

# ST MARY'S & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

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

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## Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary time

## 18th October 2020

**THEME:** God alone is supremely worthy of our praise.

The climax to God's creative act of making, sustaining and redeeming the world, is that all created order will join in a celebration to end all celebrating; a joyful taste or banquet where there is no more sorrow or distress. But a common praising. Of course, we are free to turn down the invitation, and if we choose to accept, we must do things God's way - otherwise we shall not be included.

**MASS TIMES:** St Mary's: Sunday 9-30am; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am; Saturday 10am;  
St Paul's: Thursday 10-00am. Saturday vigil 6-00pm

**SUNDAY MASS:** There will be a second morning mass at St Mary's beginning on November 1st at 11am. This is a trial arrangement to see if it allows more parishioners to return to Sunday Mass.

**BAPTISM:** Kathleen Louisiana Wini Bridget Joyce and Michael Martin Patrick Joyce were welcomed into the family of God last Sunday.

**RECENT DEATH:** Pat McCreavey. We offer our sincere sympathy to all her relatives and friends.

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGE:** MATTHEW Ch 22:15-21. The Pharisees have been faced directly with the need to turn their expectations and thinking upside down if they are to be saved. But they have, like Dives the wealthy man, too much to lose, and so begin scheming for the downfall of this man who threatens their comfortable lives. Cleverly they lay the trap for Jesus to fall into: Roman authorities will be engaged but if he does not, his integrity as a Jewish teacher will be in question. The scheming is particularly ironic, since it hinges on the forfeiting of esteem – the very thing the Pharisees themselves could not cope with. So Jesus not only confounds them, but also uses the situation to teach, if they would only listen. The real question is one of priorities, and whereas what Caesar both represents and requires is money or materialism, what we owe God is on a different plane altogether – more costly, more demanding, more far-reaching, but also more fulfilling and rewarding.

**TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: 'Here I am Lord send me!'** World Mission Sunday supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries share the love of Christ with those most in need. Please pray for the mission of the church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of the church.

**YEAR 4 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:** The children in year 3 last year were unable to complete the sacramental programme for First Forgiveness and Holy Communion. Recently we received guidance from the Catholic bishops of England and Wales as regards continuing the journey, and, following discussions with the heads of both schools, we are delighted to inform you that the children will now continue with their preparations. The children in St Mary's will celebrate their **First Forgiveness** on Thursday October 22nd. Unfortunately parents will be unable to attend.

**ST MARY'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** We know what a special time this is in the life of families and it is one which should be celebrated! There are current restrictions in church, meaning the maximum number of 50 are allowed in St Mary's church, at any one time. First Holy Communion will be celebrated over three consecutive Saturdays in November at 10:00am **14th Nov, 21st Nov, 28th Nov**. Each child will be allocated 4 guests. Due to current COVID restrictions, guests must be made up of your family bubble / support bubble. We will ensure that families are socially distanced during mass.

**ST PAUL'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** will be celebrated in St Pauls (max capacity 48), on the following two Saturdays, also at 10:00am: **Dec 5th, Dec 12th**. Further details will be sent out by Miss Flynn.

**POPE FRANCIS ENCYCLICAL: FRATELLI TUTTI: Why 'I' must become 'WE'.** The Pope declares in his new encyclical the world as "showing signs of a certain regression". The encyclical is an attempt to show that a better way is possible. COVID 19 has shown that we are a global community, "all in the same boat." The Pope calls for a new kind of politics, one which is kinder and more tender, open to dialogue and expressing love for neighbour. To adapt the popular prayer attributed to St Francis: "where there is populism, Pope Francis focuses on people, where there is nationalism, he calls for reform of the United Nations; where there is individualism, he pushes for solidarity; where there is digital trolling, he asks for kindness; where there is inequality, he urges fairer distribution; when politicians hate, he recommends dialogue, where there is ideology, he calls for genuine faith. The encyclical takes an uncompromising stand against "myopic, extremist, resentful and aggressive nationalism" that Francis sees growing across Europe, the United States and parts of Latin America. One official in Rome put it this way "It's a kick in the head to the rising tide of 'barbarism'". The encyclical is the third major document of Francis' pontificate. The first, Evangelii Gaudium, an apostolic constitution, offers a manifesto for church renewal. The second, Laudato Si, recasts the Church's teaching on protecting the natural world. And his third Fratelli Tutti is a natural next step, as it looks to repair and enrich relationships across the human family. If the message of Laudato Si is "Everything is connected", the message of Fratelli Tutti is "Everyone is connected". The 43,000 word document contains 287 paragraphs, brings together all the elements of the Popes teaching on social justice, politics and the common good. The encyclical is not a direct response to the coronavirus but, as the Pope explains, the pandemic "unexpectedly erupted" while he was writing it and is "exposing our false securities".

#### **ARRANGEMENTS for MASS**

- If you are intending to come to mass please provide advance notification, preferably by email [john.storey6@btopenworld.com](mailto:john.storey6@btopenworld.com) or tel: 0161 330 2424.
- A face mask must be worn whilst you are in Church. The only exception is for children 3 and under. Please do not come to mass if you are feeling ill or if you are unable to wear a face covering.
- On arrival you will be asked to sanitise your hands and check your name against the booked list. If you haven't pre-booked, please give the steward your details.
- You will be guided to a pew. To avoid passing those already seated, pews are filled from the front.
- Mass will take approximately 30 minutes, there are no mass sheets and there will be no singing
- **Holy Communion will be distributed after the final blessing.** Please remain seated whilst Father prepares for communion. Stewards will then guide the congregation for communion starting with the front pews of the centre aisle. After receiving communion **do not return to your seat** and leave church by the exit doors on the left (front of church at St Mary's, back of church at St Paul's).
- **The toilets will not be open.**

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This Sunday is for World Missions. A basket for your donation is on the church table as you enter church. Next Sunday, for the communication of the Gospel through the media.

**OFFERTORY:** Thank you to everyone for your offerings to St Mary's or St Paul's. There will be no collection at Mass on Sunday, but there will be a basket for your offertory as you leave Church.

**Thanks:** The Constantine family thanks the parish family for their prayers, cards and floral tributes on the sad occasion of Peter's (son) death, following a very long battle with his illness. Rest in peace

## **BIDDING PRAYERS for Twenty-Ninth Sunday in ordinary time**

**Priest:** On this world Mission Sunday we unite the whole church in praying for the coming of God's kingdom

We pray for Pope Francis, bishops and priests: may they continue to lead us in our response to God's call to mission.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for all missionaries, men and women dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus with those who have not yet received it: may they be given the strength and courage to persevere in their mission.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for those who have not yet received the Good News of Jesus Christ: may we obey his call to go forth in order to reach all those in need of the light of the Gospel.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for young and growing catholic communities across the World, especially the Church in Malawi: may our prayers and charity give them courage to persevere in their mission of proclaiming the Gospel.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for those living in areas of war, poverty and injustice: may we help to heal wounds, build bridges, strengthen relationships and bear one another's burdens.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for those who are suffering, grieving and anxious: help us to strive together as one family of many nations to help those in greatest need.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for our own special needs.

We ask Mary the Mother of God to join us in our prayers as we pray:

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

**Priest:** God our loving Father, your Son Jesus Christ calls us to be missionary disciples. May our church so abound in love and compassion that the joy of the Gospel will fill the hearts and lives of all who encounter Christ.

## The readings for Sunday 18th October

**Entrance Antiphon** To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

### **A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

#### **45:1,4-6**

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: 'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.'

#### **Psalms 95 Response: Give the Lord glory and power**

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.

Tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. **Response**

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.

It was the Lord who made the heavens. **Response**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts. **Response**

Worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'

He will judge the peoples in fairness. **Response**

#### **A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 1:1-5**

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we

brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

#### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Your word is truth, O Lord:  
consecrate us in the truth.

#### **Alleluia!**

### **A Reading from the holy Gospel according to**

#### **Matthew 22:15-21**

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

#### **Communion Antiphon**

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

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