



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, REDDITCH

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The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Parish Priest: Fr Long Nguyen Assistant Priest: Fr Jason Mahoney

Permanent Deacon: Rev Des Chilton

FACEBOOK OLMC Redditch



NEWSLETTER 2245 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A 22ND FEBRUARY 2026**

Readings: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 Psalm 50 Romans 5:12-19 Gospel Matthew 4:1-11 Psalter Week 1

SEASON OF LENT 2026—WE HAVE BEGUN!

A warm welcome to all those who are participating in the celebration of Mass this weekend. In a special way we wish to greet new parishioners, those who are visiting, and of course, our wonderful parishioners who are the backbone of this great parish community of faith.

So many people came to Mass for the blessing and imposition of ashes last Wednesday. A sure sign that we want to make this Lent a time of renewal in our friendship and service of the Lord. As we enter the journey of Lent, may the weeks ahead enable all of us to grow in our relationship with the Lord and one another and find true life and peace in him. It is a sacred time to ask the Lord to heal what is broken within us and give us courage to change with the help of his grace.



MASS INTENTIONS for the week beginning 22nd February 2026

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--|
| Saturday 21st | 5pm | Michael Russell RIP |
| Sunday 22nd | 8.15am | Paul Jarvis RIP |
| | 11.15am | Ints of M & L Conboy & Family & People of the Parish |
| | 6pm | Guy Willis RIP (live-streamed) |
| Monday | 9am | Mass at MC School Holy Souls |
| | 5.30pm | Adoration & Confessions |
| | 6pm | V J Victor (b'day a) |
| | 6.30pm | Stations of the Cross |
| Tuesday | 9am | Adoration & Confessions |
| | 9.30am | Eileen Gibbon RIP & Ints of Christine Morrissey |
| Wednesday | 9.30am | NO MASS |
| Thursday | 5pm | Reception of Body Mary Webb |
| | 6pm | Holy Hour |
| | 7pm | Elizabeth & Roma Loboda RIP |
| Friday | 9am | Adoration & Confessions |
| | 9.30am | Eveline Kott (b'day a) |
| | 10am | Stations of the Cross |
| | 2pm | Funeral Service for Mary Webb |
| | 2pm | Mass at STB School Holy Souls |
| Saturday | 9.30am | Derek Barratt (a) |
| | 10am | Adoration & Confessions |
| | 2.30pm | Wedding of Nathan Grant & Megan Morris |

MASS INTENTIONS for the Second Sunday of Lent 1st March 2026

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--|
| Saturday 28th | 5pm | Dick Doyle (b'day a) |
| Sunday 1st | 8.15am | Stan & Stasia Duraj RIP |
| | 11.15am | Helen Boyd RIP & People of the Parish |
| | 1pm | Baptism of Stanley Morrissey |
| | 6pm | Heather Judge RIP (live-streamed) |

For the Dead ...

Please pray for **MARY WEBB** Reception of Body 5pm Thursday 26th February, Funeral Service 2pm Friday 27th February
ANN BLUNDELL Reception of Body 5pm Wednesday 25th March, Funeral Mass 12 noon Thursday 26th March.

CAFOD LENT APPEAL—FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION

This weekend members of the CAFOD group will be giving the short talk at the end of all Masses. Family Fast Day is Friday 27th February and there are Family Fast Day envelopes available in church to use if you wish to Gift Aid your donation. If you do not wish to Gift aid, the Second Collection next weekend (28th February/1st March) will be for CAFOD or you can donate online at: cafod.org.uk/envelope. Alternatively, you can also donate through our Digital Collection Plates around the church.

CAFOD's BIG LENT WALK

The Parish's Just Giving page for this is now live and can be found at [Just Giving page at OLMC fundraising page is fundraising for CAFOD](#) the parish Laudato Si/CAFOD group are aiming, between them, to walk 200km (120 miles), and hope parishioners will sponsor them by donating directly to the Just Giving page. If anyone else would like to help them achieve this distance just let the group know by emailing: laudatesiolmc@proton.me

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Monday and Friday after Holy Mass begins from first week of Lent.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DURING LENT

There will be an opportunity to have 30 minutes of Adoration before Holy Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays 10am - 11 am as usual. Sacrament of Reconciliation Confession as shown.

Holy Hour

will be resumed on every Thursday at 6pm followed by Holy Mass at 7pm.

Walk with Me Booklets & Calendars

are available this weekend. We would welcome a donation £1.50 for each booklet.

After Mass on Tuesdays Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Meeting

Mount Carmel 6pm Sunday Mass is Live Streamed — Visit our website and click on 'Watch Live'

For the Sick ...

Please pray for Brian Dixon, Caroline & Bob Holland, Eddie & Geraldine McGroarty, Delia Bree, Fr Michael White, Paul McConnell, Annie Cleary, Julian McRandal, Michael & Maria Yates, Pius McDermott, John Brown, Alistair Crowle, Helen Horvath, Jane-Christina Thomson, Jean Maitland, Mary Fallon, Margaret Williams, Lexi Bradbury, Vilma Willis, Tracey Hawthorne, Jane Elliott, Margaret Anne Seaman, Lorna Parsonage, Gary Dallow, Pascale Breyne Sheila Twist, Ellis Mitchell, Doris Flynn & Family, Bill Reardon



Lamp at the Shrine of Our Lady

This week in loving memory of **DEBRA TOLLEY**

Next week in loving memory of **JOHN & MARY MORRISSEY**



Lamp at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart

This week **FREE AT THE MOMENT**

Next week **FREE AT THE MOMENT**

INDUCTION OF FR LONG & 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Fr Long will be inducted as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Redditch; St Mary, Alvechurch; St John and St Thomas More, Feckenham and St Richard and St Hubert, Hadzor by Bishop David Evans on **Thursday 19th March at 7pm**, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin Mary. This will also co-inside with his 12th Anniversary of being ordained into the Priesthood. His induction will be followed by a reception buffet and refreshments in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE, MIDDLE EAST AND THE WORLD

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East, and for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine, the Middle East and the world. Amen

Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us

Saints for the Week

Monday Saint Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr

(+155) St Polycarp was converted to Christianity by St John the Evangelist. He was later ordained bishop of Smyrna (now Izmir, Turkey). He was about 86 when the Roman pro-consul urged him to renounce Christ and save his life. St Polycarp replied, 'For 86 years I have served him and he has never wronged me. How can I renounce the King who has saved me?' He was executed and his body burnt; his followers collected his relics and wrote an account of his life and martyrdom.

Friday Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot, Doctor of the Church

Gregory was born in Armenia around 950. Educated by his uncle, he entered the monastery of Narek, where he spent the rest of his life. Greatly devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he attained the heights of holiness and the mystical life. He composed several theological and mystical works, including 95 meditations on the Book of Lamentations. He died about 1005.

Saturday Saint Oswald, Bishop

St Oswald was a Benedictine monk of the abbey of Fleury-sur-Loire and became the Bishop of Worcester in 961. He worked with St Dunstan and St Ethelwold for the restoration of the monastic life. He was renowned for his pleasant character, his meticulous celebration of the sacraments, and his care of the poor. In 972 he was appointed Archbishop of York and administered both dioceses. He died in Worcester on this day in 991.

Pope's Prayer Intention for March—for disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Weekly Statistics :

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Weekend | 14th/15th Feb 2026 |
| 1st Collection | £436.956 |
| 2nd Collection | £225.95(Parish Hall) |
| Attendance | 340 |

These figures do not include Standing Orders or Dona payments

Foodbank

Our support of the Redditch Foodbank continues to provide much needed help to a number of families. Please consider as part of your Lenten Alms giving, picking up that extra item when out shopping. Our first donation for Lent was 13.2 kg.

Easter Fairtrade Sale

After all Masses on the weekend of 21/22 March. Again featuring the real Easter Egg. Made by the Meaningful Chocolate Co., these use, fairly traded chocolate, support food banks and promote the real meaning of Easter. It is not available in supermarkets. A few will be on sale that weekend but to be sure of getting one please order in advance by emailing: laudatesiolmc@proton.me by Sunday 8th March. Milk chocolate eggs £5.50 and dark chocolate £6.50, both 150g.

Vacancy for Project Manager at Acts of Kindness

Acts of Kindness is a Redditch Charity responsible for Redditch Foodbank, Wellbeing and Financial Inclusion Services. We are looking to recruit a Project Manager to work 25 hours per week. The role will provide co-ordinated leadership for all areas of our work in Redditch. For more details and an application form, please email Caroline Baker at cabaker2605@gmail.com

Would you like to receive your Newsletter via email?

If so, please contact the parish office either by phone 01527 63096 or email office@mtcarmel.co.uk

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Mrs Jane Craig & Mrs Linda Gordon. Contact sg.olmc.redditch@rcaob.org.uk

Prayer & Coffee Morning

Ss John Fisher & Thomas More Church, Feckenham

10am Wednesday 4th & 18th March 2026

Everyone welcome

COUNTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Team 1 T Craig G Blundell L Kings T Cordha

COUNTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Team 2 J McHugh C Morgan A Chatterley

Seniors Next Meeting

Thursday 5th March 2026

2pm Parish Hall

