

ST MARY'S & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

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

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Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary time

9th August 2020

THEME: When the disciples see Jesus walking on the water, he summons them to faith – a way of approaching reality that entails leaving behind our old way of measuring things and seeing all according to this Person who calls to us. Yet we should not be surprised that Christ often comes in ways that “underwhelm” us, as Elijah found out when he heard that tiny whispering sound. Most of the time, the way that Jesus comes to us is seen only with eyes of faith: the pouring of water over an infant’s head; a whispered conversation within a confessional; bread and wine consecrated in the middle of the day as the world rushes on. But when such faith takes hold of us, we want everyone we know to share in it, as Saint Paul testifies.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the God who saves us, 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.

REQUIEM MASSES: St Mary’s: Marie O’Neill, Thurs 13th August 10am; Jennie Burke, Fri 14th August 11am

We offer our sincere sympathy to their 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.**

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD: On Thursday 6th Aug, we celebrated the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. The resplendence of the Transfiguration reveals the fullness of life destined to be ours; we glimpse the glory God wills for our humanity. But we experience a transfiguration like that of Jesus only by configuration to Jesus. As we peer into the glory that flows from every pore of the transfigured Christ, we cast off everything unworthy of our personal relationship with the Saviour. We do this especially through confession and the Eucharist, where Jesus gazes back at us with a look of love that makes us desire to live his luminous beauty. Silently from Tabor’s splendour, the Saviour tells us “Become what you behold!” And we fall silent in adoration, content to be with Jesus alone.

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 for staggered arrivals and to avoid a queue 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 for staggered arrivals and avoid a queue 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.

Receipts between 12th July and 31st July: St Mary's £1,130.23; St Paul's £657.76

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 Nineteenth Sunday in ordinary time

Priest:

We thank God for the generous love we have received, and we come to God once more, conscious of all that we continue to need today

We pray for those who enable the work of the Gospel to go on today, Our Holy Father the Pope, our bishops and priests and all who cooperate with them.

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 those whose work helps our society to support us; in healthcare, education, security utilities, industry and in any other way.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for those overwhelmed by the storms of life, in sickness, unemployment, or homelessness.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for young people who fear the future: that we may take their concerns seriously.

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: Heavenly Father, we thank you for watching over us as we try to remain faithful to your word. Be pleased to hear the prayers of our hearts as we pray through Christ our Lord Amen.

The readings for Sunday 9th August

Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

A Reading from the First Book of Kings 19:9,11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Psalm 114

Response: **Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **Response**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **Response**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **Response**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say now is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could

help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia!

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Communion Antiphon

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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.