OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PRAY FOR US

Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Wednesbury.

Saint Mary's Road, WS10 9DL
Telephone 0121 505 7927
Parish Website http:/www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk
Parish email: stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Priest: Fr Michael Vaughan
fr.michael.vaughan@rcaob.org.uk
www.frmichaelvaughan.com

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Jones. She can be contacted at sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@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 concern.
The Archdiocese of Birmingham has a zero-tolerance approach to ALL abuse.

HYMNS **PENTECOST SUNDAY – 96 461 98 70 468 337**

23rd/24th May 2026	
Saturday May 23rd **Easter Feria.**	**4.15pm – 4.50pm Confessions.** **5pm** Mass – Michael Piggott (RIP).
Sunday May 24th **SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST.** **Ordinary time resumes at week 8.**	**9.30am - 9.50am. Confession by request.** **10am** - People of the Parish. **12.30pm – Baptism. Eliza - Grey Morgan Palmer**
Monday May 25th **Memorial. Mary mother of the Church.**	**10am - NO MASS.**
Tuesday May 26th **Memorial. St Philip Neri. Priest.**	**10am - NO MASS**
Wednesday May 27th **Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury.**	**10am - NO MASS**
Thursday May 28th **Feast. Our Lord Jesus Christ. Eternal High Priest.**	**10am - NO MASS**
Friday May 29th **The Solemnity of the Dedication.**	**10am – NO MASS**
Saturday May 30th **Feria.**	**11am – First Confessions. Parish FHC group.** **4.15pm – 4.50pm Confessions.** **5pm** Mass – Phylis Mary Woodward (RIP)
Sunday May 31st **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity.**	**9.30am - 9.50am. Confession by request.** **10am** - Repose of the Soul of Lucy Chirimanzi (RIP) **12.30pm – Baptism. Isabelle Waterhouse.**

Prayer to Our Lady, Help of Christians.

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, how sweet it is to come to your feet imploring your perpetual help. If earthly mothers cease not to remember their children, how can you, the most loving of all mothers, forget me? Grant then to me, I implore you, your perpetual help in all my necessities, in every sorrow, and especially in all my temptations. I ask for your unceasing help for all who are now suffering. Help the weak, cure the sick, convert sinners. Grant through your intercession many vocations to the religious life. Obtain for me, O Mary, Help of Christians, that having invoked you here on earth, I may love and eternally thank you in Heaven. Amen.

Communion.
Everyone is most welcome to come to the altar rails to receive Communion, or to have a blessing from Fr Michael. Please put your hand across your chest to indicate a blessing only. Thank You.

Children's Liturgy.
Is held in the church porch every Sunday at the 10am Mass. Children will be called forward at the beginning of Mass. Parents who wish to do so, are most welcome to join their Children.

Tea and Coffee. Everyone is most welcome to join us in the hall after Mass for tea, coffee, and biscuits.

Gift Aid. Thank you to those who Gift Aid their offertory. This enables the parish to benefit from the tax paid on your offering at no extra cost to you. If you would like to know how your tax can benefit the parish (which is a charity) then please have a word with Gary Linford. Thank you.

Baptism.
Parents wanting their children Baptised, please book an appointment to speak with Fr Michael.

Food Bank: There is a box in the Porch. Please support if you can. Thank you to all parishioners who support this Ecumenical Ministry.

Clergy Training Fund.
Thank you to those who regularly donate to the CTF.

Baptism Certificates.
Please note that Baptism Certificates are available by request after the day of baptism. No extra charge. Thank you.

Replacement Certificates.
Please note that a charge of £10 per certificate is made on ALL Copies of Baptism and Confirmation certificates.

Please Pray for All the Sick of our Parish, may God bless and comfort them.
Also remember in your prayers, those who bear their illness privately, and those that care for them. Theresa Adams, Melesi Chapo, Bridgitt Cooper, Joan Dixon, Lynne Harper, Barbara Jarvis, Michelle Price, Veronica Smith, Pat Wilkins, Pat Morris. Sofia Florea, Elsie Burton.

Please note that Fr Michael is not available on Monday's. Thank you.

Dates For your Diary.
Corpus Christi and First Holy Communion, Sunday the 7th of June. Mass 10am.

Standing Orders. Many thanks to those parishioners who choose to support the mission of the church by giving by Standing Order. Anyone who would like to support the mission of the church in this way, please have a word with Gary Linford, who will be glad to help.

Card Reader. QR Codes. Bacs.
A card reader is available for those parishioners who prefer to give their offertory by bank card. Please speak to Fr Michael for more details. QR codes are also placed around the Church and Hall for donations. Account no and Sort Code is now available for those who like to give by bacs. Thank you.

Job Opportunities.
We are often asked by people about jobs in the local area. Therefore, there will be a new page on the Website advertising positions available in the Diocese, or local job opportunities in the school, care, or other areas. Please check our website for details, and if you know of any positions vacant, please email them and we will advertise them. Thank you.

GARDENING PARTY.
Thank you to the 10 volunteers who have already offered to help tidy the church and hall gardens!

To keep our grounds looking beautiful at a minimum cost, we would love to establish this as a regular gardening group.

Our first session will be on Saturday, 6th June at 10:00 am. Please bring your own gardening equipment; refreshments will be provided. As the saying goes, many hands make light work!

Thank you for your support, Fr Michael.

CHURCH CLEANING.

Next cleaning days are 26th May and 30th June. If you can help, for about half an hour or so to flick a duster and do a bit of a tidy up, we'd be most grateful. Kris Moseley. Fr Michael.

1st Collection
Gift Aid: £81
Loose: £223.89
2nd collection
Catholic Communications
Loose £101.14
Occasional Fundraising income: £105.53
Total: £511.56
Attendance
Saturday: 35
Sunday: 93
Total 128

Flowers.

The flowers on Our Lady of Walsingham starting week Sunday 24th May are in memory of Glen Harper (RIP). His anniversary is Monday 25th May.

Church & Hall Restoration Update

A lot of vital work and maintenance is currently underway to keep our parish safe. Recent updates include:
Church: The lightning rod has been fully inspected and secured.
Parish Hall: Lighting and emergency safety lights are being updated.
Amenities: Automated sensor lights are being installed in all toilets.
This essential upkeep is only possible because of your wonderful generosity. To help us continue this work, our Restoration Fund Second Collection takes place this weekend. You can donate in the normal way, or you can donate by card, Bacs, or QR code. Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish. Fr Michael.

Church Hall.

Saint Mary's Hall is available to hire by any person for meetings, parties, and so forth. If you would like to hire the hall rates are per hour; please speak with Margaret Holden or email **hall.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk** Thank you.

Second Collections.

This Weekend – Church/Hall Restoration.
20th/21st June – Day for Life.
27th/28th June – Peters Pence.
11th/12th July – Mission Appeal – The Holy Family Sisters of the Needy.

Volunteer Announcement.

Thank you to everyone who gives their time to our church! To comply with current guidelines, all new and existing volunteers will soon receive a safeguarding leaflet from Mary Jones. Leaders and youth volunteers will also complete a Level 2/3 training course. Fr Michael and Mary Jones will assist everyone with these updates.

Job Opportunity.

The Lee family are currently looking for people to work in their Restaurant, Caffé 41. Duties include cooking and serving. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, then please contact Syrika at Caffe 41, Pleck Road, Walsall, WS2 9XX, opposite the Manor Hospital main entrance.

On Receiving the Blessed Sacrament.

The normal reception of Holy Communion in the Catholic Church requires being a baptized Catholic in a state of grace (free from mortal sin), observing a one-hour fast from food and drink (except water/medicine), and believing in the Real Presence. It is typically received kneeling, making the sign of the cross beforehand, receiving either on the tongue or in the hand.

Essential Requirements for Reception

State of Grace: A person conscious of grave (mortal) sin must not receive Communion without prior sacramental confession.

Eucharistic Fast: One must abstain from all food and drink (except water and medicine) for at least one hour before Holy Communion.

Belief: One must believe in the real presence of Jesus, Body soul and divinity in the blessed sacrament, and in the doctrine of Transubstantiation—that the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ.

Frequency: Catholics are encouraged to receive communion frequently but are mandated to do so at least once a year, typically during the Easter season.

Normal Manner of Receiving Communion.

Approach the Altar respectfully, crossing yourself before receiving the Sacrament as a sign of reverence.

Posture: The norm is kneeling, although you may stand if kneeling is difficult.

Reception in the Hand: Form a "throne" for the Lord by placing one hand on top of the other. The Host is taken to the mouth with the other hand **immediately** before moving away.

Reception on the Tongue: The Host is placed directly on the tongue by the Priest.

Response: Say **"Amen"** to the proclamation "The Body of Christ" (or "The Blood of Christ").

Intinction: In the Roman Rite, it is not the norm for communicants to dip the Host into the chalice themselves.

Exceptions and Notes

Non-Catholics: Generally, Catholics do not share Communion with those not in full union with the Catholic Church.

Confession: If a person is in a state of mortal sin, they must go to confession before receiving communion, unless they have a grave reason to receive, cannot go to confession, and have made an act of perfect contrition.

Genuflection. It is normal to Genuflect (go down on one knee) making the sign of the cross **before** entering the pew, and when **leaving** the pew, and when going to the Altar to receive Communion.

In the Catholic Church, the bishop is the primary custodian of the Eucharist within his diocese, and the Parish Priest holds this responsibility within his parish. As ordained clergy, priests and deacons are the ordinary ministers responsible for the protection, celebration, and distribution of the Blessed Sacrament.

PARISH DIRECTORY.

Parish Treasurer & Church Cleaning: Kristine Moseley.
pt.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk
Health & Safety: Paul Piddock.
hs.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk
Gift Aid & Children's Liturgy/Catechesis: Gary Linford.
ga.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Hall Bookings: Margaret Holden.
hall.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk
Safeguarding & Extraordinary Minister for the Sick:
Mary Jones.
sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk
St Mary's School Headteacher Mrs Amy Pritchard.
Flowers: Ann Baxter. Bridget Lane. June Lefan.
All voluntary jobs by appointment.

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of the faithfull departed whose Anniversaries occur in **MAY**: Vivien Mary Harper, Thomas Bennett, Frank & Olwen Borg, Michael Bradley, Catherine Byrne, Charles Byrne, Mary Clarke, Thomas Clarke, Ann Adenia Coll, Jane & Angela Cowley, John Diggett, John & Pat Gaunt, Eddie Haken, Lorraine Haken (Darby), Roger Howell, Mary Elizabeth Ilsley, Maurice Ilsley, W.J. Ilsley, Graham Harper, Marian Kilvington, Catherine Mason, Joseph Moore, David Newall, Samuel Nicholls, Beatrice Mary Peach, Walter Anthony Peach, Mary Philage (nee Hirrill), Margaret Piddock, Joyce Piggott, Fr James Ward.

Our Lady and the Sacred Heart. Sanctuary Lamps.

To have a Sanctuary Lamp lit in one of the chapels, for your intentions or loved ones, please fill in an envelope, available at the back of church, place your £10 in and give to Fr Michael. Thank you. Candles cost £10.

The Sanctuary lamp in Our Lady's Chapel burns for:

The Sanctuary lamp in the Sacred Heart Chapel burns for:

In Loving Memory of Patrick, Michael, Andrew and Philip O'Gorman.

Passports The priest is available to sign passports upon request, but please note that he must have known the person for at least 2 years, and not the parishioner asking the priest to sign the passport on their behalf. The passport office does phone the presbytery to check, and a fee of £30 is charged per passport. Thank you.

Please check the Parish Website for regular updates.

Please note that the cut-off for all notices to be included in the weekend newsletter is Wednesday at 12pm. Items for the Newsletter can be given to Fr Michael or emailed to Fr Michael's email address. The Newsletter is also available on the parish website.

This QR code can be used to make donations to the Church and Hall restoration fund, or to give an offertory using your phone instead of using money. If you prefer to use a card, then please speak to Fr Michael.

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