

ST MARY'S & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

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

Parish Priest: Father Oliver O'Doherty 29 Zetland St, Dukinfield, Cheshire SK16 4EJ

Website: stmaryandstpaul.org.uk

Email: o.odoherty@ntlworld.com

Telephone: 0161 330 2424

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time

25th October 2020

THEME: Love of God and Love of neighbour

The greatest and most important command is that we love God with our whole being, and this will lead us on to love our neighbours, and all those in need, with as deep a concern as we have for ourselves. All other laws and rules of behaviour, including good manners, really reflect an attitude of caring concern. Love for God and love for one another go hand in hand, since loving God will make us into more loving people.

MASS TIMES: St Mary's Sunday 9-30am; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am; Saturday 10am;
St Paul's: Thurs 9-30am. Requiem mass for Patricia McCreavey. Saturday vigil 6-00pm

SUNDAY MASS: There will be a second morning mass at St Mary's from next Sunday Nov 1st at 11am. This is a trial arrangement to see if it allows more parishioners to return to Sunday Mass. It is also the feast of All Saints.

BAPTISM Kinga Zelazna was welcomed into the family of God last Sunday.

RECENT DEATH: Pasqualina Cioffi We offer our sincere sympathy to all her relatives and friends.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: MATTHEW Ch 22:34-40. It all stems then, from a right relationship with God. We owe everything about us to him, and as we acknowledge our debt in thankfulness we are accomplishing his will and allowing his ideas to be fulfilled. No number of rules for good conduct can hope to include every eventually, so, rather than in thinking in terms of rules, it is better to start with loving God and going on to loving others in this way. That will drop us in the deep end because it has no limited policies or marked boundaries, but it is much more useful because it will always put the help where it is needed, and in a way which is not deprecating or insulting to those who are helped.

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 and 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**. Details will be sent out by Miss Flynn after half term.

POPE FRANCIS ENCYCLICAL: FRATELLI TUTTI: Why 'I' must become 'WE'. There are three points that stand out when reading the encyclical. First it shows that at the heart of Francis' pontificate is a Gospel based leadership rooted in the spirit of St Francis of Assisi, the Pope's namesake. In Fratelli Tutti, (title taken from the writings of St Francis), the pope approaches the complexities of global politics in the story of the Good Samaritan and the story of St Francis' 1219 peace mission, where he crossed the

battle lines of Crusaders to meet the Sultan of Egypt in a bid to end the conflict. Both stories emphasise crossing the existential borders which separate people. St Francis, the Pope writes, had an “openness of heart, which knew no bounds and transcended differences of origin, nationality, colour or religion.” Francis’ reflections on the contemporary political situation and his warnings about nationalism and populism are an attempt to apply the Gospel in the spirit of the poor man from Assisi.

The parable of the Good Samaritan, Francis points out, is not “abstract moralising, nor is it a message merely social and ethical”, but it shows how humanity can be changed by coming in contact with suffering. Francis’ vision is not ideological, and its power is in its simplicity. In Fratelli Tutti, he critiques both ends of the political spectrum – the free market will not resolve the world’s problems; nor will liberal approaches which don’t offer a “shared narrative” and ignore “human weakness”. Instead he focuses on practical actions which, step by step, build the kingdom of God. Far from rejecting the work of politicians he praises politics as an attempt to put charity into action. “While the person can help another by providing something to eat, the politician creates a job.”, the Pope writes.

The second point is about how Francis’ encyclical sits within the Catholic Social Teaching tradition and seeks to apply it to a contemporary context. Francis reflects on the centuries old Just War teaching, which sets the conditions that would make armed conflict morally justifiable. Although he stops short of abolishing the theory altogether, he writes only of the “potential right” to go to war and warns that the development of nuclear and chemical weapons means they have an “uncontrollable destructive power over a great number of innocent civilians” .

One of the conditions of a Just War is that, even when going to war is morally justified, only proportionate force is used. “In the recent decades every single war has been ostensibly ‘justified’”. It is very difficult nowadays to invoke a rational criteria elaborated in earlier centuries to speak of a possibility of a ‘Just War’. “Never again war” Francis is pushing the church a step closer to a complete rejection of war, a year after his visit to Japan when he declared that the possession – and not just the use of nuclear weapons was immoral. *Extracts by Christopher Lamb*

ARRANGEMENTS for MASS

- If you are intending to come to mass please provide advance notification, preferably by email 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 for World Communications. A basket for your donation is on the church table as you enter church. Next Sunday’s collection is to support human life from womb to tomb.

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.

SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY: The next meeting will be on Sunday November 8th at 2-00pm via Zoom. Zoom meeting ID92566078129

<https://zoom.us/j/92566078129?pwd=bV12l3B5alZKRnVMaE5pYU9JNFUrdz09>

If you don’t have zoom, on 033 0885830. Please send apologies or items for the agenda to secretary@dioceseofshrewsbury.co.uk or text/call 07451214994

BIDDING PRAYERS for Thirtieth Sunday in ordinary time

Priest: My brothers and sisters, let us bring our prayers for our neighbours and all who are in need of God our loving Father.

We pray for the church, as we try to follow the commandment to love our neighbours as ourselves: may we learn to forgive, to accept, to tolerate and grow together into the people that God wants us to be.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for the unloved people of this world, for those who are friendless and alone, for those who experience alienation far from home, for those who are sick and housebound. And for those who are not able to love themselves.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are in leadership in the church and other spheres of life: may they have compassion and love to give priority for the common good.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for prophetic people in the Church who work for justice, peace and protection of God's creation: may we support their efforts to transform the world into a place where God's kingdom values are evident.

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 has taught us to love you above all things and our neighbour as ourselves. We ask you to hear the prayers through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The readings for Sunday 25th October

Entrance Antiphon Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

A Reading from the Book of the Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

“You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

Psalm 95 Response: **I love you Lord my strength**

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise,
when I call I am saved from my foes.

I love you Lord my strength

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me,
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed.

I love you Lord my strength

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the

great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open your heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Communion Antiphon

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

Gloria:

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

Credo:

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