation. Cards and gifts for First Holy Communion arriving this weekend.

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 16th April. The minutes and agendum of both meetings will be displayed in the church porch

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.

Lenten Talks on Thursday *Evenings*

There will be another **LENTEN TALK** this coming Thursday evening, 26th March. Our theme this week will be 'The Triduum', which will be held in the Meeting Room at 6:30pm.

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 24th 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.

The St. Patrick's Evening

A Big thank you to the musicians and singers who entertained us at our **St. Patrick's Evening celebration**. We raised **£485.00** towards our parish funds.

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.aldrige@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 24th March**. **All are welcome**, those already Catholics wanting to know more about the faith and those who want to become Catholics. This session will be entitled **Grace and the Beatitudes**.

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. The donations received will be handed to **Mary's Meals**, a presentation by their representative will be given on **Friday 27th March**. Our Lenten Alms box will be for the aid of **Fr. Hudson's Caritas**.

RCIA – First Scrutiny

On the **Fifth Sunday of Lent**, our parish will celebrate the **Third 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.

50/50 Club Winners

We would very much welcome new entries into our monthly draw. Tickets (£5 per month). Please speak to Sue W or Fr. Ramesh.

Craft & Natter

We will be having our Easter break as usual, so there will be no Craft & Natter on **31st March** and **7th April**. We are back to normal on **Tuesday 14th April**. Everyone welcome only £1 per session for all drinks and any supplies needed. For more information call me, **Christine** on **07900 604902**.

Easter House Blessing

During the Easter season, parishioners are warmly invited to have their homes blessed. This beautiful tradition is an opportunity to ask God's blessing upon your household, especially during this joyful time of Christ's Resurrection. If you would like to arrange a house blessing, sign-up sheets are available in church porch kindly write your name, address and a convenient time. May the peace and joy of Easter fill your homes and remain with you throughout the year.

Penitential Service: On Tuesday 31st March at 7:00pm (With 5 visiting priests)

As we journey through this sacred season, our Penance Service offers a meaningful opportunity to pause, reflect, and renew our hearts in preparation for the Paschal Mystery - the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. Through prayer, Scripture, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are invited to seek God's mercy, acknowledge our shortcomings, and embrace His healing grace. This communal celebration reminds us that we are not alone in our need for forgiveness. It strengthens our faith, restores our relationship with God and one another, and helps us enter more deeply into the joy of Easter. All are warmly encouraged to participate in this special time of spiritual renewal.

Times of Services for Holy Week and Easter Sunday

Tuesday 31st March

Penance Service **7.00 p.m.**
(with 5 visiting priests) see above paragraph



Thursday 2nd April Maundy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper **7.30 p.m.**



Friday 3rd April

Good Friday

The Stations of the Cross **12:00 p.m.**
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00 p.m.



Saturday 4th April

Holy Saturday

Swieconka *(Polish Food blessing)* **11.00 am**
Easter Vigil Mass 8.30 p.m.



Easter Sunday 5th April

Easter Day Mass (Family Mass) **9:30am**

*Please note there is **no 6.00 p.m. Mass** on Saturday 4th April*

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 9th June 2026

7:00pm Tuesday 8th September 2026

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 21ST – 22ND MARCH 2026

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	Shelagh G & Anne H
	READERS:	Cathy S & Hugh D
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Anne C & Bernadette D
9:30AM SUNG MASS	WELCOMERS:	Rossella B & Helen C
	MUSIC:	Choir
	READERS:	Helen C & Louis A
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Will & Katharine ^{Musicians} Catherine C

Duties During the Week: 123RD – 28TH MARCH 2026

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

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 28TH – 29TH MARCH 2026

6:00PM PALM SUNDAY VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	Mavie & Krystal B
	READERS:	Gerry W, Pat H & John H
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Jonathan G & Ann T
	WARDENS:	Tony M
9:30AM PALM SUNDAY SUNG MASS.	WELCOMERS:	Katharine & Dave
	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	READERS:	Christine L, Will B and Catherine A
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Sue & Katie ^{Musicians} Phil P
	WARDENS:	Pat & Sally S
COFFEE:	The R family including John & Ann T	

Reflection: For John, in today's Gospel, the raising of Lazarus, the "sixth of seven Signs" that Jesus will work to demonstrate that He is the promised Messianic Deliverer. It is a symbolic narrative of His Final Victory over death at the cost of His human life, and a sign anticipating His Resurrection. Describing this great miracle, the Church assures us that we, too, will be raised into eternal life after our battle with sin and death in this world. Thus, Resurrection Hope is the central theme of the Scripture readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent. The readings assure us that our Faith in Jesus, who is "*the Resurrection and the Life,*" promises our participation in His Resurrection and new life.

God bless you all.