



THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY in ordinary time year B

Can love of God be commanded?

Can we love God without seeing him? And can love be commanded? It is ultimately a feeling that is either there or not, nor can it be produced by the will. True, no one has ever seen God as he is. And yet God is not totally invisible to us; he does not remain completely inaccessible. God loved us first, and this love of God has appeared in our midst. God has made himself visible: in Jesus we are able to see the Father (cf. *Jn* 14:9). Indeed, God is visible in a number of ways. The Lord has not been, he encounters us ever anew, in the men and women who reflect his presence, in his word, in the sacraments, and especially in the Eucharist. In the Church's Liturgy, in her prayer, in the living community of believers, we experience the love of God, we perceive his presence and we thus learn to recognize that presence in our daily lives. He has loved us first and he continues to do so; we too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has "loved us first", love can also blossom as a response within us.

In the gradual unfolding of this encounter, it is clearly revealed that love is not merely a sentiment. Sentiments come and go. A sentiment can be a marvellous first spark, but it is not the fullness of love. It is characteristic of mature love that it calls into play all man's potentialities; it engages the whole man, so to speak. Contact with the visible manifestations of God's love can awaken within us a feeling of joy born of the experience of being loved. But this encounter also engages our will and our intellect. Acknowledgment of the living God is one path towards love, and the "yes" of our will to his will unites our intellect, will and sentiments in the all-embracing act of love. But this process is always open-ended; love is never "finished" and complete; throughout life, it changes and matures, and thus remains faithful to itself. The love-story between God and man consists in the very fact that this communion of will increases in a communion of thought and sentiment, and thus our will and God's will increasingly coincide: God's will is no longer for me an alien will, something imposed on me from without by the commandments, but it is now my own will, based on the realization that God is in fact more deeply present to me than I am to myself. Then self-abandonment to God increases and God becomes our joy. Also we need to bear in mind that love of neighbour is a path that leads to the encounter with God, and that closing our eyes to our neighbour also blinds us to God.

Pope Benedict XVI

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

Brother Jean-Pierre Godding from the Chemin Neuf Community will be visiting the parish next weekend. He is the Project Manager for the Street Children project in Kinshasa and would like to meet parishioners after each mass. He will also have some very attractive aprons for sale at £10 each, made by the girls in their training centre.



SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS FUND - 11th November

Please support the sick and retired priests of the Diocese of Westminster. The fund helps cover the medical, housing convalescence and personal needs of these priests. Donation leaflets are available in the entrance hall. Please continue to pray for our clergy: active, retired and ill.

SPANISH FIESTA SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Authentic Spanish food and Rioja wine. Tickets on sale at all weekend masses commencing 10/11 November. Adults and 12 years+ £12. Under 12 years £5. Chocolate theme raffle prizes to the parish office by Friday 23 November. All proceeds to the parish Building Fund.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE AND BRUNCH

Christmas Fayre and Brunch on 15 December 2018 10am – 2pm. We are looking for donations of the following: Bottles of wine, beer & soft drinks for the KSC bottle stall along with any Home made cakes/candles/chocolates that would be suitable to be given as a present. We will be grateful for any volunteers for the night before to help setup and take down on the day. Please contact Pam on: 07961 280230

CAFOD MEMORIAL MASS

You are warmly invited to the CAFOD Memorial Mass, in memory of all our Supporters and Volunteers, here at Christ the King at **11am on Wednesday 7th November**. Refreshments will be served after the Mass.

NOVEMBER MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

If you would like to include someone in the Holy Souls List for November, please leave details and donations in the Parish Office.

READERS

Please collect a rota for November/December from the entrance hall.

ADORATION & CONFESSION

Monday – Friday 6.00 – 7.00pm
Saturday after 11am Mass and 5pm

PARISH GROUPS

Monday Prayer Group

Tributes are still coming to our founder, Dom Benedict. In our development programme we try to obey his guidelines. We meet next week at 8 pm on Monday 5 November when the speaker will be Fiona Oommen, an old friend who has inspired us many times before. Worship will be led by Billy McLaughlin. Everyone is most welcome to join us

Parent & Toddlers 9.30 – 11am Wednesdays

This friendly group welcomes toddlers, their parents and carers.



The Being Together Club

Thurs. 8th Nov. Craft Workshop
“Festival of Lights & Fireworks!”
Thurs. 15th Nov. Remembrance Reflections
Thurs. 22nd Nov. Thanksgiving USA Style
Thurs. 29th Nov. Christmas Card Workshop



FORMATION

A reminder:
The next Saturday of formation is NOVEMBER the 10th from 2 to 6 in St John's room.
Bring your Bible and what you need to take notes.
For information, please contact Hélène Guilbault 07599759115



Sunday 4 November	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY Year B Masses: 9.00am & 11.00am Readings: Deuteronomy 6:2-6. Ps. 17:2-4. 47. 51. Heb. 7:23-28. Mk. 12:28-34.	Thursday 8 November	Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Phil. 3:3-8. Ps. 104:2-7. Lk. 15:1-10.
Monday 5 November	Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Phil. 2:1-4. Ps. 130. Lk. 14:12-14.	Friday 9 November	THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Mass: 11.00am Readings: Ezek. 47:1-2. 8-9. 12. Ps. 45:2-3. 5-6. 8-9. 1 Cor. 3:9-11. 16-17. Jn. 2:13-22.
Tuesday 6 November	Feria NO MASS Readings: Phil. 2:5-11. Ps. 21:26-32. Lk. 14:15-24.	Saturday 10 November	St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor Masses: 11.00am and 5.30pm Readings: Phil. 4:10-19. Ps. 111:1-2. 5-6. 8. 9. Lk. 16:9-15.
Wednesday 7 November	Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Phil. 2:12-18. Ps. 26:1. 4. 13-14. Lk. 14:25-33.	Sunday 11 November	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY Year B Masses: 9.00am & 11.00am Readings: 1 Kings 17:10-16. . Ps. 145:7-10. Heb. 9:24-28. Mk. 12:38-44.