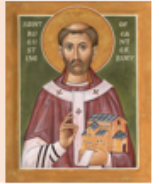




# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



PP: Fr Denis Sarsfield. Parish Office: 01462 893127. Email: [Baldock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldock@rcdow.org.uk)

## **33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **19<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

### **Scripture reflection**

The day of the Lord is coming, Paul warns in today's Epistle. What matters isn't the time or the season, but what the Lord finds us doing with the new life, the graces He has given to us.

This is at the heart of Jesus' parable in today's Gospel. Jesus is the Master. Having died, risen, and ascended into heaven, He appears to have gone away for a long time.

By our baptism, He has entrusted to each of us a portion of His "possessions," a share in His divine life. He has given us talents and responsibilities, according to the measure of our faith.

We are to be like the worthy wife in today's First Reading, and the faithful man we sing of in today's Psalm. Like them, we should walk in the "fear of the Lord"—in reverence, awe, and thanksgiving for His marvellous gifts. This is the beginning of wisdom.

This is not the "fear" of the useless servant in today's parable. His is the fear of a slave cowering before a cruel master, the fear of one who refuses the relationship that God calls us to. He has called us to be trusted servants, fellow workers, using our talents to serve one another and His kingdom as good stewards of His grace. In this, we each have a different part to play.

Though the good servants in today's parable were given different numbers of talents, each "doubled" what he was given. And each earned the same reward for his faithfulness—greater responsibilities and a share of the Master's joy. So let us resolve again in this Eucharist to make much of what we've been given, to do all for the glory of God. That we, too, may approach our Master with confidence and love when He comes to settle accounts.

### **ONE-OFF DONATIONS & MASS INTENTIONS**

If paying via the contactless device, remember to gift aid your donation if you are a tax payer (follow the prompts on the device; you will only need to do this once). **Mass intentions**, complete the Mass details on the list in the porch, choosing an available date.

If paying in cash or with a cheque, please now use the **blue 'one-off' donation envelopes** for any offerings re Mass Intentions or other reasons, making sure to complete all sections of the form,

and place your envelope in the collection basket or hand to Fr Denis.

In either case, please **ALSO** choose an available date for you mass intention, from the list in the porch and complete the details there.

### **BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE**

**Session 1:** Tuesday, 8th February at 7.30pm

**Session 2:** Tuesday, 13th February 7.30 30 pm  
If you are interested in joining the baptism course please contact Richard and Marie Miller. Please contact the parish office on 01462-893127

### **CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME**



Confirmation candidates and their parents are invited to the first preparation meeting on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December after the 10.30 am Mass. If you are in year 9, please consider if you wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Parish. Application forms will be available at the back of the church. Subsequent meetings will take place on a Saturday evening before mass in the new year, for candidates only. Please contact Joanna at: [Joannabowen@me.com](mailto:Joannabowen@me.com)

### **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE**

The marriage preparation course will take place on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** starting at 1.30 pm and on the **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** at 3.30pm. This course will be online. For further information please contact Reman McDonagh on [reman.mcdonagh@hotmail.com](mailto:reman.mcdonagh@hotmail.com)

### **MISSIO RED BOX SCHEME**

Please could Red Box holders bring in their boxes for counting and leave them on the small table at the back of the Church. Many thanks. Pam

**Christmas Eve Children's Mass:** We are looking for children/young people to act, read and sing during the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve:

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm.**

Children need to be in Early Years 2 or above. We are looking for older children at secondary school to take part too! There will be a rehearsal on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December after the 10.30am Mass** in church. Please contact Jo Chrysandreas ([jo.chrysandreas@gmail.com](mailto:jo.chrysandreas@gmail.com)) to confirm your child's interest and that they are able to attend the rehearsal and the Mass. Many thanks, Jo Chrysandreas and Caroline Luckraft.

**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)

**HOLDING CROSSES**

Robert Emmett will be in church with a selection of holding crosses for sale next weekend the 2&3<sup>rd</sup> December. There will be a selection of different holding crosses for sale. All the proceeds will go to the Columban Sisters who run medical and respite centres for the poor all over the third world. All the crosses are made from recycled hardwoods Robert has collected over the years. There is suggested donation of £2-3 each.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:**



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Celia Sheehan, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Boleslaw Majowiez, Kazimierz Rozana, David Ronayne, Sr Alberta Kennedy, Michael Zac, Alec Brown Colman Welby, Alexander McKerroll, Patricia Geary and Henry Osborne.

**SANTA MARTA GROUP-** will hold an information meeting in the parish hall of Our Lady the Immaculate and St Andrew Catholic Church, 16, Nightingale Road, Hitchin SG5 1QS, on the Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November from 7pm - 9pm. Kevin Hyland, the UK's first Independent anti-slavery Commissioner and

currently chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group will lead the meeting. All are welcome to come to learn more about the prevalence of human trafficking and modern slavery in our communities and the steps we can take to prevent it.

**HELP THE ENVIRONMENT:**

Sign up to receive newsletters by email and help reduce our paper usage! Visit: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock) and click on 'Sign up for e alerts' on the homepage.

**CHRISTMAS REPOSITORY.**

There will be a good supply of Christmas cards, Advent Calendars, candles and other items on sale here in the church from the weekend 18th/19th November. You will be able to pay cash or by card for any item.

Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Michael & Breege Kerrane RIP
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	Barry Huber RIP Claudia Pater
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Bernie & Peter Briggs <b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	St Clement I, Pope & Martyr
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and companions

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>

**Prayer: The gift of peace**

May God give wisdom and courage to those who work for peace. We pray that their efforts may be blessed, that they may bring an end to violence and solace and stability to suffering peoples. May the gift of peace permeate all troubled souls, convert all who live by violence and comfort all children who live in menacing situations, that the freedom to enjoy life and grow in safety may be theirs. And may each one of us know peace of mind and heart, peace of body and spirit, peace of community and world. Holy Spirit of Peace, grant our prayer. Amen.