

ST MARY'S & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

The R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity

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Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary time

2nd August 2020

THEME: The pity of Jesus Christ always results in a New Creation. Christ is not scandalised by human need and want. Rather, the Lord regards every experience of human lack as a prime opportunity to manifest God's lavishness. From the earliest days, God has beckoned us, promising, "Come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come!" The Lord delights in the dependence that our destitution evokes, and he answers it – in today's "lonely place" with bread and fish, and in the upper room with his very self. Trial, distress, hunger and danger do not separate us from the love of Christ. Rather, they draw him close to us with a love that conquers all.

We are the people of the Lord, the flock that is led by his hand: come, let us adore him, alleluia.

MASS TIMES: St Mary's: Sunday 9-30am St Paul's: Saturday vigil 6-00pm

We welcome Fr Tom Ryan SMA and thank him for celebrating Holy Mass for us while Fr Oliver is away.

RECENT DEATH: Jennie Burke we offer our sincere sympathy to her family, relatives and friends.

If you are intending to come to Mass on Sunday, please let John Storey or Mary McDonough know, by phone (0161 330 2424, which is transferred to Mary's mobile) or email john.storey6@btopenworld.com including the number of people planning to attend. This is to allow us to assess the likely numbers and maintain a register of attendees, which is **imperative to fulfil the track and trace requirements.**

MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART: The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart. Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love (especially for her divine Son), virtue, and inner life. Such devotion is an incentive to a similar love and virtue. This devotion received new emphasis in the twentieth century from the visions given to Lucy Dos Santos, oldest of the visionaries of Fatima, in her convent in Tui, Pontevedra

Spain, in 1925 and 1926. In the visions Our Lady asked for the practice of the Five First Saturdays to help make amends for the offences committed against her heart by the blasphemies and ingratitude of men. The practice parallels the devotion of the Nine First Fridays in honour of the Sacred Heart. On October 31st, 1942, Pope Pius XII made a solemn Act of Consecration of the Church and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart. Let us remember this devotion year-round, but particularly through the month of August.

Excerpted from The Prayer Book by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A.

MASS AT ST MARY'S: Mass will be at **9:30am** with the church doors open from **9am**. There is a maximum capacity of 50 people and procedures are in place to help keep everyone safe.

- Face masks must be worn.
- Please do not come to Mass if you are exhibiting any symptoms such as a high temperature or are feeling unwell
- Church will be open at 9am to allow staggered arrival times and avoid a queue of people arriving

immediately before Mass.

- Holy Communion will be distributed after the final blessing and, after receiving communion or a blessing, you will be asked to leave church directly, via the front door into Zetland Street. Please follow the instructions of the stewards who will direct you when to come for communion.
- **The toilets will not be open.**
- Mass will be shorter than usual, around 30 minutes and there will be no singing.

Please be aware that if we reach our maximum capacity then you may not be allowed entry.

MASS AT ST PAUL'S: Mass will be at **6pm** on Saturday with the church doors open from **5.30pm**. There is a maximum capacity of 48 people and procedures are in place to keep everyone safe:

- Face masks must be worn.
- Please do not come to Mass if you are exhibiting any symptoms such as a high temperature or are feeling unwell
- Church will be open at 5:30pm to allow staggered arrival times and avoid a queue of people arriving immediately before Mass.
- Holy Communion will be distributed after the final blessing and, after receiving communion or a blessing, you will be asked to leave church directly, via the left hand aisle and out the side door to the rear of the church. Please follow the instructions of the stewards who will direct you when to come for communion.
- **The toilets will not be open.**
- Mass will be shorter than usual, around 30 minutes and there will be no singing.

Please be aware that if we reach our maximum capacity then you may not be allowed entry.

Remember that the Sunday obligation to attend mass remains suspended and if you are anxious or concerned about coming to Mass, you can stay at home with a clear conscience. Do not come if you are exhibiting any symptoms or have been in contact with anyone who is suspected of having the virus.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep our sick and housebound parishioners in your daily prayers. If you know of anyone who is in special need of prayers or comfort, please let Fr. Oliver know.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, 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

THE PARISH PRAYER: Father, pour out your Spirit upon our community and grant us a new vision of your glory; a new experience of your power; a new faithfulness to your word; a new consecration to your service. That your love may grow among us and your kingdom come. Through Christ our Lord Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Soul of Christ, be my sanctification. Body of Christ, be my salvation. Blood of Christ, fill all my veins. Water from the side of Christ, wash out my stains. May Christ's passion, strengthen me, O good Jesus, hear me. In thy wounds, I fain would hide, never to be parted from your side. Guard me when my foes assail me. Call me when my life shall fail me. Command me, then to come to Thee that I through all eternity with Thy saints will praise Thee.

OFFERTORY: Thank you to everyone who has made an offering to St Mary's or St Paul's during this ongoing period of pandemic. There will be no collection at Mass on Sunday, but there will be a basket for your offertory as you leave Church. We have not resumed regular counting yet and so updates on the offertory receipts will be provided in due course.

TOTE: The 100 Club remains suspended for the moment. Any payments received have been recorded and will be used for future draws. When the draws resume, individual balances will be available.

BIDDING PRAYERS for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary time

Priest:

We bring ourselves to God in prayer, that God may touch our hearts and transform our lives.

We pray for the church: may she always feed us generously with God's word and the sacraments, and may we grow into the fullness of God's life within us.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for our world: may we bring good food to those who are undernourished, especially in regions suffering from famine and crop failure.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for young people: may they not lose their deep sense of what is right and just but continue to grow in their awareness of the many needs of our world.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for the members of our community who are sick or housebound: may their suffering be lightened by the presence and help of those who care for them.

Lord, hear us.

We pray that we may use the blessings of this holiday period to grow closer to God and to reflect on the choices we make in society

Lord, hear us.

We ask Mary help of Christians, St Winefride and all the saints of the diocese of Shrewsbury to intercede for us as we place all our intentions before the Lord.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst all women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Priest: God our Father we place all our prayers and needs in your hands, asking you to nourish and strengthen us to do your will, through Christ our Lord Amen.

The readings for Sunday 2nd August

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 55,1-3

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

Psalm 114

Response: **You open wide your hand, O Lord; you grant our desires.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **Response**

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **Response**

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **Response**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 8:35, 37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Man does not live on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining; twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

Communion Antiphon

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise You,

We bless You

We adore you

We glorify You

We give You thanks for Your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father almighty.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One.

You alone are the Lord.

You alone are the most high,

Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen