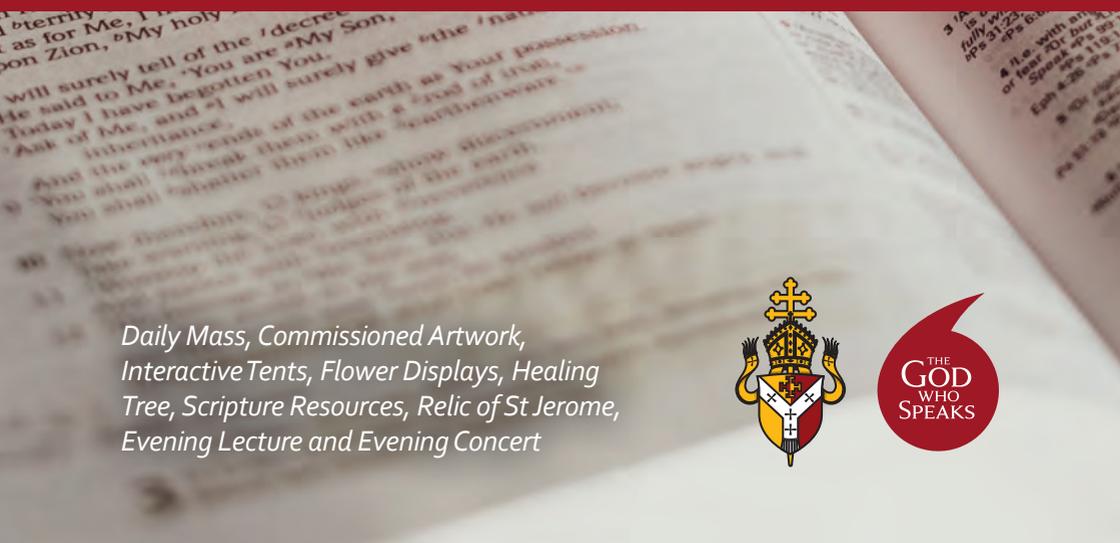




FLORILEGIUM

A Festival of Scripture,
Art and Flowers

23rd - 25th September 2021
St Michael's Church and Carrs Lane Centre,
Birmingham city centre



Daily Mass, Commissioned Artwork,
Interactive Tents, Flower Displays, Healing
Tree, Scripture Resources, Relic of St Jerome,
Evening Lecture and Evening Concert



INTRODUCTION

It gives me great pleasure to launch our ***Florilegium Festival of Scripture, Art and Flowers*** in St Michael's Church and Carrs Lane Centre here in the heart of Birmingham. In collaboration with the God who Speaks initiative, we hope to celebrate, share and live out God's word through this unique multi-sensory Scriptural experience.

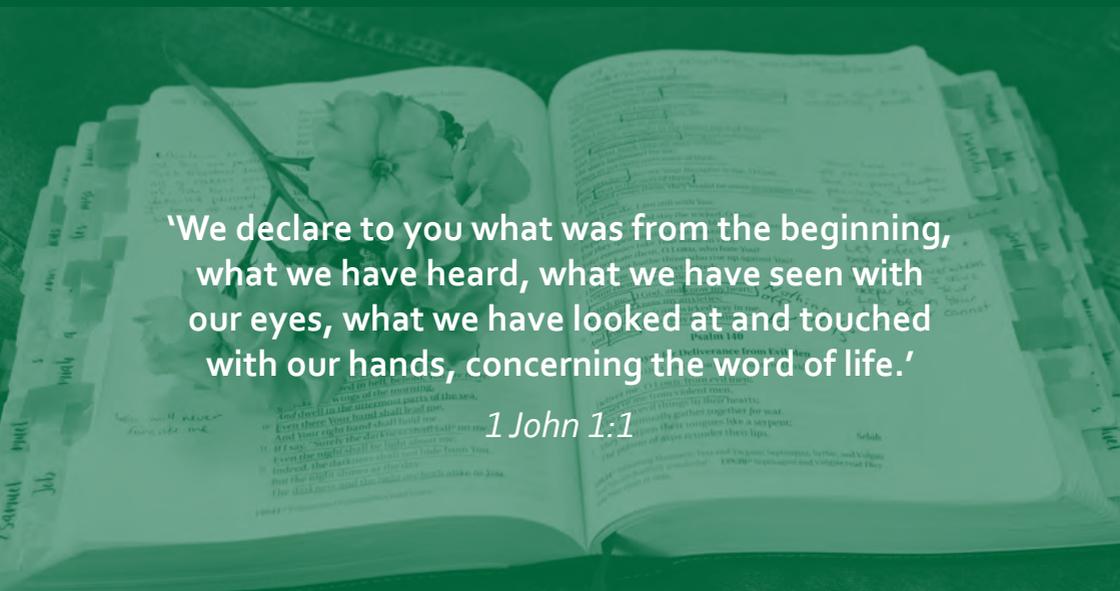


Please pray that we may all be enriched and renewed during this Festival. Then we shall be moved afresh to share the love of Christ to the ends of the earth.

I invite you to take a look inside this brochure and to join us in the many activities and resources we offer you as you continue your journey in faith.

May God bless us all in these challenging times.

+ Bernard Longley
Archbishop of Birmingham



'We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life.'

1 John 1:1

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

In partnership with Bible Society, this exciting initiative focuses on celebrating, living and sharing God's word throughout the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Our Vision for the Church

Scripture is foundational to the life of the Catholic Church and so we want to enable deeper Scriptural engagement in every diocese.

We want to create new and renewed encounters with Christ through the Scriptures. We want to achieve transformation in the faith and life of our Church and in the public arena through evangelisation, education, creative arts and social action.

Our Themes

Celebrating God's Word – enriching our worshipping and spiritual community. In discovering and renewing a genuine love for the word of God, we nurture our relationship with Christ. Through the Bible, we meet Christ who is alive in his word. We can listen to him speaking to us and guiding us in our daily lives.

Living God's Word – enriching our social action and outreach. Scripture teaches us how to live in society, to respect the wonder of creation, especially each human being and to work towards the common good. The Scriptures inspire us to put faith into action, living God's word and doing God's word.

Sharing God's Word – enriching our formation, proclamation and evangelisation. The Bible has inspired, and continues to inspire, learning, culture, art, music and literature. It enables science and faith to build up mutual understanding through dialogue. It challenges technology and social media to open up new ways to encounter and share Christ in the world.

For more information about this initiative go to godwhospeaks.uk

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Thursday	Carrs Lane Centre	St Michael's Church
10am – 1pm	6 interactive Tents Little Bits of God Artwork Flower Displays Healing Tree and Prayer Leaves	Flower displays St Jerome Relic Refreshments
12 – 1pm	Women in Scripture Conversations	
1.10pm		Mass
1 – 4pm	6 interactive Tents Little Bits of God Artwork Flower Displays Healing Tree and Prayer Leaves	Flower displays St Jerome Relic Refreshments
6pm		Mass

Friday	Carrs Lane Centre	St Michael's Church
10am – 1pm	6 interactive Tents Little Bits of God Artwork Flower Displays Healing Tree and Prayer Leaves	Flower displays St Jerome Relic Refreshments
12 – 1pm	Women in Scripture Conversations	
1.10pm		Mass

1 – 4pm	6 interactive Tents Little Bits of God Artwork Flower Displays Healing Tree and Prayer Leaves	Flower displays St Jerome Relic Refreshments
6pm		Mass
7 – 9pm		Evening Lecture: Climate Changes Everything <i>with Wine Reception</i>

Saturday	Carrs Lane Centre		St Michael's
10 – 10.45am	Adoption and the Bible workshop	6 interactive Tents Little Bits of God Artwork Flower Displays Healing Tree and Prayer Leaves	Flower displays St Jerome Relic
11.15am – 12pm	Navigating Trauma project		Refreshments
12 – 1pm	Women in Scripture Conversations		
1.10pm			Mass
2 – 2.45pm	Adoption and the Bible workshop	6 interactive Tents Little Bits of God Artwork Flower Displays Healing Tree and Prayer Leaves	Flower displays St Jerome Relic
3.15 – 4pm	Navigating Trauma project		Refreshments
6pm			Mass
7 – 9pm			Evening Concert <i>with Wine Reception</i>

TREE OF LIFE AND PRAYER LEAVES

Come and see our healing Tree of Life commemorating all those who died of Covid-19 across the Archdiocese.

Based on the imagery in the book of Revelation of the healing tree of life, visitors will be able to choose a leaf on which to write the name of a loved one, followed by a short prayer, to place on the tree.

...On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:2



THE INTERACTIVE TENTS

Tent – Welcome the Word: Bible Society resources

Promoting our partnership with the Catholic Church in England and Wales, and offering a range of free resources from booklets and posters to stickers, toy lions and prayer cards. Find out about the work we do around the world to bring the Bible to as many people as possible, about our translation work and some key projects here in the UK.

Tent – Living the Word: Father Hudson’s Care

Promoting the work of this vital charity and its social justice initiatives. These range from services for people who are disadvantaged, marginalised or experiencing need such as supporting families, the elderly, people with a disability, migrants and asylum seekers as well as shaping social policy, locally and nationally.

Tent – Our Daily Bread

Why is bread so important in the Bible? What type of grains did the ancient Bible communities grow? A display of grains, bread and Scriptural references focused on bread and its significance for our faith and food poverty awareness.

Tent – Seeing the Word: Art and Scripture

A space to draw and be inspired by the Bible in visual form. Make time to sketch or colour in a favourite text, discover a new story or character and meditate on your artwork.

Tent – Sharing the Word: Evangelisation

Find out how we can encounter God’s Word - which is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12) - through prayer, the Bible and Creation. Discover how the Word can transform us and the world we live in when we listen to what God has to say, so that we can be Christ’s “witnesses to the ends of the earth...” (Acts 1:8).

Tent – Open the Book

Come and see our exciting project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear key Bible stories told by Christians from local churches during assemblies or collective worship times.



LITTLE BITS OF GOD

Come and see our specially commissioned God who Speaks artwork.

We invited Pete Codling, a Portsmouth-based artist, to create a unique polyptych which tells the story of the Bible through multiple panels made of glass, mosaic tiles, gold and wood.

Discover the greatest stories in the Bible in these panels: meet the Trinity; reflect on the Holy Spirit in a mirror and Jesus opening the doors on the Word; see how Mary listens to Gabriel and St Jerome translates the Bible; find the lion who protected him; re-live some gospel stories, a few miracles and find a whole group of saints, a fallen angel and modern day child refugee.





THE GOD WHO FLOWERS

Come and see our stunning flower displays across both Carrs Lane and St Michael's Church next door, created by women and men across the Archdiocese.

Anne Symonds, co-ordinator of the annual St Chad's Flower Festival collaborates with the God who Speaks initiative in this unique partnership. She and her team bring the Bible to life through her vision of Scripture-inspired floral displays and calls us to care for creation as we consider the climate change crisis with new urgency.

We have 30 displays based on Scriptural texts and themes ranging from:

- **'Stations of Creations'** based on the parable of the Sower
- **'What is creation all about?'**
- **'Parable of the pearl'**
- **'The Lord is my shepherd'** based on Psalm 23
- **'From small beginnings a mighty Kingdom grows'** based on the parable of the mustard seed
- **'A Eucharistic banquet: a journey ending in Paradise'**
- **'God, Noah and the rainbow'** based on the story of the flood
- **'Temptation in the Garden of Eden'** based on the story in Genesis
- **'In honour of St Michael'**

and many more displays to see...

WORKSHOPS

Women in Scripture with Natalie Orefice

Lunchtime conversations hosted by Natalie and women from around the Archdiocese, sharing who in the Bible inspires them today. Based on Natalie's successful monthly podcast series, these informal chats offer a new glimpse of some of the many heroines in our Scriptures.

This conversation is hosted daily from 12.00 – 1.00pm.

Adoption and the Bible

Nigel Langford, Director of Domestic Mission at Bible Society, shares why he decided to adopt a child and the journey he travelled in making a new family. Nigel reflects on the significance of adoption in the Scriptures and what it invites us all to do in our wider relationships.

This workshop is repeated on Saturday at 10am and 2pm.

Navigating Trauma project

Nigel Langford, Director of Domestic Mission at Bible Society, presents a new Bible-based initiative that uses the Scriptures to accompany participants in their journey through the effects of trauma towards a place of peace. It's designed to help churches, faith groups and chaplains support their communities through the impact of trauma.

This workshop is repeated on Saturday at 11.15 and 3.15pm

EVENING LECTURE

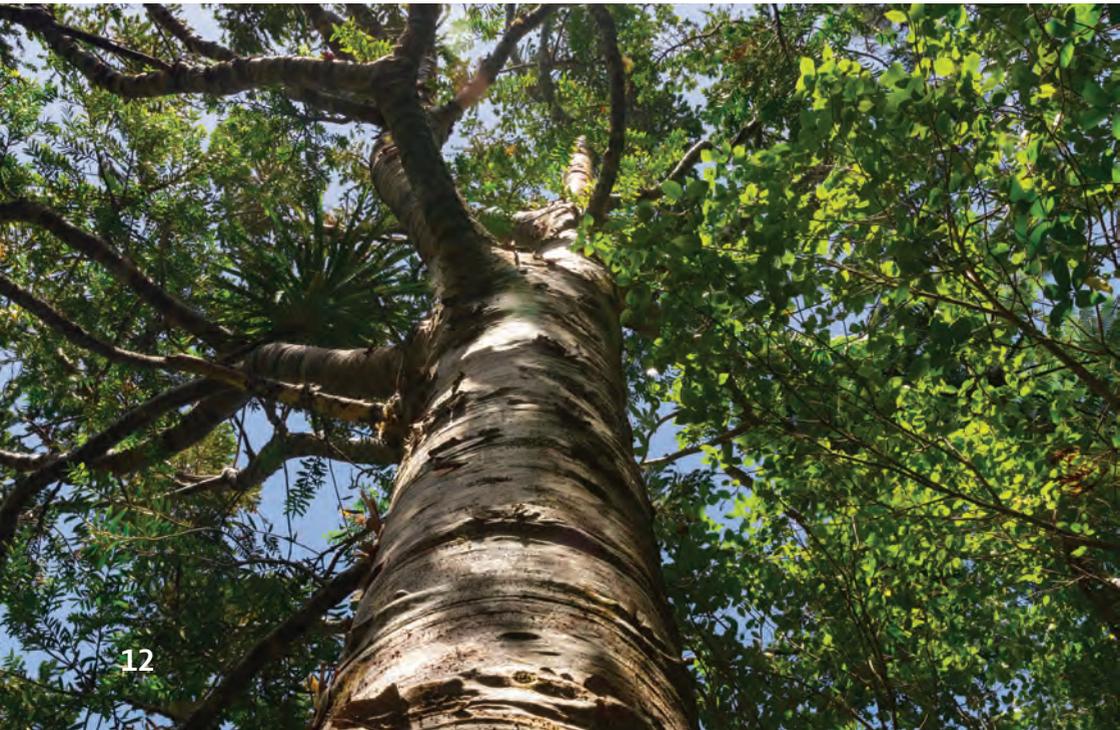
Climate Changes Everything – A Discussion

with David McLoughlin, Dr Richard Goode and Bishop David Evans

The Round Table discussion brings together a panel of scholars and activists to address the theme: ***Climate Changes Everything: Resources to Respond.***

The discussion will be chaired by David McLoughlin, Emeritus Fellow in Christian Thought at Newman University. Dr Richard Goode, from the Newman Research Centre for the Bible, will reflect on the Biblical resources, Bishop David Evans will speak from the Western philosophical Tradition, and other specialists will address the issues of activism and ethical engagement.

After a brief presentation from each, the discussion will be thrown open to the audience. Afterwards there will be a wine and drinks reception and an opportunity to share further.



THE GOD WHO SINGS: EVENING CONCERT

Mick Perrier and St Mary's Anglican Church Choir, Moseley

St. Mary's Church in Moseley is fortunate to have a dedicated music team of adults and youngsters who provide music for services in different combinations: Robed Choir (including girl and boy Trebles) and the Singers (an all-adult group). Sadly they have not been able to rehearse or sing together for the past eighteen months and are therefore very glad to be able to share some of their music this evening.

They undertake an annual residency deputising for Cathedral Choirs around the country. Last year they should have been at St. Alban's and this year at Bristol, both casualties of the pandemic. In 2006 the Robed Choir undertook a week's residency at Washington National Cathedral, USA while previously members of both groups visited Atlanta, Georgia.

Their Director, Mick Perrier, has served St. Mary's Church for 43 years as Organist. Born in New Malden, outer London, he was educated by the Jesuits in Wimbledon and after his degree came to Birmingham for postgraduate study at Birmingham University. He owes his dedication to church music to his school music teacher, Fernand Laloux, for many years Director of Music at Farm Street Church, London.

Mick is now Diocesan Music Adviser for the CofE Diocese of Birmingham as well as being Area Chairman of the RSCM. In 2017 he was awarded Hon RSCM by the Royal School of Church Music for services to church music in Birmingham.

The organist this evening is John Pryer who has the distinction of having served as Assistant Organist at both St. Philip's and St. Chad's Cathedrals as well as Birmingham Oratory. As a chorister at Ely Cathedral, John came under the influence of Sidney Campbell and Dr Arthur Wills before studying at Clifton College, Bristol and Oxford University. Currently he is deputising at St. Chad's Cathedral who are delighted to welcome him back.

FR. XAVERIUS
 Ord. Eremit.
 DEI, ET APOSTOLICÆ
 EPISCOPUS
 SACRARII APOSTOLICI
 PRÆLATUS DOMESTICUS, AC



CRISTIANI
 S. Augustini
 SEDIS GRATIA
 PORPHYRIEN.
 PRÆFECTUS
 PONTIFICIO SOLIO ASSISTENS.

U Niverſis, & ſingulis præſentes noſtras literas inſpecturis fidem facimus, & aſſentimur, qualiter Nos dono dedimus

particularem de Ob. S. Hieronymi S. R. E. Card. ex locis auct. & extra. paſſim in Reliq. arg. auct. ſignis & ſcriptur. minid. quod ſic ſenſu ſubſt. ſunt.

Noſtro parvo Sigillo obſignati mandavimus, eidemque, ut prædicta Sacra Reſponſa apud ſe retinere, aliis donare, & in quacumque Eccleſiâ, Oratorio, aut Capella publicè Fidelium venerationi exponere, & collocare valeat in Domino facultatem conceſſimus. In quarum fidem has literas teſtimoniales manu noſtra ſubſcriptas, noſtroque Sigillo firmatas per noſtrum Secretarium expediri mandavimus. Datum Romæ 5. Maij 1785.

Fr. Xaverius



J. C. S. Sec.
Jacobus Bonfiglioli S. R. Sec.

ST JEROME'S RELIC

A relic of St Jerome will be on display in St Michael's Church.

The enshrined authenticated Relic of St. Jerome came from his Tomb in the Basilica of St Mary Major in Rome. A similar one has recently been taken from Rome to the Church of St Catherine in Bethlehem where Jerome lived and worked, as a bible translator, for most of his life.

The relic was for many years in the protection of Fr. Peter Dennison, a former Archivist of the Birmingham Archdiocese. At his death it was entrusted to a colleague. He is happy that its veneration might bring a blessing on the **God Who Speaks** campaign, encouraging all believers to engage anew with the living Word of God. May it be so.

RESOURCES

Come to the Bible Society tent to receive your free toy lion and learn about the story of St Jerome and his faithful lion.

We also have great Prayer Cards, Animal Stickers using 12 special animals found in the Bible - to remind us of our need to care for creation, fun Gospel posters and a range of other booklets and resources.



To learn more about the God who Speaks initiative go to www.godwhospeaks.uk

OFFICIAL PRAYER FOR THE YEAR

Living God,
you walk alongside us
and speak to us throughout the Scriptures.
Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears
and shows us how to live for one another.
Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds
so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world.
Amen



godwhospeaks.uk

