

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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

24th July 2022

THEME: Praying to our Father.

The central message of Christianity is that Christ lives among us and is happy to make his home in every receptive heart. Abraham recognises God's presence in the visitation of three travellers.

MASS TIMES: St Mary's: Sunday 9-30am and 11-00am.

St Paul's: Vigil mass Saturday 6-00pm.

No other Services this week.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Before the Saturday morning mass at St Mary's and before the vigil mass on Saturday evening, St Paul's, and Sunday morning masses St Mary's.

BAPTISMS: Alissa May Lynch, Logan Joel Lynch, Harrison George Crossland were welcomed into God's family last weekend.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Luke: 11:1-13. The disciples could see that when Jesus prayed it was an altogether different experience from the praying they knew. What he taught was not so much a form of words as a new relationship with God. Just as we would expect our children to be given good things from our heavenly Father.

It is sometimes helpful to think of the Lord's prayer as headings and spend much longer on each phase than is usual, remembering throughout each phrase and silence., that God is our loving Father and we are conversing with him as his loving children.

READINGS AT MASS for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary ime: You can use this link to access today's readings.
<https://universalis.com/20220724/mass.htm>

FRATELLI TUTTI CONTINUED: Pope Francis continues his reflection on the Good Samaritan. The parable is clear and straight forward, yet it also evokes the interior struggle that each of us experiences as we gradually come to know ourselves through our relationships with our brothers and sisters. Sooner or later, we will all encounter a person who is suffering. Today there are more and more of them. The decision to include or exclude those lying wounded along the roadside can serve as a criterion for judging every economic, political, social and religious project. Each day we have decided whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders. And if we extend our gaze to the history of our own lives and that of the entire world, all of us are, or have been, like each of the characters in the parable. All of us have in ourselves something of the wounded man, something of the robber, something of the passer-by, and something of the Good Samaritan.

It is remarkable how the various characters in the story change, once confronted by the painful sight of the poor man on the roadside. The distinctions between Judean and Samaritan, priest and merchant, fade into insignificance. Now there are only two kinds of people: those who care for someone who is hurting and those who pass by; those who bend down to help and those who look the other way and hurry off. All our distinctions, labels and masks fall away. It is the moment of truth. Will we bend and help others to get up? This is today's challenge, and we should not be afraid to face it. In moments of crises, decisions become urgent. It could be said, that here and now, anyone who is neither a robber nor a passer-by is either injured himself or bearing an injured person on his shoulders.

The story of the Good Samaritan is constantly being repeated. We can see this clearly as social and political inertia which is turning many parts of our world into a desolate byway; even as domestic and international disputes and the robbing of opportunities are leaving great numbers of the marginalised stranded on the roadside. In his parable, Jesus does not ask what might have happened had the injured man or the one who helped him yielded to anger or a thirst for revenge. Jesus trusts in the best of the human spirit; with this parable, he encourages us to persevere in love, to restore dignity to the suffering and to build a society worthy of the name.

In September we will look at the characters in the story.

ST MARY'S CHURCH VESTIBULE: Following a visit from the diocesan property officer earlier this year the vestibule was described as a health and safety issue due to the poor state of the floor. The contractors had to dig out the old floor to the depth 1000 mm and rebuild it. The estimated cost is £11,463 excluding VAT.

"YET ANOTHER FOOTBALL TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE" An evening of funny stories, memories and fun from three Football Professionals George Oghani, Martin Buchan, Roger Dilkes. Place: Dukinfield Rugby Club, Blocksages, Birch Lane, Dukinfield SK16 5AP Date: Friday 16th September 8pm . Ticket £8.00 includes pie and peas. For Willow Wood Hospice. Tickets from 0161308 2685 or email smithhowls@googlemail.com

FR OLIVER: Will begin his annual summer leave on Monday and will return to the parish August bank holiday weekend. The Sacred Heart Fathers from Stockport town centre will celebrate the weekend masses and funerals. He thanks everyone for their support throughout the year and for making his Jubilee a happy occasion for the whole community.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend for the building fund.

NEXT WEEKEND: MISSION APPEAL IN AID OF XAVERIAN MISSIONARY FATHERS: "There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish but what is that among so many". Jn 6:9. Francis was born in Xavier, in the Basque region of Spain. In later life he became a close friend of St Ignatius of Loyola. Along with several others, they were the founders of the Society of Jesus (better known, as the Jesuits). Francis set sail from Rome in 1540. His journey was long and challenging and in 1542 he reached Goa, India. For ten years he preached in India, East Indies, and Malaysia and he became known as the Apostle of the Indies. He was the first missionary to enter Japan and realised that if Asia was to be evangelised, he had to evangelise China. Francis Xavier along with Theresa of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of Mission in 1927 by Pope Pius XI.

Bidding Prayers for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Priest: Today's readings teach us that God listens when we pray. So let us bring our prayers to him.

We pray for the Pope, bishops and priests: that they may lead us into an ever-closer friendship with God.
Lord, hear us.

We pray for the leaders of the nations: that they may show justice and compassion in their words and in their actions.
Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are lonely, especially for those who are elderly, housebound or disabled and long for human company: may they find ears to listen to them and to hear their stories.
Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who are sick and in need: may they know the deep love of God for them.
Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who have died: that they may be received with kindness and mercy by the boundless hospitality of our generous God.
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 say:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst 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, may our prayers for ourselves and for the world draw us into ever-closer communion with you. We make these prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen.