

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr David Lucuy
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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

22nd October 2017

Torn?

We live our lives torn in many directions. From the moment we wake up there are a hundred and one claims on our time. We have to look after our homes and our families. We have to go to work and deal with a whole range of tasks from the very important to the totally banal. We have to fill in forms, pay bills, make calls, answer emails, maintain the car, and pick up the shopping. If we're very lucky we might just squeeze in a bit of leisure time.

The Pharisees and the Herodians in today's gospel decided to set a trap for Jesus. "Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor," they asked, "or not?" they were confident that they had put Jesus in a 'no win' situation. If Jesus said "taxes should be paid to Caesar, then this was something akin to treason. If however Jesus said that the taxes should be paid, he would be denounced to the strict Jews. Jesus replied, "Give to the emperor, the things that are the emperor's and to God the things that are God's."

It is tempting to imagine that Jesus might have been talking about compartments. We imagine a compartment for things belonging to Caesar, and a compartment for things belonging to God. Of course there could be no such compartments, because as we know everything comes from God, so everything must belong to God. So, had Jesus really answered the question, or merely sidestepped it?

Perhaps today we struggle with Jesus' answer as much as the Pharisees and Herodians must have done. Perhaps we see life as a conflict between God's claim on us and all life's other claims in just the way God's enemies were suggesting. Perhaps we try to put God into a Sunday morning compartment and even that will conflict with the children's football and the D.I.Y. What Jesus tells us today is liberating. Once we learn to allow God into every corner of our lives our lives become whole instead of torn and fragmented. Once we know that our only loyalty is to God there can be no conflict.



PARISH NEWS

OCTOBER PRAYER: Next Wednesday 25th October at 7pm will be our final Rosary and prayer time for the month of the Rosary. Do come along to entrust ourselves, our families, parish and world to Mary's care.

CONFIRMATION 2018: The Confirmation Enrolment Forms for 2018 are available at the back of Church. Please return them before **10th December 2017**. For more details please contact Fr David at davidlucuy@rcdow.org.uk

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND BAZAAR: Planning is underway for the annual bazaar on 2nd December and we hope raffle tickets to take away and sell will be available next Sunday. Details of how to help are attached to the newsletter. But here are some immediate needs please:

1. Is there anyone willing to prepare or share in preparing a hamper for the second prize in the raffle?
2. Is there anyone who would like to redesign our bazaar poster?
3. Is there anyone who can help on a stall on the day?
4. Is there anyone with a new idea for a stall, especially for children?

If the answer to any of these is yes, please see someone from the planning group by the front door after Mass! Thanks.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: Is there someone with experience in health and safety who is willing to assist in reviewing H&S in the parish? Please let Father Séamus know. Thank you.

REAL ADVENT CALENDARS: If you wish to order one, please pick up an order form at the front of church and return it with £4.00 by the 29th October.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND CRAFT: 11 – 12 November is the next session for this group. If any still wish to join, there are parent permission forms in the stand by the door.



REMEMBER – CLOCKS GO BACK ONE HOUR NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT/SUNDAY MORNING 29th OCTOBER!

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £263.00 loose plate £1223.50
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Raymond Willoughby and Betty Vos (Robin's mother) who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Alice Clancy, Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Nina & Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Peggy Walsh, Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Josephine Onwuka (knee surgery), Ellen Hunt.

MASSES THIS WEEK:

DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 22 nd October	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.143)</i>	8.30am 11.00am	Bridget Devitt RIP Frank O'Donnell RIP (Anniv)
Monday 23 rd October	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Joseph O'Connor RIP
Tuesday 24 th October	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 25 th Oct	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 28 th October	<i>SS Simon & Jude</i>	10.30am	Elias, Ignatius & Anthony Nzekwe RIP
Sunday 29 th October	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.146)</i>	8.30am 11.00am	All our Parishioners Raymond Willoughby RIP

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am – All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm