

Today is the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B).

Happy Father's Day!

This week:

Church Cleaning:

Groups of dedicated volunteers keep the church clean and tidy. This week is the turn of Group D: Norbert/Leonel. Thank you.

Monday 18 June: Dedication of St Chad's Cathedral

The Cathedral of St Chad in Birmingham was built by Bishop Thomas Walsh, Vicar Apostolic of the Midland District, and designed by Augustus Pugin. The foundation stone was laid on 29 October 1839 and the cathedral was opened and consecrated on 21 June 1841. It was the first Catholic cathedral built in England since the Reformation, and it became the principal church of the Diocese of Birmingham when Pope Pius IX restored the English Hierarchy in 1850. In 1911 St Chad's became a Metropolitan Cathedral when the Province of Birmingham was created by St Pius X with Birmingham as its Archbishopric. The Cathedral was created a Minor Basilica by Pius XII on the occasion of its centenary in 1941.

Thursday 21 June: St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious (1568-1591)

An Italian of a noble family, Aloysius joined the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and was praised for his simplicity and piety. During a plague he cared for the sick in hospital. These efforts brought on the sickness that claimed his life at the age of 23.

Friday 22 June: St John Fisher & St Thomas More

John Fisher and Thomas More both became influential in the English royal court and suffered martyrdom during the reign of Henry VIII. When John Fisher was locked in the Tower of London, Pope Paul III made him a Cardinal. Thomas More, a husband and father, an author, and ultimately Lord Chancellor, also denied the King's authority in matters of faith and suffered arrest and martyrdom.

Also on Friday: Holy Rosary at 7pm

Every Friday evening the Holy Rosary is recited in the church at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Looking ahead:

Next Sunday, 24 June, we celebrate the Birth of John the Baptist.

Six months before the birth of Jesus we celebrate the birth of John the Baptist. Together with the preceding feasts of the Annunciation and the Visitation, this celebration is part of a complex of feasts throughout the year that are associated with Christmas. As we celebrate John's birth, we recall that he was the prophet of the Most High and would go before the Lord to prepare the way and proclaim salvation through the forgiveness of sin. We too are called to proclaim God's mercy and to prepare a way for him to come into our world.

Also next Sunday, 24 June: Eucharistic Ministers' Commitment

All the parish's Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are asked to attend the 11am Mass to renew their commitment to this ministry. These lay ministers of the Eucharist assist the priest at Mass in the distribution of Holy Communion. They may also be asked to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.

Just one more week to go: Sunday 24 June, Parish Barbecue

Have you bought your ticket? On Sunday 24 June, from 12 noon to 4pm, you are invited to the parish BBQ, with afternoon teas, strawberries & cream, cake stall, book and plant stalls, hook-a-duck, and face painting for the children. Tickets will entitle you to a burger or hotdog & salad. *Tickets are on sale after Masses.* Tickets in advance: £3 per adult; £1.50 per child. Tickets on the gate: £4 per adult; £2 per child. Preschool children go free.

Let's come together as a parish community and enjoy the afternoon and raise funds for the development of the parish hall—it will be a great social occasion. Bring your own—wine or beer.

Parish Barbecue: Cake and Plants Stalls

We are asking for donations of cakes and biscuits for the BBQ cake stall. Please bring them to the Friary any time on the Saturday, or to the Hall on Sunday.

Also donations of plants for the plant stall, please. Thank you!

Sign-up Sheet for BBQ

We are looking for volunteers to man the stalls and to help out at the Parish BBQ. Sign-up sheets are at the back of the church. *Thank you!*

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Looking further ahead:

Friday 29 June: St Peter & Paul, Holy Day of Obligation

Masses at 7.30am & 7.30pm. Both Masses will be in the church.

Also on 29 June: St Gregory the Great School Garden Party, 6-9pm.

Saturday 30 June: Memorial for Catherine Godfrey



Catherine's family write:

Thank you for your kind thoughts and sympathy on our recent loss.

We invite you to join us at our service and gathering to remember and share memories of our quirky and much loved daughter and sister, Catherine Róisín Cecilia, at St Gregory the Great School, Cricket Road OX4 3DR on Saturday 30 June at 3pm.

Céilí to follow at 6pm.

Donations welcome to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/stgregsprimary/catherine>