

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

19th January 2025, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

"This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee"

The Pope's Prayer Intention: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Fr Frank: *Love and marriage are very much in the air in our readings today. The scriptures reveal how God created us in order that we might know and love him. God delights in us or, as Isaiah in our first reading puts it: 'As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride so will your God rejoice in you.' Two become one in marriage and God created us so that we might be united with him in love - and our God is passionate about our being made one with him - So passionate that he gives himself totally for us in Christ who is born among us to win our love and devotion. This is the greatest love story ever told. Christ reveals the God of love to us in order that we might fall in love with him and so, like him, be prepared to leave all to be wedded to him.*

Response to the Psalm: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

Confession: 5.15-5.45pm Saturday at St Francis Church, Baddesley Clinton, or by arrangement.

Last week's Collection: Loose plate/Envelopes £118.25, Standing Orders £374, Total £492.25.

No midweek evening Mass at BRG this week.

Requiem Mass will be held for Martin Sheehy (RIP) this Tuesday 21st January at 10.45am. Please keep Martin, his family and friends in your prayers.

Tony Cotterill (RIP), who many parishioners will remember from his attending BRG for many years, passed away just after Christmas. His funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 28th January at 11am at Christ the King in Coventry, and afterwards at the Church Social Club next door. Please remember Tony and his family and friends in your prayers.

Recently deceased - Isabel Cusack, parishioner of St George & St Teresa.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: will follow the 7pm Tuesday Mass at Blessed Robert Grissold every **first** Tuesday of the month, and at St Francis after the 9am Mass on Thursdays each week. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be followed by Benediction. All welcome.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: The week of prayer for Christian Unity runs over the Octave of St. Peter and St Paul from 18th to 25th January. At the heart of our reflections for year is the question posed by Jesus to Martha: 'Do you believe this?' (John 11:26). Please visit www.cbcew.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity/ for resources and prayers.

Churches Together Service for Christian Unity: A service of prayer for Christian Unity is to be held today at St Mary the Virgin Church, Temple Balsall at 4pm. All are welcome.

Father Hudsons have asked us to pass on their thanks for the many gifts (over 50) that were donated via the Christmas Giving Tree and which were distributed to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Friends of the Holy Land: Thank you for all who donated to the collection at the Carol Service to the Friends of the Holy Land. The amount collected for this charity was £82.

Sunday Mass Books: Thank you to all who have agreed to contribute to the new parish Mass books. We are pleased to say we have had £610 in donations toward this year's books. Thank you to all for your support. The dedications will be put in the when the labels are printed.

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes: The Birmingham Lourdes Hospitalité warmly invites you to a special Mass celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday, 8th February 2025, at 4:30 pm, in St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham. This celebration is a wonderful opportunity to come together in prayer, honour Our Lady, and seek her intercession for the sick and their carers. Refreshments will be served after Mass. For more information, please contact treas.hosp.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk

Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope. To find out more about how your parish, family or school can celebrate the Jubilee Year in our Archdiocese, and how you can participate in events nationally and internationally, visit our Diocesan website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 24th 30th May 2025: In this Year of Jubilee, Archbishop Bernard invites all to join in the annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. It's a great experience to be together with upwards of 700 fellow pilgrims. To lodge and expression of interest or obtain more information visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes

Anniversaries this week: Audrey Morris, Diane Harper, Beryl Williams, Philip Given, Emily McLellan, Joan Donovan and Dick Brennan.

Parish Office: Sara's normal parish office hours are Wednesdays 10.30am – 2.30pm.

Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers: Maggie Ellis, Maureen Carroll, Joan McLean and Jim Flynn. If you would like someone to be named on our list of those who are sick, please contact David Green (david.monica@btopenworld.com) or complete the online form (under Parish Life) on our web site.

Notices for the Bulletin: Please email all notices for the bulletin to David Green by 7.00 pm on Thursday at david.monica@btopenworld.com

This Weeks Rota Arrangements for Mass at BRG

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| Date & Time: | 19 th January 9.30am | 26 th January 9.30am |
| Day: | Second Sunday in Ordinary Time | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Celebrant: | Fr. Frank | Fr. Frank |
| Intention: | Martin Sheehy (RIP) | Martin Sheehy (RIP) |
| Wardens: | Pat & Dave Thomas | Dominic and Teresa Green |
| Readers: | Mary Sharp | Cherise Mattias |
| Tea & Coffee: | Cheshire family | Christina Plater & Helen Woods |
| Flowers: | Ann Parker | Ann Parker |
| Counting: | Anisha & Cherise Mattias | Carol Beck & Andrew Cheshire |
| Music: | Instrumental Group | Björn Stinner |
| Church Cleaning: | Claire & Charles Keane | Louise Perry & Monica Green |
| Altar Linen: | Nuala Fulham | Nuala Fulham |
| Children's Liturgy: | Grainne & Anthony Breen | Lynda Leigh & Louise Perry |

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Monica Green. She can be contacted at: sg.brg.balsallcommon@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Priest: Revd. Father Frank Smith. Tel: 07512 100908

Email: fr.frank.smith@rcaob.org.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216.

Parish website: www.brgparish.org.uk

Banbury & Warwick Catholic Deanery website: www.banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk