



## Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter**

**Readings: Year A**

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**Dear Friends,**

This last week I had the privilege of time in Italy, visiting some beautiful churches, clearly loved, well-ordered and well-attended. At Mass last Sunday in Forio, the choir sang with feeling, the people participated fully, the organist played with gusto... just like back home, I thought to myself. I needed to “come down” after such a wonderful and packed Holy Week and Easter Sunday and the Amalfi coast was just the right place. My great thanks to Frs Martin and Paul, supported by Fr Tony, for celebrating the parish Masses while I was away.

The ecclesiastical highlight of the week was the *Basilica San Gennaro extra Moenia*, the resting place and more of Naples’ Patron saint. Built on the site of 2<sup>nd</sup> Century churches, it is the centre of devotion to *St Gennaro (Januarius)* a 4<sup>th</sup> Century Bishop Martyr for the Faith who perished like so many others in the persecutions of the *Emperor Diocletian*, another tyrant who thought he could extinguish the Light of Christ. Blood from his body was collected by a pious matron, *Eusebia*, and stored in two ampoules. This is where the story of *St Gennaro* becomes fascinating. Every year, on three specific days, in May, September and December, the ampoules of dried blood, 1800 years old, are taken out... and the blood is shown to have liquified in The Mystery of the Blood ceremony.

How does this liquefaction come about? No rational, scientific explanation has been offered and the people of Naples, deeply attached to their Patron, would reject anything anyway that takes away from the miraculous and the devotional phenomenon known as The Mystery of the Blood. *San Gennaro* is a real person for them, someone to turn to in times of crisis or need. It is a powerful display of “The Communion of Saints” which we affirm weekly in the Creed.

Today's Gospel continues the story of the Resurrection and the total transformation of beaten and scared disciples into mighty messenger and Apostles who began the Mission of the Kingdom which continues in our own days. As they recognised their Risen Lord in the Breaking of bread, so may we as the Bread of Life is broken daily on our altars and He comes among us as He did to those early believers, on that road to *Emmaus*.

**P.S.** Next Sunday is the Reception and Confirmation of Lilie Boyce and Dan Everard at St Teresa's after almost 9 months of Instruction. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to walk with them on their journey into the Universal Church.

**P.P.S. Please pray for the Holy Father Pope Leo, as he tries to bring peace to conflict, reconciliation to war.**

**God bless everyone, Fr. Clive**

### **Parish Notices**

**Masses, Rosary, and Classes as usual this week:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Mass 9:15am. Friday Rosary for Peace 9:15am. **Feasts this week:** *St George, Patron of England*, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **Funerals in April:**

✠ **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – Funeral service for *Simon Angel, All Saints, Mollington* at 11am.

✠ **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Requiem for *Mary Ward*, one of our sick Communicants, in *Holy Trinity* at 11:30am.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord*

### **Basic Safeguarding Training for Volunteers**

Thank you to all the volunteers who have completed a Volunteer Information Form, as required by the Archdiocese of Birmingham. It is also required that all volunteers have a basic understanding of safeguarding matters, for the wellbeing of our whole community. Level One of the CSSA (Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency) training is on the noticeboard at the back of the church, and can be found by following this link: <https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/>

If you have any questions, please speak to Sharnalee Foster, Parish Safeguarding Rep, who can provide further printed copies, or contact her at [sg.stteresa.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stteresa.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk)

### **Save The Date: Talk And Discussion: What Price Religious Freedom? Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 3pm-4pm, Morris Room, Charlbury Corner House.**

We now take our religious freedom for granted, but throughout the world people are disadvantaged and persecuted for their faith: Christianity, Islam, Judaism. Our panel experts: Elliott Banks, Lead Researcher Aid to the Church in Need and Fr. Dominic Robinson SJ, Chair: Justice and Peace Commission, Diocese of Westminster will help us explore the impact of this persecution has not only on faith but on a wider society. This event is sponsored by the Parish of the Assumption – St. Teresa's, Charlbury and supports Aid to the Church in Need. Tickets £9 to include the talk, a glass of wine/cup of tea/cake. Please pay on the door, cash or cheques only. — Suze Mathews ACN Parish Representative

**In April, let us pray with the Holy Father for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.**

**Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes. In addition to your own daily prayers please remember:** All those who mourn the loss of loved ones. The repose of the souls of those who have died. People whose anniversaries occur at this time. The people of the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

**The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are **Tammy Lawson** and **Sharnalee Foster** ([sg.stteresaofflisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stteresaofflisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk)). Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.