



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



PP: Fr Denis Sarsfield. Parish Office: 01462 893127. Email: Baldock@rcdow.org.uk

## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION

#### *Background on the Gospel Reading*

In today's Gospel, Jesus moves from Galilee to teach in Judea. On the surface, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified.

A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who laboured in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else?

The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways. *Fr. Denis*

### OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Our Lady of Walsingham is a title of the Blessed Virgin Mary venerated by Catholics and some Anglicans associated with the Marian apparitions to Richeldis de Faverches, a pious English noblewoman, in 1061 in the village of Walsingham in Norfolk, England. Lady Richeldis had a structure built named "The Holy House" in Walsingham which later became a shrine and place of pilgrimage. Saint Pope John Paul II

decreed that the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham, patroness of England, and in modern times patroness of all English-speaking peoples, would be celebrated on September 24th in England

### YOUNG @❤️

Our next Young @❤️ will be on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October after the 10am mass. During the mass the sacrament of the sick will be administered, if you would like to receive the sacrament of the sick please do come along, or if you know of someone who is seriously ill please do invite them. I would encourage you to bring anyone who is house bound, if you have transport, as we would like to reach out to those who are lonely. Tea, coffee and cakes will follow the mass. Everyone is most welcome. We provide the tea & cakes & you come along for the chat.

### ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

We celebrate St Matthew's Feast Day this week. Considering that he composed the Gospel that bears his name, little is known about him, being mentioned only five times in the New Testament. Matthew 9:9 gives the account of his calling: "*And when Jesus passed on from hence, he saw a man sitting in the custom house, named Matthew; and he saith to him: Follow me. And he rose up and followed him.*" From this, we know that he was a tax collector. He is mentioned in Mark and Luke as "Levi", thus Matthew is thought to have been the name that Christ gave Levi at his calling. Accounts of his martyrdom vary, with limited knowledge of where or how he was martyred. He is the Patron Saint of, amongst others, bankers, accountants and stockbrokers.

### Quotes of St Teresa Of Calcutta



'We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty. We must start in our own homes to remedy this kind of poverty'

'The greatest destroyer of peace is abortion because if a mother can kill her own child, what is left for me to kill you and you to kill me? There is nothing between. 'Peace begins with a smile.'

**RC HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN:** John O'Neil. Please call the Chaplaincy office at the Lister Hospital Contact Tel: Mobile: 07876 526935 Lister 01438 285518,  
**FOR ALL GENERAL PARISH ENQUIRIES CONTACT:** Parish Office: Tel: 01462 893127

**CHURCH HALL HIRE:** Please contact parish office 01462 893127

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** For further information please contact the parish office on 01462-893127 .

**RCIA COURSE:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme consists of regular weekly meetings; if you would like to find out more please speak directly to Fr. Denis.  
**ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL** is our Catholic Parish Primary School.

Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Contact the School Office or the Head teacher, Mr Tom Timson 01462 892478 The school website is <http://www.stjohns4her.ts.sch.uk/index.html>

**NEWSLETTER**  
 Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the parish email address ([baldock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:baldock@rcdow.org.uk)) or handing them to Fr. Denis. Thank you

**VATICAN NEWS**  
 Remember that you can keep up with all the latest news from The Vatican at the Official Vatican Network [www.news.va/en](http://www.news.va/en).

Your **SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES** have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk. Please Contact: Patricia Cusack & Colette Murphy [Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) [Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

'We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature - trees, flowers, grass- grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence... We need silence to be able to touch souls.

**RCIA COURSE**  
 The new session of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) begins this year in early October. It is the course of instruction for those seeking to enter the Catholic Church, and may also be appropriate for those Catholics who wish to deepen their understanding of the faith. The RCIA programme will begin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October a Tuesday, at 7.30pm in the parish rooms, and will run until Easter 2024. It will consist of regular weekly meetings. If you would like to find out more please speak to Fr Denis Sarsfield on 01462-893127

**OPEN EVENING**  
 "The Saint John Henry Newman School warmly invites parents of Year 6 pupils to an Open Evening on Thursday 28th September, from 5.30 - 8.30 pm. Prospectuses and Application Forms will be available on the evening. The last tour will be at 7:00p.m. and the school will close to visitors once the final Headteacher's address starts at 7:30p. There will be opportunities for parents to view the

School the following week.

**PARISH'S MEN'S GROUP:**

This month sees the second anniversary of our enriching Parish Men's Breakfast Sessions, so we warmly invite all men of the parish to join us. We meet in the Parish Rooms once a month on a Saturday morning with tea/coffee and pastries/bacon butties at 8.30am. At 9.00am we watch together an episode of the popular trending Christian TV Series 'The Chosen'. This is a high quality and powerful dramatisation of St Matthew's Gospel. Time for light discussion/chat/reflection follows. We finish at 10.30am prompt. Future dates are 14th October, 11th November and 9th December. (Second Saturday of each month) Do come along!! See Richard M or John B (or phone 07931 761403) for more information

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:**



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Patrick & Niels Sarsfield, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially John Southwell and Donal Hickey and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Phillip Dean; Michael McCarthy; Roy Stone; Edward Chanas; Frederick Bridgman; Sr Aloyse Woodcock; Florence Ager; Eileen Fox; William Piper; Leo Ennis.

Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup>	6.30pm	Stuart Fletcher RIP
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	Michael & Breege Kerrane RIP Roy Stone RIP
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	
Tue 26 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Esther Cutler
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Fr Tom Ryan
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Archangels

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered.

Holy Hour: Saturday 5.15 - 6.15 pm

Confessions: Saturday 5.45 - 6.15 pm

Or by appointment with Fr. Denis.

Family Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 10.30 am

Fr. Denis is still celebrating the Vigil Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night & Sunday Mass at 10.30am. All are accessible through the Parish Facebook page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury**. For more information, please go to the Parish website. The Wednesday word is available via: <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

**Readings Parish Mass Book page 131**