St. Michael's Bulletin

Saint Michael's is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity N. 234216

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THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION, May 24th, 2009
Vigil of Sunday 5.30 pm Holy Souls

9.00 am Our Parish family **1030 am Siobhain Moran**

Monday 9.00am Morning prayer & Mass Tuesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Wednesday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service Thursday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Friday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass **Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Holy Souls**

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FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS.

Lord, send Your Healing Spirit on all who are in any way sick or distressed: we pray for Claudina Rodrigues, Eugenie Micotti, Alison & Betty Gosling, Ena Wilson, Marguerite Brosnan, Joseph Bradley, Mike Coulehan, Harry Littlefair, Nancy Keogh, Michael Boyle, Donald Garland, Gerald Scullane, Jason Thatcher , Mary Comfry, David Roberts , Marie Evans , Rita Conlon, Margaret Keane, Siobhain Moran, Maureen Vinall, Tony Moran and Katie Boyle.

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY.

We pray for all who died recently, for all killed in wars, disasters and accidents: victims of terrorism and oppression; and for those who die of starvation or neglect. Dan Mulrooney, Laddie Perl, Margaret Dodd, Eugene Lavalette and Basil Iwasyk, whose anniversaries fall at this time. **Grant them the joy of Your Presence.**

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THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION.

Today we celebrate Jesus' Ascension. This used to fall on Thursday, which was exactly 40 days after Easter. But now the feast is moved to the nearest Sunday so that many more may share in the Liturgical celebrations.

In former times we used to refer to the feast as Ascension Thursday: like Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday or Good Friday; we specified the day of the week. It was a Holyday of Obligation. But with so many working it became almost impossible for them to attend Mass on that day. A few years ago, after constant pressure, our Bishops moved the feast from the Thursday to the nearest Sunday. So today we celebrate the return of Jesus, after His earthly life and mission, to the glory of Heaven, where he sits at the right hand of God in glory.

His Ascension is a trail-blazing journey, because it means that we are destined to follow if we remain faithful to His teaching.

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING44

This will take place on May 31st, beginning with a Shared Lunch at 1200 noon. The Meeting will begin when we have eaten, had a chance to chat together and feel ready for the business of our AGM. This is open to everyone, and we hope that if you have not been to one before, you will come along. It is here that decisions are made about the future of the parish.

The Annual Parish Accounts can be seen on the board at the back of church.

GOVERNORS FOR OUR PARISH SCHOOL.

Thanks are due to all those who came forward in response to Brian Theobald's appeal last week. It may be that there are others who are still thinking about taking on this task. Please let us know as soon as you have made your decision so that we can make definite plans about appointing you to become members of the school's Governing Body. Thank you

ART CLASSES.

These classes will begin on Friday. They are primarily for a adults, but there is a class for children, 8 – 16 on Saturday morning from 9.30am – 1100am. Times of the classes are – Thursday 1000 am – 1230; Friday 7.00 pm – 1000 pm: Saturday from 1130 am – 2.00 pm. Maybe those who are retired might like to think about joining such a class and putting your talents to good use.

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

There is a Solemn Mass and Procession at Mapledurham House on Thursday June 11th at 1100 am to celebrate this feastday. Gates of the grounds will be opened at 1000 am if you wish to arrive early. After the procession there will be an opportunity to visit the grounds and gardens and then to sit in the grounds and have your picnic lunch. Lets hope the weather is kind to us.

SAINT BIRINUS PILGRIMAGE.

This takes place on June 21st. It begins at Churn Knob, Blewbury at 1215 with a picnic lunch; the walk begins at 1.00pm. If you wish to leave your car at Dorchester a bus will pick you up at 1145am and take you to the start. Tea will be served from St Birinus in Dorchester from 4.30pm. There will be a procession to the Abbey at 6.00pm in order to be present for the Service .

ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL FETE

On Saturday June 13th, from 1200 noon – 2.00pm. Stalls, games, crafts, Bouncy Castle, refreshments, BBQ and Pimms Tent. The School Orchestra will also be playing for us. You are all most welcome

ARCHBISHOP VINCENT NICHOLS.

On Thursday our former Archbishop, Vincent Nichols, was installed as Archbishop of Westminster So we no longer have an Archbishop. In the meantime we will be looked after by Bishop William Kenney, now known as our Diocesan Administrator.

READERS ROTA

The new Rotas will be produced shortly. This is an opportunity to join this Ministry. If you wish to join, please contact those who compile the Rotas. At 5.30 please contact John Rogers; at the 9.00 am Ed Pearce, and at 1030,. Brian Theobald.

CONFIRMATION

On June 17th Bishop William Kenney will be here to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Are there any who are not at our Catholic school who would like to be included in this celebration? Please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you

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May we all have a sunny week. Fr Chris