

# ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lakey Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham  
B28 8QU. 0121 777 4524

**Fr Paul Johnson, Parish Priest**



This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216  
**20 September 2020** **Divine Office: Week 1, Year A**

## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 19	9.30am 5.30pm	<b>Our Lady on Saturday</b> <b>PRIVATE MASS</b> Pro Populo <b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year A</b> <b>Mass</b> Joe McKinney RIP	2 <sup>nd</sup> Coll: Holy Places
Sunday 20	10.00am 5.30pm	<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year A</b> <b>Mass</b> Agnes Beevor B'day Anniv. <b>Mass</b> Sylvia Williams RIP	2 <sup>nd</sup> Coll: Holy Places
Monday 21	9.30am	<b>St Matthew, Apostle</b> <b>PRIVATE MASS</b> Pro Populo, Joshua	
Tuesday 22	2.00pm	<b>SCHOOL MASS</b> Mary Levy Int.	
Wednesday 23	9.30am	<b>St Pio of Pietrelcina, Priest</b> <b>Mass</b> Marguerite & David Wedd. Anniv. Int.	
Thursday 24		<b>Our Lady of Walsingham</b> <b>NO MASS</b>	
Friday 25	9.30am	<b>Mass</b> Margaret Neville B'day Int.	
Saturday 26	9.30am 5.30pm	<b>Our Lady on Saturday</b> <b>PRIVATE MASS</b> Sue Kimberley Int. <b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year A</b> <b>Mass</b> James Harkin Anniv.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Coll: Fr Hudson's Society
Sunday 27	10.00am 5.30pm	<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Year A</b> <b>Mass</b> Jim Brennan Anniv. <b>Mass</b> Tom & John Mannion Anniv.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Coll: Fr Hudson's Society

## The Pope's Prayer Intention for September: Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

### Fr Paul writes...

These are challenging and changing times. Again, as I write, it is uncertain what measures will be introduced, though it seems when rather than if at the moment. For sure we all need to be careful and do all we can to keep our neighbours safe: social distancing, personal hygiene, face covering. These are the weapons we have at our disposal in this war against the virus and they are something that we can all improve upon. Maybe I speak just for myself, maybe you already do all that you can, maybe you might join me in prayer asking the Lord for his guidance and help through these testing days.

My prayer is that our First Holy Communions in October will continue as planned and the new programme for the coming year will start without incident. If your child is **not** in a Catholic school and you would like them to receive the sacrament next year then you need to speak to me sooner rather than later. We will 'catch up' First Communion this year on the first three Saturdays of October. Please keep all our children in your prayers, but especially those preparing for the sacraments. I'm delighted that Leo and Louisa will be Confirmed at Mass on Sunday morning, a catch up from the Easter vigil...

I'm pleased to say that we have a new card reader which can take donations using contactless giving. We are still training volunteers in its use but if you'd like to donate this way please speak to myself or to one of the stewards. I'll happily sort this either before or after Mass to suit. If you can gift aid then we need to have you either on our system already or you may have to sign a one off gift aid donation envelope.

The St Ambrose Slimmers are doing well and we have a weight loss of 8lbs to report. Well done to everyone. Fr Paul's slimming tip of the week: don't skip breakfast. We all need a good start and breakfast aids both nutrition and a balance to your day.

To keep you safe ministers cleanse their hands **three** times: as they come onto the sanctuary, after they have received Communion and then before they return to their place. Everyone must cleanse their hands as they enter the building and as they leave. Please leave the church promptly at the end of Mass, avoiding mingling on the car park, or stay and join the cleaners who are deep cleaning after every Mass. Remember to bring warm clothing as even in the depth of winter all doors and windows will remain open to allow airflow. Remember, as a good Christian it is **your** responsibility to keep us all safe! We'll all be safer if we all follow the rules.

As we continue to plan for the future we're looking for a volunteer to help with the Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Could you help? Also to say thank you to Sally for continuing to manage the Red Box appeal: could you take a box and collect for the missions? We're planning an Advent spiritual journey via Zoom: could you help plan these sessions and help us with the technology? And volunteer wardens and cleaners are ALWAYS welcome: everyone who volunteers gets extra daily prayer and thanks!

Finally, please note some changes to our Mass times: Tuesday we're delighted to live broadcast into school for a Mass for Year 4 and Year 5 at 2pm, on Thursday I have another appointment and so you have the chance to catch up on your second favourite Mass location via the web.

St Ambrose Barlow, pray for us. *Have a great week, Fr Paul*

## PARISH NOTICES

**SECOND COLLECTIONS** We have been asked to amend our Second Collection schedule as a result of closure earlier in the year. This means this weekend we are collecting for the Holy Places and World Mission Sunday will be 18 October and you can use the second collection bags for loose money or any collection point for second collection gift aid envelopes.

**RED BOX COLLECTION** Please leave full boxes with the stewards and they will be bagged and collected. You can also give online if you'd prefer.

**LiveSimply...** *Plant a tree/shrub to mark a special occasion.*

**GIFT AID DONORS** Normally you would have received a letter from the Gift Aid office with the total amount of GA donations you have made. Parishes have been asked to assist our donors if you need the figures for tax year 2019-2020 for your personal tax affairs. Please contact Brendan Tighe Parish Gift Aid Organiser 07821009565 or [b.tighe44@btinternet.com](mailto:b.tighe44@btinternet.com) if this applies. Please note the parish will be unable to issue letters but we can provide the information you need. We will need, for Data Protection purposes, to ask you a couple of questions about how you donate before giving any information.

**OVER 55s GROUP** Fr John and Fr Paul just wanted to say hello via the newsletter to all those who are part of our over 55s. If you want a chat please give either Fr John or Fr Paul a call and we'd be happy to talk – obviously visiting is only possible in an emergency situation. We are hopeful to open come October so watch this space. Stay Safe everyone.

**CONFESSION** Please speak to a steward or Fr Paul directly to arrange.

### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**POPE FRANCIS @ Pontifex** Everyone is important in God's eyes, everyone can transform a part of the world polluted by human voracity into the good reality willed by the Creator. [#SeasonOfCreation](#)



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**The sick and housebound of the parish:** Joyce Ashton, Norman

Ashton, Alan Clark, Phyllis

Coggins, Jennifer Davies, Mary English, James Farmer, Teresa Griffith, Rory Lynch, Caroline Mahon, Imelda Moorhouse, Stephen Moorhouse, Josh Nicholson, Kath Ryan, Harry Sanford, John Smith, Christopher Vince. Also, those in hospitals and nursing homes.



**Recently deceased:** Those we have loved and lost and all those who have died recently, including Mary O'Donnell, June Fieldhouse and those whose anniversaries occur at his time. May they rest in peace.

### OUR LADY'S CANDLE burns today for:

Sean Gough and Benedict Skipper (to be ordained priest on 20 Sept 2020)

If you would like an intention for Our Lady's Candle, please write it on an envelope and leave for Fr Paul to light.

## PARISH DIARY, to be resumed one day ☹️

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** Please try to support the parish as you are financially able.

**\*\*\* BREAKING NEWS \*\*\*** Contactless giving is now possible via our brand new credit and debit card machine. Speak to one of the stewards if you'd like to donate via card. All cards are welcome **\*\*\* BREAKING NEWS \*\*\***

These are difficult and worrying days for so many of us and I want to reassure you that you need not worry about your contribution to the Church. You can email us in the office and we can send you the bank details to make an online donation, you can set up a standing order, you can simply put the money to one side. If you have any concern about **GIFT AID** you can email the parish office and we will get a message to Brendan Tighe, our Gift Aid organiser.

There is now a donate button (top right) on the home page of the Diocesan website – [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) From there, donations, which can also be gift aided, can be made to any parish via credit or debit card. Search for Birmingham, Hall Green.

Or the alternative old fashioned but highly successful means: drop your donation into the buckets at the entrance and exit points.

**PARISH FINANCES:** Offerings £529 (Gift Aid £324). Attendance 123.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This week: Holy Places (from Good Friday). Next week: Fr Hudson's Society. CAFOD Harvest Fast Day (11 October), World Mission Day (18 October), Peter's Pence (15 November)

**On 26-27 September the second collection will be for Father Hudson's Care to support their mission of supporting vulnerable people across the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Father Hudson's reaches out to people of all ages who need help, advice, and support at times of adversity. Please give generously to this worthy cause.**

**PARISH HALL AND OFFICE** will remain closed until further notice and certainly until we are Covid secure in the building.

### PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

**EMAIL:** [stambrose.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stambrose.bham@rcaob.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/stambrosebarlowhallgreen/>

**Web:** <http://www.st-ambrose-barlow.org.uk/>

**Fr Paul Johnson, Parish Priest, 0121 777 4524 or 07939 137 205**

Safeguarding: Paul Mann 07967 693 652 Bernadette O'Driscoll 07855 998 702

**Items for newsletter to Parish Office or Email by Thursday, Noon.**