

## **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT EMMAUS MASS SHEET**

**18<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**CHRISTMAS is almost here.....!**

**THIS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT** is our final day of preparing the way for the Lord to celebrate the Nativity of Our Saviour. It is a time to renew our hope and expectation: God is always faithful to His promises. The fourth **CANDLE** on our Advent wreath is seen as the **MARY** candle because the Nativity is the consequence of Mary's YES to God — her **FIAT** (let it be done.....).

This week we should, together with Mary, ponder the wonderful thing God has done for us in the Incarnation.

How does it touch us, move us?

How do we want to respond to it?

How do I see my “**YES**” to God? Is it whole hearted? As we ponder this we shall be moved to confess our sins — all of which express our **NO** to God: every sin is a “no-no” to God.

A good confession is the best way to find a truly Happy Christmas, when we prepare the way for Our Lord to be born again in our heart, where we can treasure Him, adore Him, and love Him, like the shepherds.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the God-given means of making the way for Him to enter us—so do go to confession.

“Mary Immaculate, my Mother, keep me close to you, at one with you, so that I may imitate your wholehearted Yes to God.”

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

**This will be the last bulletin of the year – MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**PLEASE PICK UP A COPY OF OUR CHRISTMAS CARD WITH THE CHRISTMAS LITURGIES INSIDE**

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## **3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### **GAUDETE SUNDAY**

**11<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

“**REJOICE**” SUNDAY (from Latin “Gaudete”) is the name given to this Third Sunday of Advent. We rejoice because of the coming celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, born in the manger in Bethlehem.

We rejoice not only because He is “Emmanuel” (God with us), but because His coming (or advent) is the proof of God's love for us: he has come to share His life completely with us. This is re-confirmed every time we receive Holy Communion.

Like Mary His Mother we have the privilege of holding Him and treasuring Him in our heart. Go to Mary, asking Her how we can hold and treasure Him better, more devotedly, more tenderly.

Pope Francis teaches us that the Church should be a “House of Joy”. Our parish and families will be “a House of Joy” in so far as we recognise that the infant in the crib is truly God fully

among us. To help us ponder this please ensure that the CRIB has a central place in your home. Let us gather around the crib to pray as a family.

Our joy is the fruit of our faith, God's gift for our "Yes" to God. REJOICE!  
Fr David Barnes, Rector

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## **2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**BIBLE SUNDAY Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**THIS SUNDAY (ADVENT 2)** is sometimes called **BIBLE SUNDAY**: We pray for a deeper love of the Sacred Scriptures.

St Jerome lived during the 4th century of the Church. A man of brilliant mind, he lived as a hermit for years, in order to deal with his many sins. However, God needed his intellect and gift of language; thus St. Jerome is credited with translating the Scriptures into Latin, known as the Vulgate.

St. Jerome famously said, "*Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.*" That thought alone should send us all scurrying for our Bibles! So, why *should* Catholics make regular Scripture reading and study part of their daily lives?

**1) It is the living Word of God.** There are many ancient texts in the history of the world. Many of us, in high school and college, read *The Iliad*, *I Ching*, and the *Tao de Ching*. They are all worthy of study, but what sets the Bible apart? It is the living Word of God. It has no equal, and it is as relevant today as it was when Jerome labored over its translation. Further, the Word of God is Christ: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.* (Jn. 1:1 ) Thus, every encounter with Scripture is an encounter with Christ.

**2) Sunday isn't enough.** Indeed, the Mass is full of Scripture. We hear the Word proclaimed from the Old and New Testaments, the Psalms, and the Gospel. We hear the Word sung in our hymns. The prayers at Mass are full of Scriptural quotes and references. And yet ... it's not enough. It's easy to miss parts of the Word as it's proclaimed as Mass: we get distracted, the Word is not proclaimed well, we don't quite hear it. In order to prepare well for Mass, we should "read ahead:" [find the readings for Mass](#) and read them prior to Mass. How are they connected? What is God's message for His people today?

**3) God's Word keeps us grounded.** It is very easy, in the midst of our sloppy, busy, stress-filled days, to lose touch with who we are: God's children. Taking time to read Scripture every day keeps us grounded, reminds us of who we are. Reading Scripture helps us to recall, every day, that Christ is with us – even in the sloppiness, the busy-ness, the stress.

**4) Scripture reminds us of God's covenant.** God made a promise to our forefathers in faith, the Jews. He told them, "I will be your God, and you will be my people." Even though the Jews (like us!) did many things that should have destroyed that covenant, God's promise is eternal. A covenant is unbreakable, because it is God's truth. Then, with the coming of Christ, we received a new covenant: "This is My Body and this is My Blood. Whoever eats and drinks of it shall have eternal life." The Bible, from start to finish, is the story of God's unbreakable promise to us. That's pretty important.

**5) Reading Scripture helps us to pray better.** Every one of us needs to pray better. Prayer is

our lifeline to God. Scripture can help us to pray better. We see ourselves reflected in the sorrow, pain and faithfulness of Job. We understand Jonah's reluctance to do the job God has set before him. We rejoice, laugh, cry and challenge God with the psalmist. We understand the shame of the woman about to be stoned. We tremble with fear, abandoning Christ, just as most of the Apostles did when He most needed them. To enter into God's word helps us to see, hear, feel and understand basic human responses ... and then do better. We rise above our fears, our sorrows, our shame, because we know God is with us. Always. He never abandons us. Scripture is the story of God's eternal love and faithfulness.

St. Jerome knew all this. He spent his life carefully and faithfully translating God's word. He did it not because it was yet another text that smart people wanted to read in their own language. No, he understood that Scripture is the living word of God, as relevant to us as it was to the Jews in their many triumphs and struggles, as it was to the earliest Christians during St. Jerome's life, and now, in a world where we have so much information at our fingertips it would make St. Jerome's head spin. But there is no website, no book, no podcast, no Facebook post that equals God's word. Do not be ignorant of this word, lest you be ignorant of Christ.

**THE ADVENT WREATH:** The Advent wreath helps us reflect on how God has come to us. The circle of the wreath is a symbol of both the eternity of God and our being called to eternal life. The evergreen foliage symbolises on-going life, while the holly and the red berries symbolise that the child in the manger is also the one who will suffer and die for us on the Cross. The five candles too have meanings. The outer candles are purple and one pink - the four weeks of Advent: purple is a sign that Advent is "little Lent", a time for prayer, fasting, repentance and conversion. The pink candle is for "Gaudete Sunday", the third Sunday in Advent, reminding us to rejoice in the coming of the Saviour. The white candle symbolises Christ, the Light of the World. The coming of the Light (Christ) into the darkness of the world is a constant theme in Advent, and the gradual lighting of the Advent candles reminds us of this. Various meanings are given to each specific candle -here is one set of meaning:

**1st CANDLE-(purple) THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE-**We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

**2nd CANDLE-(purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION-** God kept his promise of a Saviour who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

**3rd CANDLE-(pink) THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY -** The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

**4th CANDLE- (purple) THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE -** The angels announced the good news of a Saviour. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

**5th CANDLE- (white) "CHRIST CANDLE"** -The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT EMMAUS MASS SHEET**  
**27th November 2022**

**ADVENT**

TODAY, Sunday, the great season of Advent begins. The word comes from the Latin verb “advenire” meaning “to come to:” so Advent calls us to ponder Our Lord’s THREE “comings to us”.

•the Incarnation when “the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us” ie. Our Lord’s Nativity in Bethlehem.

•Our Lord’s daily coming to us in the Holy Mass.

•the Second Coming, when “He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead”.

ADVENT is sometimes called “Little Lent” because it is properly a time of prayer, fasting and good works, a time of repentance. This is why purple is the colour of Advent. Do your best to keep Advent in this way, even though secular society is making merry around us, the celebration of Christmas begins with the Vigil of Christmas, and is celebrated for the 12 days that lead up to the Epiphany on 6th January.

THE ADVENT WREATH, with the build-up of lighting the candles, reminds us of the coming of Our Lord into this world in His Nativity– He is “the Light of the World” who dispels the darkness of the world.

ADVENT is a time of HOPE as we come understand better that God is always faithful to His promises.

OUR LADY “believed that the promises made her by the Lord would be fulfilled:”

We pray that we may have faith like hers, and invoke her powerful intercession.

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**CHRIST THE KING**  
**SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**CHRIST THE KING**

Today is the Grand Finale of the Church’s year. On this final Sunday, our celebration focuses on Our Lord through whom the Kingdom of God comes. Our Lord taught constantly about the Kingdom of God: the Kingdom comes through the Church, founded by Christ and with which He is totally identified in every way apart from our sin. The Church is the sign and seed of the Kingdom, and through the Church we are called to let Christ reign in every area of our life. The more we co-operate with Him, the more the Kingdom comes.

Today focuses us also on our young people. In our parish we have many, and we should thank God for them and pray for them. On this “**Youth Day**”we should reflect carefully on what we are doing to help form our young people. How can we strengthen the life of faith in our homes? How can we help our school, St. Joseph’s, Macklin Street, which is developing

wonderfully through the present leadership? I am concerned about our adolescents: how can we support them better? Do let me know your ideas.

**NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY 2022:** This year's National Youth Sunday takes place on the Feast of Christ the King. **2022 THEME : RISE UP!** "*Mary arose and went with haste*" all other resources are available at:

**POPE FRANCIS – WYD MESSAGE 2022:** What kinds of "haste" do you have, dear young people? What leads you to feel a need to get up and go, lest you end up standing still? Many people – in the wake of realities like the pandemic, war, forced migration, poverty, violence and climate disasters – are asking themselves: Why is this happening to me? Why me? And why now?

**Happy Feast! Next Sunday Advent begins!**

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**POPE FRANCIS, MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, 2022**

*"That is precisely what solidarity is: sharing the little we have with those who have nothing, so that no one will go without. The sense of community and of communion as a style of life increases and a sense of solidarity matures."*

*"Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters; inspire in us words and actions to comfort those who labour and are burdened. Make us serve them truly, after the example of Christ and at his command. And may your Church stand as a living witness to truth and freedom, to peace and justice, that all people may be raised up to a new hope."*

To read Pope Francis' message in full, visit: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20220613-messaggio-vi-giornatamondiale-poveri-2022.html>

**PRAYER FOR THE WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

Loving God,

Open our ears to hear you in the cry of those living in poverty.

Open our eyes to see you in the lives of the oppressed.

Open our hearts to meet you in others and to respond with mercy and compassion.

Pour out on us your grace, so that we may grow as your faithful people, always seeking your kingdom of Truth, Justice and Peace.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** marks Remembrance Sunday which marks the end of the First World War. On this day we remember all those who gave their lives for their country, all who suffered and died through acts of war and those who were left behind to grieve and mourn.

**PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE**

O God, merciful and strong, who crush wars and cast down the proud,

be pleased to banish violence swiftly from our midst and to wipe away all tears,  
so that we may all truly deserve to be called your children.

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## **32<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

### **SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND**

Our second collection today will be in support of the **SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND**.

Most priests offer their resignation as a parish priest at the age of 75, but many continue to serve their communities, working in our parishes, schools, hospitals and chaplaincies. We must ensure no priest is worried about meeting essential costs during their senior years and, as such, Cardinal Nichols and the Diocese of Westminster are committed to ensuring that no retired or sick priest is left without support.

By giving a gift to the **SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND**, you will help ensure all of our sick and retired priests are cared for at their time of need, after years of service to God and their parishioners. The fund will be used to meet essential costs, like making a flat accessible to a disabled priest. It could ensure a priest has regular visits from a carer after undergoing surgery.

Rest assured, the Diocese works closely with the NHS, local councils and social services, but there will nevertheless be gaps in funding and we need to ensure our priests have peace of mind in their senior years.

If you took a donation envelope last weekend, please place it in the collection bag today. If you do not have an envelope, there are some available at the back of the church. The envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online. If you are able, please consider filling out a standing order form, meaning you become a Patron and make a regular gift to support our sick and retired priests. Please be generous and remember our clergy, in active ministry, retired or ill, in your prayers. Thank you.

### **PRAYER FOR PRIESTS**

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

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## 31<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022

### NOVEMBER — MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Pope Francis on praying for the souls in purgatory: “Even now we experience a communion between the Church on earth and the Church in heaven through our union with those who have died. The souls in heaven assist us with their prayers, while we assist the souls in purgatory through our good works, prayer and participation in the Eucharist. As members of the Church then, the distinction is not between who has died and who is living, but rather who is in Christ and who is not ...

There is a deep and indissoluble bond between those who are still pilgrims in this world — us — and those who have crossed the threshold of death and entered eternity. All baptized persons here on earth, the souls in Purgatory and all the blessed who are already in Paradise make one great Family. This communion between earth and heaven is realized especially in intercessory prayer”.

See Also: <https://www.cathdal.org/home/ten-ways-to-pray-for-the-holy-souls-in-purgatory>

1. Pray the [Novena to the Holy Souls](#) by St. Alphonsus Liguori.
2. Offer up your Holy Communion for the souls in purgatory.
3. Have Masses said for your departed loved ones, especially on the anniversary of his or her death.
4. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the intention of the Holy Souls.
5. Eucharistic Adoration: visit the Blessed Sacrament to make acts of reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on behalf of those in purgatory.
6. Sacrifices: practice small acts of self-denial throughout your day and offer these penances up for the poor souls.
7. Give alms: The giving of material assistance to the poor has always been considered a penance that can be offered for the Holy Souls. “For almsgiving saves from death, and purges all sin” ([Tobit 12:9](#)).
8. Ask for the intercession of saints who were known to be great friends of the Holy Souls during their lifetime to join you in prayer for the faithful departed: St. Nicholas of Tolentino, St. Gertrude the Great, St. Catherine of Genoa, St. Padre Pio, St. Philip Neri, St. John Macías, St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Joseph, Our Lady, and others.
9. When passing by a cemetery: Pray the short Eternal Rest prayer: “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon them. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.”
10. Pray to earn indulgences for the holy souls: On all the days from November 1 to November 8, a plenary indulgence, applicable only to the Poor Souls, is granted to those who visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed (standard requirements for indulgences apply\*). Partial indulgences are granted to those who recite Lauds or Vespers of the Office of the Dead, and to those who recite the prayer, “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace”

### ETERNAL REST

**Lord, this month we pray especially for the departed loved ones.  
We ask you to give them the gift of a dwelling place in your eternal home.  
We pray too for those who have no one to pray for them.  
Through your infinite mercy may they share in the company of the saints to offer you  
eternal praise and glory. Amen**

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**30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022**

Today is **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

World Mission Sunday is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Maria witness to their faith and offer vulnerable women in Ethiopia hope for a better future. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please use a donation envelope and hand in at the second collection today. You can also give by to give by credit/debit card, please visit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk) Thank you for your generosity.

To read the Holy Fathers message for World Mission Sunday please visit: <https://missio.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/MESSAGE-OF-HIS-HOLINESS-POPE-FRANCIS-2022.pdf>

### **PRAYER FOR PEACE BETWEEN PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS**

Father of all goodness, mercy and love,  
You call people of all Faiths to live and work together for the coming of your Kingdom on earth.  
Make us instruments of your peace, and cultivate in us the fertile seed of your healing love.  
Create in us the spirit of understanding, acceptance, and respect for one another, irrespective of our differences.  
Stir within our hearts a renewed sense of reverence for all life.  
Give us the vision to recognise your spirit in every human being, and help us to break the cycle of violence by realising that peace begins with me.  
Amen.

**EXTRA MASS!** As from **SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**, there will be an additional Mass (In Latin) on Sundays at 8:30am

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**29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**THE ROSARY IS THE PRAYER OF MY HEART' – (POPE FRANCIS)**

Pope Francis says: "the Rosary is the prayer that always accompanies my life: it is also the



prayer of simple people and saints...it is the prayer of my heart”.

Pope Francis explains that the Rosary is “a synthesis of Divine Mercy”: “With Mary, in the mysteries of the Rosary we contemplate the life of Jesus which irradiates the mercy of the Father. Let us rejoice in His love and forgiveness, let us recognize it in foreigners and in those who are needy, let us live His Gospel every day”. And greeting the young, the sick and the newly wedded, Pope Francis said: “May this simple Marian prayer show you, young people, the way to give life to God’s will in your lives; dear sick people, love this prayer because it brings consolation for the mind and the heart; and dear newly wedded spouses, may it represent a privileged moment of spiritual intimacy within your new family”.

Pope Francis gives all people he meets a Rosary. “Our Lady is always close to Her children and ready to help when we pray to her, when we ask for her protection... let us remember she is always ready to serve and never keeps anyone waiting”.

At FATIMA, Our Lady asked us all to pray the Rosary EVERY DAY. How could we say NO to that?

With Mary, let us learn to say YES, everyday.

OBTAINING GREAT FAITH FROM MARY: In Mary, all ideals become reality; but this should not make us think that her sublime greatness makes her inaccessible to us. She is the one who is full of grace and the sum of all perfections; and she is also our Mother. Her power before God is such that she can obtain anything we ask for, and, like any mother she wants to answer our prayers. Like any mother also, she knows and understands our weaknesses. She encourages us.... She makes the way easy for us and, even when we think there is no possible solution for our worry, she always has one ready to offer us.

If we truly got to know Mary our Mother, how quickly the supernatural virtues would grow in us! Let us not be shy about repeating short prayers and aspirations to her throughout the day. There is no need to say them out loud, we can say them in our heart. Christian devotion has gathered together many of these loving words of praise in the Litany which accompanies the Holy Rosary. But each one of us is free to think up new ones, and address new praises to her, telling her with our heart – with the holy bashfulness that she understands and approves – what we would not dare to say out loud...

Find out for yourself by personal experience the meaning of Mary’s maternal love... She is your Mother and you are her son or daughter. She loves you as if you were her only child in this world. Treat her accordingly: tell her about everything that happens to you, honour her and love her.... I give you my word that, if you set out along this way, you will quickly discover all the love of Christ: and you will find yourself drawn into the ineffable life of God.... You will draw strength from it to put the will of God fully into practice, and you will be filled with the desires of serving all men. You will be the Christian you have sometimes dreamed of being: full of works of charity and justice, happy and strong, understanding towards others and demanding on yourself. This, and no other, is the kind of faith we want. Let us have recourse to our Mother Mary; she will accompany us and help us make firm and constant progress.

*Saint Josemaria Escriva*

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## **28<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

### **PRISONERS’ SUNDAY**

**TODAY** is designated by our Bishops as “**Prisoners’ Sunday**”– the National Day of Prayer and Action for prisoners and their families. It is a wonderful opportunity for us all to direct our

thoughts to the needs of prisoners and their families, all who work in and are affected by the criminal justice system.

While we may feel that the Covid Pandemic is becoming more distant from our minds, the impact of the last two years is felt very keenly and our prison communities have been impacted significantly. The work of Pact is a vital element in our outreach to prisoners and their families.

Pact's work is rooted in Catholic Social Teachings. It brings hope into the prison environment, where men and women experience isolation and long periods confined to their cells. Pact serves families, especially children, who experience prolonged separation from loved ones.

Please encourage people to consider volunteering to assist Pact in its mission. JustPeople Roadshows and Workshops taking place around the country provide excellent opportunities for people to learn more. Information can also be found on the Pact website [www.prisonadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk)

Pact, its staff and beneficiaries, will be grateful for any support you can offer at any time. Further information is available on 07860 720011 or by e-mail on the following address: [parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk](mailto:parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk)

**Commentary on today's Gospel: LUKE 17 22-17** It's hard to be thankful when life feels hopeless, lonely or unfair. In saying "thank you" for the small things, we realise they are often the big things – the new day that brings another chance, family, friends, the air we breathe, shelter, food, the kindness of a stranger, even the loyalty of a pet.

This year's Gospel reading from Prisons Sunday shows us the far-reaching impact of thankfulness.

From a harsh, hopeless place on the edge of society, the lepers cry out in pain and despair. God answers their prayer through Jesus, already travelling and working in the hostile place. And Jesus does more than heal them physically, his compassion shows them that they are people loved and valued by God, who can be restored to community and freedom. But the Samaritan who returns to thank Jesus finds an even deeper, everlasting spiritual freedom, amazed by the power and willingness of Christ to make him fully whole – his joy and thanks come straight from the heart.

Pray with us each day in Prisons Week as we journey this year through hostility, stigma and despair to move towards hope with thankful hearts for all that is possible. We make our faith journey with Christ at our side, giving thanks to God, always and everywhere.

**Prisoners Helpline:** [www.prisonersfamilies.org](http://www.prisonersfamilies.org) 0808 808 2003 (Freephone)

**Fresh Start Newsletter:** [www.prisonadvice.org.uk/fresh-start](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/fresh-start)

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**27<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Sunday 2nd October 2022 [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**OCTOBER: Month of the HOLY ROSARY**

**THIS OCTOBER** I am asking all of you to renew and deepen your love of the **ROSARY** this

October. When we pray the Rosary we are pondering and walking through the wonderful things that God has done for us, together with Mary our Mother. Do please always have a Rosary with you, in your pocket. At different times of the day hold it with faith and love, so uniting ourselves to Jesus and Mary. These quotes from recent Popes will encourage us:

**“The Rosary is a prayer that always accompanies me; it is also the prayer of the ordinary people and the saints... it is a prayer from my heart.” Pope Francis**

**“The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary.” Pope Saint Pius X**

**“How beautiful is the family that recites the Rosary every evening!” St. John Paul II**

**“The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and a theologically rich in Biblical content. I beg you to pray it.”St. John Paul II**

**“The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying.” Pope Leo XIII**

**Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, Pray for us.**

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**25<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

## **OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM**

### **SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER IS THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF**

**WALSINGHAM.** The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, in North Norfolk, was established in 1061 when, according to the text of the Pynson Ballad (c 1485), Richeldis de Faverches prayed that she might undertake some special work in honour of Our Lady. In answer to her prayer, the Virgin Mary led her in spirit to Nazareth, showed her the house where the Annunciation occurred, and asked her to build a replica in Walsingham to serve as a perpetual memorial of the Annunciation.

This Holy House was built and a religious community took charge of the foundation. Although we have very little historical material from this period, we know that with papal approval the Augustinian Canons built a Priory (c 1150). Walsingham became one of the greatest Shrines in Medieval Christendom.

In 1538, the Reformation caused the Priory property to be handed over to the King's Commissioners and it is said the famous statue of Our Lady of Walsingham was taken to London and burnt. Nothing remains today of the original shrine, but its site is marked on the lawn in "The Abbey Grounds" in the village. After the destruction of the Shrine, Walsingham ceased to be a place of pilgrimage. Devotion was necessarily in secret until after Catholic Emancipation (1829) when public expressions of faith were allowed.

In 1896 Charlotte Pearson Boyd purchased the 14th century Slipper Chapel, the last of the wayside chapels en-route to Walsingham, and restored it for Catholic use. In 1897 by rescript of Pope Leo XIII, the sanctuary of Our Lady of Walsingham was restored with the building of a Holy House as the

Lady Chapel of the Catholic Church of the Annunciation, King's Lynn. The Guild of Our Lady of Ransom brought the first public pilgrimage to Walsingham on 20th August 1897. Visits to the Slipper Chapel became more frequent, and as the years passed devotion and the number of pilgrimages increased.

**SLIPPER CHAPEL:** In the Middle Ages Walsingham was one of the four great shrines of Christendom with pilgrims coming from all parts of the known world. There were wayside chapels along the pilgrim route and the Slipper Chapel was the last and most important of these. Pilgrims stopped here to go to Mass and to confess their sins before walking the last mile to the Holy House in Walsingham. The name of the chapel may come from the fact that pilgrims removed their shoes to walk the last mile or it may come from the word "slype" meaning a way through or "something in between", the slype or slip chapel standing as it did between the Holy land of Walsingham and the rest of England.

In 1538 the Shrine and Priory were destroyed and the Slipper Chapel, although not damaged, passed into disuse. It was used successively as a poor house, a forge a barn and even a cow byre. Stories of older residents suggest that even during this time of neglect occasional pilgrims would still come and pray there. In 1896 it was brought by Charlotte Boyd and restoration started the following year. For thirty years the Slipper Chapel remained restored but little used, as devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham was centred on Kings Lynn. On August 19th 1934, Bishop Youens of Northampton celebrated the first public Mass in the Slipper Chapel for four hundred years, and two days later Cardinal Bourne led a national pilgrimage of more than 10,000 people to the Shrine. At this pilgrimage, the Slipper Chapel was declared to be the National Shrine of Our Lady for Roman Catholics in England.

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## **25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**[10am Requiem Mass Queen Elizabeth II – RIP.pdf](#)**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

### **CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS WRITES:**

“As I write these words, it is just over a week since the visit of the relics of St Bernadette to the Cathedral. Over the course of the three days, more than 20,000 people passed through the doors of the Cathedral. I was able to spend some quiet time before the relics. It was so moving to see people with their petitions, their candles, their gestures – all with such an evident focus on Our Lady. I am so grateful to all those at the Cathedral – chaplains, volunteers and staff – who smoothed the path of this experience of faith for so many.

But that all seems a long time ago now, as we live through these days of mourning for Her Majesty The Queen. So much has been said and written about her. For me, her joy in life, her faithfulness, her kindness, and her steadfastness are four key qualities, four central reasons why she was so loved and now mourned so sincerely by so many. She will always remain a shining light in the history of our nation. **May she rest in peace.**

And now, **God save the King.**

✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols, *Archbishop of Westminster*

**CELEBRATING THE BEAUTY OF OUR FAITH – TODAY is EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY:** In the past, the third Sunday in September has been known as ‘**Home Mission Sunday**’. This has now changed to **EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY** to better reflect the Holy Father’s inspiration, and the work of the Mission Department at the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. “**Evangelii Gaudium**” is Latin for “**Joy of the Gospel**”. The day supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate at the Bishops’ Conference in supporting our bishops in three important areas:

- Firstly, evangelisation and catechesis. Guided by the Bishops, this work supports the dioceses in bringing the beauty of the Catholic Faith to the people in their parishes, and to those who do not yet know the Lord.
- Secondly, the beauty of the Liturgy and our church buildings. The Mission directorate ensures that liturgical directives from Rome are acted upon and liturgical texts are translated into English. Historical building experts work in the Directorate and support dioceses to fund and maintain beautiful places for prayer.
- Thirdly, sharing the beauty of the Catholic faith with Christian and non-Christians through outreach and dialogue. This work supports the bishops at the national level and helps create greater understanding. The directorate also reaches out to those with no faith, but who seek the Lord “with a sincere heart”.

Please support the Mission Directorate through prayer and giving to the retiring collection. However much you give, big or small, it will go directly to support these three important areas of work. Thank you. More information can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/what-is-evangelii-gaudium-sunday/>

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**24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**  
**11<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**QUEEN ELIZABETH II – RIP**

**CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS WRITES:** “On 21 April 1947, on her twenty-first birthday, Princess Elizabeth said, *‘I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service.’*”

Now, seventy-five years later, we are heartbroken in our loss at her death, and so full of admiration for the unflinching faith in which she fulfilled that declaration.

Even in my sorrow, shared with so many around the world, I am filled with an immense sense of gratitude for the gift to the world that has been the life of Queen Elizabeth II.

At this time, we pray for the repose of the soul of Her Majesty. We do so with confidence, because the Christian faith marked every day of her life and activity.

In her Millennium Christmas message, she said, *‘To many of us, our beliefs are of*

*fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example.'*

This faith, so often and so eloquently proclaimed in her public messages, has been an inspiration to me, and I am sure to many. The wisdom, stability and service which she consistently embodied, often in circumstances of extreme difficulty, are a shining legacy and testament to her faith.

Our prayer is that she is now received into the merciful presence of God, there to be reunited with her beloved Prince Philip. This is the promise of our faith, and our deep consolation.

Queen Elizabeth II will remain, always, a shining light in our history. May she now rest in peace.

We pray for His Majesty the King, as he assumes his new office even as he mourns his mother.

*"God save the King".*

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, 8 September 2022

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**CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES  
PRAYERS FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

For the happy repose of HM The Queen Almighty God,  
You are the author and sustainer of all human life;  
grant that your servant, Elizabeth our Queen,  
whom you granted a long and happy reign as Monarch of these lands  
may be forgiven her sins and rewarded with that eternal life  
promised to all those born again  
in the water of baptism and power of your Spirit.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
God, forever and ever,  
Amen.

Eternal rest, grant to her O Lord,  
And let Perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace.  
Amen.

May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
Amen

**Psalm 121 – A Song of Ascents**  
I lift up my eyes to the mountains;  
from where shall come my help?

My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!  
Let him sleep not your guard.  
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,  
Israel's guard.

The Lord your guard and your shade;  
at your right side he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you,  
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil;  
he will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and coming,  
both now and forever.

**Canticle of Simeon** (*Luke 2:29-32*)

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
Which you have prepared for all nations,  
The light to enlighten the Gentiles  
And give glory to Israel, your people.

**Prayer for the Royal Family**

Almighty God, source of all consolation,  
we pray for the members of the Royal Family who mourn the loss  
of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.  
Uphold them in your love  
and pour out on them the consolation of your healing Spirit.  
Let them find in your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ  
comfort in their sadness,  
certainty in their doubt  
and courage to live through this hour.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**Prayer for the King**

O God, to whom every human power is subject,  
Grant to your servant His Majesty the King  
wisdom in the exercise of his high office,  
so that, always revering to you and striving to please you,  
he may constantly secure and preserve  
for the people entrusted to his care  
the freedom that comes from unity and peace.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit

God, forever and ever,  
Amen.

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## **23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**4<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

### **OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**

As Parish Priest, I am delighted to announce that Mr Anthony Davie is our new Director of Music, starting on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Anthony comes with a wealth of musical experience and has worked extensively with young people.

Anthony writes:

*“I welcome the young people of the parish to join our new youth choir. The choir will sing most Sundays at 10am and festive days in the church year. Rehearsals will be Friday afternoons beginning at 4pm lasting 30 to 40 minutes.*

*Being a member of a choir is a fantastic opportunity not only to sing beautiful music but also to enjoy the fun of working as a member of a team. It doesn't matter if you can't already read music because we'll be learning how to do that along the way. We'll also enjoy understanding more about singing and how to sing well together. Performing music in church is always an exciting and rewarding activity and I look forward to bringing the voices of our young people together to make our services even more special.”*

### **POPE FRANCIS' SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: FOR ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY**

In his prayer intention for September, Pope Francis calls on all people of good will “to mobilize for the abolition of the death penalty throughout the world.”

*“Each day, there is a growing ‘NO’ to the death penalty around the world,” says Pope Francis in the video released on Wednesday announcing his prayer intention for September. “For the Church, this is a sign of hope.”*

In The Pope Video, produced by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, the Holy Father maintains that the death penalty is not necessary “from a legal point of view.”

He argues that “society can effectively repress crime without definitively depriving offenders of the possibility of redeeming themselves.”

He adds that there must be “a window of hope” in every legal sentence. Capital punishment, he says, “offers no justice to victims, but rather encourages revenge. And it prevents any possibility of undoing a possible miscarriage of justice.”

Always possible to repent: Pope Francis goes on to say that the death penalty is “morally inadmissible” because it destroys life, and insists that “up to the very last moment, a person can convert and change.”



The Pope argues further that “*in the light of the Gospel, the death penalty is unacceptable, because the commandment ‘Thou shalt not kill’ refers to both the innocent and the guilty.*”

Pope Francis concludes his message with an appeal for all people of goodwill “*to mobilize for the abolition of the death penalty throughout the world.*”

“*Let us pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.*” By Vatican News staff reporter

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**22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)  
28th August 2022**

**FOR OUR VISITORS...**

**Dear Friend,**

**Welcome to our church: I trust you will feel at home here. During this summer period, you may join many visitors, so we offer you here a brief guide to this church. We have a fuller guide available before and after Mass. We also have available a booklet ‘HOLBORN London’s VIA SACRA’ a brief but inspiring account of the courage and heroism shown by the Saints and Martyrs in Holborn who gave witness to the Faith during the Reformation. We hope you enjoy your visit. Fr David Barnes, Rector**

1) As you enter the church, to the left there is the Baptistry. There is a plaque on the wall in memory of Edith Gwen Kinghorn, wife of Tony Kinghorn, who for many years was an altar server in the church.

2) Statue of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. The Little Flower who, from the age of fifteen until her death at 24, lived a hidden life in the Carmelite convent in Lisieux. She is one of the most popular saints the world has ever known – a Doctor of the Church. Her Little Way of spirituality emphasizes the seeking of holiness in the simple and the ordinary.

3) Proceed alongside the left hand aisle of the church. Here you will see the continuation of: 14 Stations of the Cross on either side of the church; each recalls an aspect of the suffering of Our Lord on Good Friday.

In between the Stations of the Cross and at various positions around the church, small tablets in red with a gold cross are set in the walls, with a small candle holder fixed in front. These are points where the Bishop anointed and consecrated the church in 1959.

4) Further along the left aisle, past the 14th Station are 2 plaques. The Colonna Crucifixion, after Michaelangelo circa 1542, commemorates Canon Francis Bartlett, who was parish priest of St. Anselm and St. Cæcilia’s from 1977-1985.

5) The other plaque is to the memory of Charles T. Fisher IV, an American Banker who worked near the church and died in the Lockerbie air disaster in 1988, three days before his 36th birthday. The door to the right leads down to the Parish Room.

6) The Sanctuary, with the altar – the focal point of the church. On the left of the sanctuary is the Ambo from which Holy Scripture is read.

7) The Sanctuary lamp is the gift of the legal profession (in its two branches) and signifies the presence of God in the Tabernacle that contains the Eucharist.

8) The Tabernacle, which contains the vessels in which the Blessed Sacrament is reserved. To the left, set in the wall is a small recess, the Aumbrey, for the Holy Oils used in baptism, confirmation and anointing the sick. To the right, again set in the wall, is the piscina where water used sacramentally is disposed of directly into the earth. Nowadays the piscina in the Sacristy is used for this purpose.

9) On either side of the Tabernacle are two roundels bearing the Instruments of the Passion and above are sculptures of Christ crowning Our Lady, Queen of Heaven, surrounded by Angels, with the patron Saints, Anselm to the left and Cæcilia on the right.

10) High above is the wooden canopy or Baldacchino, painted in blue with gold leaf. Depicted in the centre is the symbol of the Holy Spirit (a dove) and roundels in four corners with IHS, which, in Greek are the first letters for Jesus, Son and Saviour.

11) Proceed halfway along the centre aisle then, facing the Sanctuary, look up to the Great Cross, with statues of Our Lady standing on the left and St John on the right of the suffering Christ. Behind this scene, on the left, is the organ loft, which is better viewed from the right aisle alongside the Sanctuary.

12) On the right are the doors leading to the Sacristy, with the large painting of the Descent from the Cross hanging on the South wall. Attributed to John Francis Rigaud RA. In the Old Sardinian Chapel it hung above the High Altar.

13) As you leave this passage, look up towards the West Window with the stained glass depiction of Christ rising from the flames, just as a phoenix rises from the ashes, with images of St. Anselm and St. Cecilia to the left and right. This window commemorates the fire on Christmas Day 1992 when much of the church roof was destroyed as a result of an electrical fault in the main organ. Below is the choir gallery with organ and console to the left.

14) The first Station of the Cross begins along the South wall, Jesus is condemned to Death.

15) Further along on the left is a statue of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. It was the visions of St Margaret Alacoque in 1673-5 which gave definite shape to the object of devotion and its practices. The feast day is observed on the Friday in the week after Corpus Christi.

16) Our Lady's Altar. Tradition maintains that the Lady Altar was the High Altar of the Old Chapel. According to an old parchment, which may date from around 1700, the altar stone of the High Altar in the old Chapel came with its relics from the Lady Chapel of Glastonbury Abbey. This area of the church was bombed during the Blitz in 1940, but restored after the war. There is a piscina to the right of the altar.

17) To the right of Our Lady's Altar is the Chapel of St. Thomas More – A Man for all Seasons. An inscription on the wall describes St. Thomas' time as a bencher of Lincoln's Inn and Lord Chancellor. Having opposed King Henry VIII over his divorce and martyred on the grounds of having opposed the Act of Supremacy, he was beheaded in the Tower of London in 1535. St. Thomas was canonized in 1935. Here also hangs the Large Crucifix which is venerated throughout the year, but especially on Good Friday when the faithful kneel one by one to kiss the feet of Our Blessed Lord.

18) Halfway along the South aisle is St. Joseph's Altar. The mosaic was commissioned in 1962 by Father Joseph Scholles, then Parish Priest, in memory of his father, Joseph Scholles, who died around that time. The mosaic depicts St Joseph, protector of the Universal Church, holding the church of St. Anselm and St. Cæcilia in his hands. Inscribed in Latin on the front of altar is- Sancti Joseph, Ora pro nobis. (St. Joseph, pray for us). On the left is a statue of St Joseph carrying the infant Jesus and holding a lily in his right hand – a symbol of purity.

19) To the right of St. Joseph's altar are the confessional boxes.

20) Above the West end of the Lady Chapel is the Royal Sardinian coat-of-arms, which originally surmounted the organ in the old Sardinian Chapel.

21) Approaching the last row of benches, behind the pillar is a statue of St Jude, much invoked as the patron of hopeless cases and lost causes.

22) To the right is the small altar and statue of St Anthony of Padua, a simple and humble Franciscan Friar and Doctor of the Church who preached the Good News lovingly and with fearless courage, much invoked in cases of special difficulties and commonly referred to today as the finder of lost articles. Usually depicted with a book and the Infant Child Jesus in his arms.

23) In the aisle as you approach Our Lady's altar is the Statue of St Peter. In the Middle Ages pilgrims who reached Rome, touched and kissed the foot of the statue and prayed to St. Peter, asking that he be merciful and open the gates of Heaven for them if they died during the pilgrimage.

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## **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY [EMMAUS MASS](#)**

### **[Assumption](#)**

**Sunday 14th August 2022**

### **ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

The feast of the Assumption is a day of joy. God has won. Love has won. It has won life. Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that God possesses the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love.

Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven: There is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us.

We have a Mother in heaven. And the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. He himself has said so. He made her our Mother when he said to the disciple and to all of us: "Behold, your Mother!" We have a Mother in heaven. Heaven is open, heaven has a heart ...

Let us make God great in public and in private life. This means making room for God in our lives every day, starting in the morning with prayers, and then dedicating time to God, giving Sundays to God. We do not waste our free time if we offer it to God. If God enters into our time, all time becomes greater, roomier, richer.

POPE BENEDICT XVI

HOMILY FOR THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION, 2005

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**16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**HOLIDAYS**

The end of the school term signals the summer holiday season ahead. Our English word comes from “holy days”, which makes clear the nature and purpose of a holiday – a re-orientation of our life to God and to growing in wholeness / holiness. This is the way to a happy and restorative holiday.

Central to our holiday should be:

- ◆ Mass: make sure you find out the location of the nearest Catholic church.
- ◆ Daily prayer
- ◆ A good spiritual book
- ◆ A good self-examination and a good confession.

**This is the last bulletin until early September. I wish you all a good holiday and summer: remember to pray for each other, and especially our sick and housebound.**

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**STELLA MARIS – SEA SUNDAY**

**TODAY** Sunday 10th July is **SEA SUNDAY**. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be a retiring collection after all Masses.

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health.

Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church today, or by visiting [www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate](http://www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate), or by texting ‘SEA’ to **70460** to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work.

So please give generously. Thank you.

**OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA, PRAY FOR SEAFARERS- PRAY FOR US**

O Mary, Star of the Sea, light of the ocean,  
guide seafarers across all dark and stormy seas  
that they may reach the haven of peace and light  
prepared in Him who calmed the sea.  
As we set forth upon the oceans of the world and cross deserts  
of our time, show us, O Mary, the fruit of your womb,  
for without your Son we are lost.  
Pray that we will never fail on life's journey,  
that in heart and mind, word and deed,  
in days of turmoil and in days of calm,  
we will always look to Christ and say,  
'Who is this that even wind and sea obey him?'  
Our Lady of Peace, Pray for us!  
Bright Star of the Sea,  
guide us!

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**14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022**

**JULY – MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD:**

Devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus is a powerful means to help us be devoted to the totally sacrificial love of Our Lord, as also loving Him totally present in the Blessed Sacrament. Our Cathedral here in Westminster is dedicated to the Most Precious Blood.

**OUR PARISH.** On 6<sup>th</sup> July 1909, Archbishop, Bourne opened our present church, celebration Mass at 11am. Do please pray that we take good care of our parish church, and pray that we can all proclaim the Kingdom of God.

The **6pm MASS** on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July** will be said for the “Dedication of Our Parish”. All welcome.

**PRAYER FOR THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS**

Almighty, and everlasting God,  
who hast appointed Thine only-begotten Son to be the Redeemer of the world,  
and hast been pleased to be reconciled unto us by His Blood,  
grant us, we beseech Thee, so to venerate with solemn worship the price of our salvation,  
that the power thereof may here on earth keep us from all things hurtful,  
and the fruit of the same may gladden us for ever hereafter in heaven.  
Through the same Christ our Lord.  
Amen.  
*Daily Roman Missal*

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## **13<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**26<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

### **PETER'S PENCE**

**TODAY**, we have the annual collection for “Peter’s Pence”. This collection started here in England at the end of the 8th century, when the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity. They wanted to help the Bishop of Rome, as successor of St Peter, in his universal ministry. The money collected is for the Pope to give to those suffering from natural disasters, such as famine or flooding, or those in great need, such as those suffering the consequences of war. The Pope gives money in the name of the whole Church. This annual collection expresses well our love for the Successor of Peter in his universal ministry. Please do give generously, and do pray for Pope Francis.

May the love and prayers of Ss Peter and Paul sustain the Church, increase our love for the Church as the “Mystical Body of Christ” as also our love for the Pope, and our love for the mission of the Church. For more information visit: <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html>

### **† SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES**

**WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022** is the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul.

The Church founded by Christ has Ss Peter and Paul as its principle pillars. Peter was chosen by Christ to be His first Vicar on earth, endowed with powers of the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven (Mt 16:13-19) and charged with the role of Shepherd of Christ’s flock (Jn 21:15-17).

In Peter and his successors, the visible sign of unity and communion in faith and charity has been given.

Divine grace led Peter to profess Christ’s divinity. St Peter suffered martyrdom under Nero, in A.D. 66 or 67.

He was buried at the hill of the Vatican, where recent excavations have revealed his tomb on the very site of the Basilica of St Peter’s.

Paul was chosen to form part of the apostolic college by Christ himself on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-16). An instrument selected to bring Christ’s name to all peoples (Acts 9:15), he is the greatest missionary of all time, the advocate of pagans, the Apostle of the Gentiles.

St Paul was beheaded in the Tre Fontane along the Via Ostiense and buried nearby, on the spot where the basilica bearing his name now stands. *Daily Roman Missal- SCEPTER PRESS*

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## **THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST** **SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

### **CORPUS CHRISTI**

**TODAY** we celebrate the wondrous love of Our Lord for us — how He gives Himself completely to us in Holy Communion, and how He is with us always in the Sacred Host in all

the tabernacles throughout the world.

MASS is the means to bring us this presence. The priest takes bread and wine, and through the Holy Spirit our gifts are transformed to become really, truly and substantially the Body and Blood of Christ, so that Our Lord is present as perfect God and Perfect Man, body, soul and divinity. This transformation we call transubstantiation.

ADORATION is therefore the appropriate response to this gift, so on this weekend's celebration we should resolve again to make a good preparation for receiving Holy Communion followed by thanksgiving. Visit Our Lord regularly in the tabernacle ("making a visit" is an important part of Catholic spirituality, and builds up our bond with Our Lord). Show ever greater respect when we come into church, "the House of the Lord", by genuflecting to the tabernacle and kneeling to adore and pray. Keeping silence in church is not only a way to respect Our Lord, but also one another.

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TODAY we also celebrate "DAY for LIFE" This is the day in our calendar set aside to celebrate life from conception to natural death. This year the focus is on caring for and valuing the elderly. Funds raised from this second collection support various Day for Life initiatives, which focus on upholding the dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. Please do support this work in any way you feel able. For more information and to donate, see here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/df122/>

POPE FRANCIS gives this teaching on age:

"The little ones learn the power of tenderness and respect for frailty: irreplaceable lessons that are easier to impart and receive with grandparents. For their part, grandparents learn that tenderness and frailty are not solely signs of decline: for young people, they are conditions that humanise the future."

SACRED HEART NOVENA: Here at St Anselm & St Cecilia we will be praying the Novena after Mass from Thursday 16th June to Friday 24th June. Petitions may be placed in the box at the Sacred Heart statue and will be placed on the Altar on the Feast day, Friday 24th June.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS: Congratulations to all the Children who received their 1st Holy Communion yesterday. Please pray for them, their families and Mr Brian Stalker who instructed them. Sienna, George, Franco, Mason, Kian, Quincy, Natalia, Anny, Sophie, Amelia-Leigh, Zoe, Hector, Ella-Mae & Yonael Robel

CONFIRMATION: Congratulations to all our Confirmation candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday in Westminster Cathedral. Please remember our young people in your prayers. Austyn, Ezekiel, Jaedon, Nellie, Noyoze, Adam, Marley, Arron, Angelica, Tendayi, Conner, Ellen & Michael

THE FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS: This Friday, 24th June 6pm Mass.

PETER'S PENCE: Next Sunday there will be a retiring collection for Peters Pence Appeal after all Masses. The proceeds of the collection are used to assist the Holy Father in his charitable work. Please give generously.

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## HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

12<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

**GOD** has been revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit — three persons, but one God. We could never know this by use of reason: we know it because Our Lord Jesus has *revealed* it.

**GOD's** love is made known to us as a dynamic interaction of loving between the Three Persons of the Trinity. God is loving — the active relationship of loving between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**GOD's** love for us is made known in the Incarnation — the enfleshment of God — when “*the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.*” That love is *revealed* above all through the Mystery of the Cross. God's love for us is confirmed in every Mass through receiving Holy Communion. As Pope Francis tells us: “*Christ has shown us the face of God, one in substance and triune of Persons. God is all and only Love, in a subsisting relationship that creates, redeems and sanctifies all: Father, Son and Holy Spirit*”.

God's love for us is made known in the fact that God wants to be known by us — to live in relationship with us. We can do so with confidence because in our baptism God made us adopted sons and daughters with the great privilege of relating to God as a most beloved son or daughter. We always have access to God on this personal level. So relate to God every day, ever faithful, through that daily conversation which is prayer.

Fr. David Barnes, *Rector*

**SACRED HEART NOVENA:** Here at St Anselm & St Cecilia will be praying the Novena before Mass from **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June**. Petitions may be placed in the box at the Sacred Heart statue and will be placed on the Altar on the Feast day, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

### TWELVE PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. I will comfort them in their trials.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and, above all, in death.
5. I will shed abundant blessings on all their undertakings
6. Sinners will find in My Heart an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls will become fervent.
8. Fervent souls will rapidly grow in holiness and perfection.
9. I will bless every place where an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honoured.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. The names of those who promote this devotion will be written in My Heart, never to be blotted out.
12. I promise thee, in the excessive mercy of My Heart, that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My disgrace nor without receiving their Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.



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## PENTECOST SUNDAY

5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### PENTECOST

**“COME HOLY SPIRIT.....”THE HOLY SPIRIT** transformed the apostles from being inward- looking, timid and afraid, to being outward-looking and bold in proclaiming the Risen and Ascended Lord. The Spirit set them on fire: for this reason we sometimes call the Feast of Pentecost the **BIRTHDAY** of the Church.

The Holy Spirit can do the same for us—if we are open and really want to be transformed. Pope Francis said “The Spirit is the wind pushing us forward, keeping us going, that makes us feel like pilgrims and foreigners and doesn’t allow us to get comfortable and become sedentary.....

**HOPE** collects the wind of the Spirit and transforms it into energy”.

This Pentecost, pray that we shall all be filled with the Holy Spirit and be full of hope. How well do we know the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit?

The **Seven Gifts** of the Holy Spirit are:

**Wisdom, Understanding Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge Piety Fear of the Lord.**

The **Twelve Fruits** of the Holy Spirit are:

**Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Generosity, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Modesty, Self-Control and Chastity.**

**COME, HOLY SPIRIT, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.....**

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

*Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

V.Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.

R.And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O, God, who taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Holy Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever enjoy rejoice in his consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. **R.Amen.**

**The Bishops’ statement issued after their plenary meeting can be found by visiting:**

**RETURNING TO MASS AT PENTECOST:** <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

### PRAYER FOR THE QUEEN

O Lord, save Elizabeth, our Queen.

**R: And hear us on the day we call upon you.**

O Lord, hear my prayer.

**R: And let my cry come before you.**

The Lord be with you.

**R: And with your spirit.**

Almighty God, we pray,  
that your servant Elizabeth, our Queen,  
who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm,  
may continue to grow in every virtue,  
that, imbued with your heavenly grace,  
she may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil  
and, being blessed with your favour  
may, with the royal family,  
come at last into your presence,  
through Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life  
and who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**Amen**

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**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**28<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**POPE FRANCIS: MESSAGE for world communication day:**

After focusing last year on seeing reality and conveying it to others, Pope Francis in this year's message for the world communications day emphasized the quality of listening, which he said "is decisive in the grammar of communication and is a condition for genuine dialogue."

The Pope noted that today people are losing the ability to listen to one another, while at the same time listening is undergoing new developments, especially due to new forms of communicating. These trends demonstrate that "listening is still essential in human communication."

**LISTENING WITH THE HEART:** The title of this year's message, "**listening with the ear of the heart,**" invites us to reflect that listening involves more than simply the sense of hearing. True listening is a foundation of genuine relationships, and is foundational to the relationship between god and humanity.

The Pope, quoting St Paul, noted that "**faith comes through hearing.**" In fact, he remarked, "**listening corresponds to the humble style of God,**" who reveals himself by speaking, and by listening to men and women recognizes them as his partners in dialogue. Human beings are called in turn to "tune in, to be willing to listen," as God calls them to a covenant of love. Fundamentally, the Pope said, "listening is a dimension of love."

**A CONDITION OF GOOD COMMUNICATION:** in many relationships, however, true communication is lacking, as dialogues end up as competing monologues, where the two sides refuse to listen to one another. This is evident nowadays even in public life, the Pope said,

where people often end up **“talking past”** one another.

Pope Francis insisted, however, that **“listening is the first indispensable ingredient of dialogue and good communication.”** Without listening, he said, there is no good journalism; journalists need to listen to many voices in order to ensure the “reliability and seriousness” of the information they transmit. Listening, he continued, allows people to exercise the art of discernment, the ability **“to orient ourselves in a symphony of voices.”**

**LISTENING IN THE CHURCH:** There is also **“a great need to listen to and hear one another”** in the Church, the Pope said, adding, **“Freely giving of our own time to listen to people is the first act of charity.”**

He pointed to the ongoing synodal process, asking for prayers **“that it will be a great opportunity to listen to one another.”** Comparing communion in the Church to a choir, the Pope said **“unity does not require uniformity, monotony, but the plurality and variety of voices, polyphony.”** He continued, **“At the same time, each voice in the choir sings while listening to the other voices, and in relation to the harmony of the whole.”**

The Holy Father concluded, **“With the awareness that we participate in a communion that precedes and includes us, we can rediscover a symphonic Church, in which each person is able to sing with his or her own voice, welcoming the voices of others as a gift to manifest the harmony of the whole that the Holy Spirit composes.”**

Full message visit: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/01/vatican-wcd-message-2022.pdf>

**TUESDAY, 31 MAY 2022:** at 6pm (5pm UK time) Pope Francis will be reciting the Rosary in front of the statue of Our Lady Queen of Peace in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome. In doing so, **‘he wishes to offer a sign of hope to the world, suffering through the conflict in Ukraine, and profoundly wounded through the violence of so many other theatres of war.’**

**THY KINGDOM COME IS A GLOBAL PRAYER:** movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. It has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer inviting Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. Since its start in May 2016, 172 countries have joined in praying **‘Come Holy Spirit’**.

- • During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:
- • Deepen their own relationship with Jesus Christ
- • Pray for 5 friends or family to come to faith in Jesus
- • Pray for the empowerment of the Spirit that we would be effective in our Witness

Further info can be found at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

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**6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER** [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)

**22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2022**

## **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> May**

**“...HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN...” (Creed)**

**THURSDAY’s** celebration of Our Lord’s Ascension gives us much to ponder and treasure in our heart.

Our Lord has completed everything the Father had given Him to do, crowned by the Paschal Mystery, and now He is returning to the Father. His joy is complete, and He invites us to share His joy.

*Our true joy is to share His joy!*

He goes to prepare a place for us. Heaven is where we truly belong, to be with God for all eternity. Our Lord has prepared a place for us. He is calling us “so that where I am, you may be too”.

*Do I live with heaven as my goal and true homeland?*

We are never alone: in his Ascension He promises that He will be with us always, “Yes, to the end of time”.

He is always present to us: *are we always wanting to make ourselves present to Him?*

My Mission and purpose in this world is to share in the Mission Jesus gave the infant Church at His Ascension: “Go out into the whole world and proclaim the Good News...”

*Our Lord shares His life fully with us through the Church: do we seek to bring others to share His life through the Church?*

“Gladden us with holy joys, Almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son in our exaltation, and where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope”. (Thursday’s Collect)

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY MASS TIMES:**

**WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MAY – VIGIL MASS: 6:00pm**

**THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY – 12:30pm Lunchtime Mass and 6:00pm**

**CONFESSIONS: 12:00 noon -12:20pm and 5:00-5:20pm**

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**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022**

**RETURNING TO MASS AT PENTECOST**

**AN INVITATION FROM THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES**

*This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)*

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass

and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

There are copies of the full statement at the back of the church, please take a copy home with you or read the Statement online: [Returning to Mass at Pentecost](#)

.....  
[Migration issues in the UK](#)

**A STATEMENT BY THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES**  
.....

**NEXT PARISH ASSEMBLY:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May, following 6:00pm Mass in the church. Do please come and help us make good decisions for our growth and development as a parish. Your voice counts!

**DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF ABUSE –  
DAY OF PRAYER 17<sup>th</sup> MAY.**

Please pray:

- For all survivors of sexual abuse; may they come to know, once again, the compassionate love of God and find healing and hope in the risen Lord.

For all who work in safeguarding; may they place the voice of the survivor at the heart of their service and through their care for others help to build up the Body of Christ.

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**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
Sunday 8th May 2022**

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND**

**THIS SUNDAY** is **GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY** and our second collection will support the **PRIEST TRAINING FUND**. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 58 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 17 of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year four men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ’s call to dedicate their lives to serve God’s people. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation envelope, plenty are still available at the back of the church. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) Thank you for your generosity.

**OUR BISHOPS’ SYNODAL PATHWAY REPORT:** sent to the Catholic Bishops’

Conference of England and Wales on 8th April, and published on the Diocesan website – <https://rcdow.org.uk/synod/westminster-diocese-bishops-synod-report/>

You will see that the Report captures well the many voices we have heard across the Diocese during the Synodal Pathway. In this way, it has been written by our parishioners young and old, our priests and deacons and religious, our school and university students, and our committed faithful. The story is theirs.

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### **3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2022**

#### **MARY'S MONTH OF MAY**

**MAY** is dedicated to Our Lady. It is a time to get to know and love Our Lady more. At the 10am Mass this weekend we have the Crowning of Our Lady as Queen of the May. This helps us express and understand how the reign of Mary is the reign of **“YES- TO-GOD”** in our daily life. May we let the spirit of Mary, the spirit of **“YES-TO-GOD”**, flourish in our day-to-day living.

Our Marian devotions should not be limited to church. Please ensure you honour Our Lady in your home. Do crown a statue or picture of Our Lady at home. Gather around the statue or picture of Our Lady, and recite the Rosary. Let us teach our children (and remind ourselves!) that the reign of Mary, the reign of **“YES -TO-GOD”**, is the best way to true self-fulfilment and happiness.

**DAILY PRAYER** is vital for all of us. A new initiative is now available called **“Click to Pray”** It is the Pope's App that connects your prayer to the world. Download the App for free [www.clicktopray.org](http://www.clicktopray.org) on the App store or Google play.

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND: NEXT SUNDAY:** Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. There will be a retiring collection for **Priest Training Fund (PTF)** after all masses. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 58 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 17 of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year four men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. This fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)  
Thank you for your generosity.

**OUR BISHOPS' SYNODAL PATHWAY REPORT: sent to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales on 8th April, and published on the Diocesan website**

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<https://rcdow.org.uk/synod/westminster-diocese-bishops-synod-report/>

#### **Synod Prayer**

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are

to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

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**+ 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY**  
**24th April 2022**



**The Divine Mercy Devotion**

From the diary of a young Polish nun, a special devotion began spreading throughout the world in the 1930s. The message is nothing new, but is a reminder of what the Church has always taught through scripture and tradition: that God is merciful and forgiving and that we, too, must show mercy and forgiveness. But in the Divine Mercy devotion, the message takes on a powerful new focus, calling people to a deeper understanding that God's love is unlimited and available to everyone — especially the greatest sinners.

The message and devotion to Jesus as **The Divine Mercy** is based on the writings of **Saint Faustina Kowalska**, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

The message of mercy is that God loves us — all of us — no matter how great our sins. He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share

His joy. It is a message we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC.

**A** — Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

**B** — Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

**C** — Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

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**+ EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION**  
**17th April 2022**

**THE LORD IS RISEN, Alleluia**

**HE IS RISEN IN DEED Alleluia**

This ancient Christian greeting, said on meeting one another during Eastertide, should surely be recovered and used again – encouraging us to deepen our faith in the Risen Lord.

**THE RESURRECTION** is a supernatural event, a clear break with the natural order, Jesus is raised from the dead through the power of God, and in sharing this victory we are “*saved*”. To reduce our understanding of life to the natural order alone is to miss out on the full reality of human existence: life is so much more wonderful, beautiful and exciting when we can see everything in the light of the Risen Lord!

**WE ARE WITNESSES** to our Risen Lord because we choose to believe and trust the witnesses who saw Him, believing the accounts of the Risen Lord in the Sacred Scriptures, and also believing the Church who has faithfully handed on the message to us.

**TRUST** and **FAITH** is at the heart of our believing. The present pandemic, with a virus that can be so destructive of human life, reminds us of our fragility and vulnerability. Just as sin is destructive of our power to love, made in the image of God, so there is a destructive power at work in the natural order. The virus is surely part the armoury of the Evil One. We must fight it with all the resources we have, in the sure faith that it will be vanquished.

Wishing you all a Blessed and joy-filled Easter.

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**PALM SUNDAY – PASSION OF THE LORD**  
**10<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022**

**Holy Week & Easter**

**Holy Week** is the most important week in the Christian year. Pope Francis says “Holy Week” is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with Him is shown in times of difficulty”. The best way to draw near to Our Lord is to participate as much as



possible the liturgies of the Church.

**PALM SUNDAY** — the commemoration of Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem when he was greeted with praise and thanksgiving, the waving and strewing of palms. We too carry palms, then take them home to put with our household crucifix.

**THE SACRED TRIDUUM** —the 3 Holy Days of the Paschal Mystery

**HOLY THURSDAY** —**The MASS of THE LORD'S SUPPER** at 6:00pm commemorates the institution of the Eucharist, the total gift of Himself to us as the Bread of Life. Afterwards, Jesus went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. After this mass the consecrated hosts are taken to the "altar of repose". All are invited to spend some time with Him, learning to be with Him in His suffering. The church is stripped of its candles and linens, all holy water is removed and the sacraments are not celebrated until Easter. It is a time of mourning, but always lived in light of the Resurrection.

**GOOD FRIDAY** — A day of fasting and abstinence. Fasting applies to those 18-60: no meat (abstinence) and only one simple meal and two small ones, and no food in between. Do all you can to be at **THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION AND DEATH** at 3:00pm, the hour at which Christ died on the Cross.

**HOLY SATURDAY** — the Church waits in the Lord's tomb, reflecting on his Passion and Death, waiting with faith, prayer and fasting the glorious Resurrection. Mary is waiting with us. We gather at 8:00pm to celebrate the Vigil Mass of the Resurrection, to celebrate in readings and song how God prepared His People for the Resurrection and conclude with the First Mass of Easter

**EASTER CARDS:** Please do take an Easter card home with you as you leave today, all the Easter Liturgies are inside the card.

Fr David Barnes, Rector

*HOLY PLACES: There will be a collection after the Liturgy of The Lord's Passion on Good Friday. Please continue to pray for the suffering Church in the Middle East. Please place donations in the basket on your way out of the Church. Thank you.*

### **Cardinal's Lenten Appeal**

This year, we celebrate 10 years of Caritas Westminster, the social action agency of the Diocese, working with parishes to restore hope, and enable people to lead a life of dignity. Funds raised in this year's Cardinal's Lenten Appeal will be shared between parishes and Caritas Westminster.

You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.



Scan to Give

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**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**  
**3rd April 2022**

**PASSION SUNDAY**

**TODAY** there is a sombre atmosphere: the statues are covered in purple veils to help us focus on our Lord's suffering and death. It is a time not only to understand better what He went through, out of love for us, but also to understand better the place of suffering and death in our lives.

Above all we can come to appreciate more that love and sacrifice are inextricably bound up with one another. The Cross reveals God's absolute love for us: the more we love and venerate the Cross, the more we shall understand God's love.

Passiontide is not a time to be miserable. Last Sunday was "Laetare Sunday" when we celebrated rejoicing that our Lord's Passion and Death led to the Resurrection. So we move through Passiontide knowing the end — that Our Lord has overcome the power of sin and death and is truly risen.

**NEXT SUNDAY** is **PALM SUNDAY**, the beginning of Holy Week. Please ensure you can participate as fully as possible in the Liturgies: the more we put in the more we get out.

**Lent** has been a time to give alms, and Cardinal Vincent has invited us to consider giving some or all of our Lenten alms to his Lenten Appeal.

**TODAY** there will be a retiring collection for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. If you would like to give today, please do so at the end of Mass, alternatively please take a donation envelope with you from the back of the church and return in the next two weeks. Thank you for your generosity as always. You can also donate using the QR Code below.

Finally, let us pray for one another — it is a key way to love one another.

Fr David Barnes, *Parish Priest*

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**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**  
**27th March 2022**

**"LAETARE" ("Rejoice") SUNDAY**

**TODAY** we are invited to **REJOICE**, because the coming celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection (**the Paschal Mystery**) is fast approaching. May our rejoicing energise us to use this second half of Lent as well as we can to prepare for Easter.

[Act of Consecration to the Heart of Mary – Basilica of Saint Peter](#)

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**3rd SUNDAY OF LENT [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**20th March 2022**

**DON'T BE AFRAID TO SEEK HOLINESS**

Take a few minutes to read the following reflection silently or aloud: Ann Voskamp's book, *One Thousand Gifts*, was on the New York Times' bestseller list for over a year. Married to a farmer in rural America, and mother of seven children, she fell into self-pity and depression until she was challenged by a friend to write down in a journal one thousand things to thank God for – not all at once! This simple spiritual practice helped her to centre her life on God rather than herself – the very essence of holiness. On her website (<https://annvoskamp.com>) she writes:

*"I keep writing it out here every day, the words I am seeking to live – about this wondrously messy, everyday-holy life, about finding the beauty and quiet, about slowing to see the sacred in the chaos, the cross in the clothespin, the flame in the bush. Just listening – laundry, liturgy, life, – all of life, holy ground. A holy experience – because God has flaming bushes everywhere."*

It's now over 50 years since the Second Vatican Council sent out a strong message that all Christians are called to be holy, but still we have not fully taken this message on board. We think of holiness as the preserve of consecrated people – monks, nuns, priests; or we think of it as withdrawing from the world to engage in lots of pious exercises.

Pope Francis in *Gaudete et Exsultate* sees holiness as a joyful challenge, founded on the Beatitudes, (Mt. 5: 1-12; Lk. 6: 20-26) each of which begins with the word Blessed or Happy, just as the very first psalm begins: 'Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked...'

Just as Ann Voskamp adopted a particular spiritual practice, in her case that of thanksgiving, to help her move from selfishness to holiness, so it is good for us to look at concrete areas of our life and decide to change our attitudes and behaviour. Pope Francis points to several such "signs of holiness in today's world". They are too many to list here, so let us take one particularly relevant and important one: our behaviour online. In no. 115 he writes:

*"Christians too can be caught up in networks of verbal violence through the internet and the various forums of digital communication. The result is that things can be said there that would be unacceptable in public discourse, and people look to compensate for their own discontent by lashing out at others. It is striking that at times, in claiming to uphold the other commandments, they completely ignore the eighth, which forbids bearing false witness or lying, and ruthlessly vilify others. Here we see how the unguarded tongue, set on fire by hell, sets all things ablaze." (cf. Jas 3:6)*

And in no. 117 he quotes St. John of the Cross as an antidote: *"Always prefer to be taught by all, rather than to desire teaching even the least of all. Rejoice in the good of others as if it were your own, and desire that they be given precedence over you in all things; this you should do wholeheartedly. You will thereby overcome evil with good, banish the Devil, and possess a happy heart. Try to practise this all the more with those who least attract you."*

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**2nd SUNDAY OF LENT [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

## **CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL**

**ALMSGIVING** is essential to keeping a good Lent. The Cardinal's Lenten Appeal was set up in 2015 to fund the innovative work of Catholic parishes, schools and charities working within the Diocese, contributing to three fundamental mission areas of the Church:

**Marriage and Family Life** – enriching and supporting marriages, the essential building block of society and the Church.

**Youth and Evangelisation** – supporting young people, the future of the Church, as they grow in their relationship with God and deepen their Catholic faith.

And the **Church's Social Outreach within Civil Society** – putting our faith into action through projects that serve the poor, the lonely and the marginalised, especially at a time of greater division and inequality in society.

These mission areas embody how we live out the Gospel and put our Catholic values into action – in service to others through practical programmes. Please take a Cardinal's Lenten Appeal donation leaflet as you leave Mass today. During Lent, and in the spirit of sacrifice, sharing and almsgiving, please consider designating your Lenten sacrifice to the Cardinal's Appeal.

There are envelopes at the back of the church containing more information about the Cardinal's Appeal: please take one and remember to complete the Gift Aid declaration if you are a UK tax payer.

### **Inspirational Quotes for The Lenten Season**

1. "Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy." — Pope Francis
2. "Are you capable of risking your life for someone? Do it for Christ." — Pope St John Paul II
3. "As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor — He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you." — Blessed Teresa of Calcutta
4. "Prayer is where the action is." — John Wesley
5. "The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist." — Pope St. Gregory the Great
6. "Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life..." — Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
7. "Renounce yourself in order to follow Christ; discipline your body; do not pamper yourself, but love fasting." — Saint Benedict

8. “Lent is like a long ‘retreat’ during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God, in order to defeat the temptations of the Evil One. It is a period of spiritual ‘combat’ which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God and penance. In this way we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promises of our Baptism.” — Pope Benedict XVI

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## 1st SUNDAY OF LENT [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)

6<sup>th</sup> March 2022

*“IN GOD, NO ACT OF LOVE, NO MATTER HOW SMALL, AND NO ‘GENEROUS EFFORT’ WILL EVER BE LOST.”*

Pope Francis’ message for Lent 2022 encourages us: *“LET US NOT GROW TIRED!”*

Lent is a favourable time for personal and community renewal, as it leads us to the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For our Lenten journey in 2022, we will do well to reflect on Saint Paul’s exhortation to the Galatians: “Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity (kairós), let us do good to all” (Gal 6:9-10).

**ENCOUNTERING THE SPIRIT:** This resource has been produced by the Agency for Evangelisation team, and it is offered to encourage and enable the continuation of “spiritual conversations” begun during the parish listening phase of the diocesan synodal process. Please take a copy of the Week 1 reflections with you as you leave today.

### **HEAT or EAT? Help those facing this choice. Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal 2022**

This year, we celebrate 10 years of Caritas Westminster, the social action agency of the Diocese, working with parishes to restore hope, and enable people to lead a life of dignity. Funds raised in this year’s Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal will be shared between parishes and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic are making daily life harder for all. Price rises mean many families face an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? The Church is responding, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. Just as a mosaic is made up of many different coloured pieces, each one unique, each person’s contribution to this mosaic of hope will bring light into the lives of people across our Diocese. Please take a donation envelope. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

**FAMILY FAST DAY: FRIDAY 11TH MARCH 2022:** we remember that there are many people who need our love and support all around the world as we are seeing now in Ukraine, families affected by conflict. Donations to CAFOD this Lent will reach families around the world, enabling local experts to provide support to families in times of need or conflict. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope or by visiting the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/lent](https://cafod.org.uk/lent)

**#HELPUKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL:** How to donate – Direct to the central appeal fund. AUGB Ltd, 80038237, 20-65-89, with reference HelpUkraine. Through our fundraising page on GoFundMe by following the link <https://rb.gy/dcqgccc> or by scanning the QR code



**MASS INTENTIONS ARE USUALLY BOOKED AT LEAST 6 WEEKS AHEAD**

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**8th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**PASTORAL LETTER FOR THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Today I want to take a moment, first of all, to thank you for your faithfulness and for your presence here at Mass. These last two years have been very difficult and I thank God for the gift of faith which you have received, which you have nurtured and from which, I know, you receive great grace and strength. I know this to be true because it is true for me too.

Now I would like to ask your assistance.

During these last two years there were times when our way of life was severely curtailed. We were in 'lockdown'. At one time, for three months, even the doors of our churches were firmly closed. Being unable to enter the House of God and to take part fully in the celebration of the Mass was, for many, an experience of real dismay and pain.

But that is no longer the case. We are again able to fashion the way of life that we choose. The doors of our churches can stay wide open. Yet, as you know, many have not resumed the pattern of coming to church, week by week. Other activities have filled that space. For some, the thirst for being at Mass, for celebrating life-giving sacraments, has diminished.

This is where I ask for your help. I would like you to be ready to approach those whom you know, and who are not present here today, with a word of invitation for them to join us. I know this is not easy. You may well feel it is an intrusive thing to do. Also, taking the step across the threshold of the church can be daunting for someone who has been away for a long time. So I ask you to exercise great deference and kindness when approaching them, perhaps offering to accompany them on this return journey.

I make this request now not simply because fear and restrictions are eased, but because we are approaching Lent, the traditional and powerful season of our renewal in faith. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, this coming week, we respond to the Lord's invitation to come forward and meet him afresh. He invites us to come through the doors of the church to stand before him and receive his blessing, his mark of mercy.

Lent is the time to reset our patterns so that there is time for God in our hearts and in our weekly routines. You know well that the highest form of prayer is the celebration of the Eucharist. It is here, above all other places, that the Lord wishes to fill us with his gifts, so that we, in turn, can offer those gifts to others. And then, when we give that which we have received, we bring this precious light of Christ into our world. He is the best antidote to the

darkness of the pandemic, to the loneliness it has brought, to the lack of clear hope for the future, to the deep weariness and unexpressed resentment that has entered into the souls of so many.

So, please, do what you can to invite those who are missing to come with you to be part of this great family of faith at prayer. If each of you can give a word of encouragement to one other person, to one other family, then the reward will be great. Then we can journey together to Easter. There we proclaim again that Jesus alone has mastered death, that he alone is the Lord of life, that he is now among us and calling us to come to meet him here, in this House of God, in this Gate of Heaven.

I thank you again for your presence here today. I thank you for all that you will do in response to this request and I ask God's blessing on the words that you will speak. Remember the words of St Paul that we have just heard: 'Keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain' (1Cor. 15:58).

Please continue in your prayer for peace in Ukraine. We cry out: No more war, no more violence!

And remember me in your prayers as I will remember you, the faithful people of God!

Yours devotedly,

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, *Archbishop of Westminster*

Pupils in our Catholic schools are going to watch a short video. The link to the video is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtnIGHmQwww> the video, is addressed primarily to your Catholic pupils and students but anyone is welcome to watch.

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**7th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**20<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**THE ST BARNABAS SOCIETY – Formerly The Converts' Aid Society**

To fund its work, the Society has always relied solely on generous personal donations from the Catholic community nationwide, both during lifetimes and as legacies. Mass is offered weekly for all our benefactors.

If you feel able to support their work please contact the Director, Father Paul Martin, on 01865 513377.

Or visit the website at <https://stbarnabassociety.org.uk/>

**THE SOCIETY'S PRAYER**

Father in heaven, we thank you for the life and work of your servant Barnabas. Through his intercession may all who work for the St Barnabas Society be strengthened to follow his example of joyful encouragement. Help them to extend a warm and generous welcome to those who have left home and livelihood to be united with Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**  
**13<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**

**TODAY** is **RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**. The theme builds on that of the previous year's Racial Justice Sunday 'A Time to Act', which reflected on the importance of everyone recognising themselves, their race, their culture and their history in the life of the Church. Our aim, in 2022, is to continue these conversations about how we see others in the "Image and Likeness of God".

We're encouraging Catholics to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis taken from his encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* – on fraternity and social friendship:

For more information please visit: [https://www.cbcew.org.uk/rjs22/?utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=Newsletter+2022](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/rjs22/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=Newsletter+2022) where you can find more information and prayers in many languages.

**POPE FRANCIS PRAYER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,  
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,  
so that we may discover anew  
that all are important and all are necessary,  
different faces of the one humanity  
that God so loves.

Amen

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**[EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**  
**6<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**THE SYNODAL PATH**

"We embark on a journey, seeking together the way forward for the Church. We speak and listen with the conviction that each one has something to contribute to the search and something to learn from others. We share openly and honestly, not ideas or theories, but our lived experience of Church life and mission – the joys and sorrows, the hopes and fears, the successes and failures.

We do this in the context of a global pandemic crisis which has exposed and amplified fault lines running through humanity and is challenging all to seek new ways of living together.



Reflecting together on our experiences, we hope to discover processes which help the Church live in communion, achieve participation, and open itself to mission.

Attentive listening is more important than speaking. Pope Francis speaks of the “dynamism of mutual listening” which drives the synodal process. We listen to one another in the Church, including those on the margins and those who have drifted away from the Church. We listen to voices outside the Church, paying special attention to the cry of the poor and excluded ones in our world and the cry of the exploited earth.

Ultimately, all our listening leads to discernment, a sifting through what we are hearing to detect the voice of the Spirit indicating the way forward. This calls for periods of silent reflection and prayer. With the help of the Spirit, we hope for consensus or a harmony in which diversity is not divisive but enriching as we respond to our common baptismal call to be missionary disciples of Jesus.

As we reflect together on our lived experiences at a time of change, we listen to the living Word of God in the context of the Church’s faith tradition. In recent talks on the synodal process, Pope Francis has been reflecting on the Acts of the Apostles which he calls “the first and most important manual of ecclesiology.” In the story of Acts we get many glimpses of the early Church striving to remain open to the guidance of the Spirit in its internal life and external mission. A good example is the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15), the event which for centuries is taken as the model for synods celebrated by the Church”. For more information visit: <https://columbans.ie/the-synodal-path-new-series-in-the-far-east-magazine/>

The Synodal Path should continue within our parish: a process whereby we continue to listen to one another, seeking together the way forward for the Church. Our next Parish Assembly is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Do come!

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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### **4th Sunday in Ordinary Time EMMAUS MASS SHEET**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

#### **FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION – CANDLEMAS**

**THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION**, (Wednesday 2nd Feb 2022) often called **CANDLEMAS**, commemorates the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the presentation of Christ in the Temple, which occurred 40 days after his birth as prescribed by the Jewish law. According to Mosaic Law, a mother who had given birth to a boy was considered unclean for seven days. Also, she was to remain 33 days “in the blood of her purification. “Luke tells us, quoting (Exodus: 2, 12) that Mary and Joseph took Jesus to Jerusalem because every firstborn child was to be dedicated to the Lord. They also went to sacrifice a pair of doves or two young pigeons. This lowly offering showed that Mary and Joseph were most likely poor. Once in the Temple, Jesus was purified by the prayer of Simeon, in the presence of Anna the prophetess. Simeon, upon seeing the Messiah, gave thanks to the Lord, singing a hymn now called the *Nunc Dimittis*:

*“Lord, now you let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled: My own eyes have seen the salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you*

*to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.”*

Simeon told Mary, “Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against, (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed.” Simeon thus foreshadowed the crucifixion and the sorrows of Mary at seeing the death of her Son.

The name **CANDLEMAS** is derived from the activities associated with the Feast. It came to be known as “*the Candle Mass*”. In the Western Church, a procession with lighted candles is the distinctive rite.

(Compiled by David Bennett: for more information visit: <https://prayerist.com/candlemasprayers.html> )

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE:** Wednesday 2nd February 2022

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is normally attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd.

Today the Universal Church unites in prayer for all men and women in consecrated life and asks the Lord of the harvest to inspire and call our present generation of young Catholics to consider following Jesus in religious life. Today you are invited to pray for someone you know who is living the consecrated life or presently discerning a vocation as a religious brother, sister or priest. Keep them all in your prayers today!

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

**MASS INTENTIONS 29th JANUARY – 5th FEBRUARY 2022**

Saturday 29th January:

6:00pm Mass

Cynthia Moise(Thanksgiving)

Sunday 30th January:

10:00am Mass

Pro Populo

6:00pm Mass

Margaret Wilson’s Ints

Monday 31st January:

6:00pm Mass

In honour of Jesus’ suffering& agony in the Garden of Gethsemane

Tuesday 1st February:

6:00pm Mass

Carlos Recinos RIP

Wednesday 2nd February:

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

6:00pm Mass

Mariem Maldonado RIP

Thursday 3rd February:

6:00pm Mass  
Betty Ogilby RIP

Friday 4th February:  
6:00pm Mass  
Sue & Dave Morrissey Ints

Saturday 5th February:  
6:00pm Mass  
Marie & Liam Kirwan

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**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time EMMAUS MASS SHEET**  
**3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Sunday 23rd January 2022**

**SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**POPE FRANCIS** has made this Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (**today!**) an opportunity to deepen our devotion to the celebration, study and spread of the Word of God.

**THE SACRED SCRIPTURES (the Bible)** are the inspired Word of God. God speaks to us in a particular way when we read them with faith and love. Like **Our Lady** we need to ponder them and treasure them in our heart. St Paul writes: "All Scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for:

1. Teaching
  2. Refuting error
  3. Guiding people's lives
  4. Teaching them to be holy. This is how the person who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work"
- (2 Timothy 3:16,17)

**READ THE SCRIPTURES** therefore every day, even if only a few verses. We should feast on them more than food and drink!

**RESOLUTION:** decide today to be committed to reading the Sacred Scriptures every day.

1. Give the Bible a special place of prominence in your house. Hold it with reverence. The priest kisses the Gospel after proclaiming it at Mass: we do well also to kiss the Bible as we use it.
2. If we are beginning again, why not start with St Mark's Gospel, a clear and simple presentation of what Jesus said and did?  
Or, the First Letter of John, a beautiful presentation of how to come back to God with all our heart.

**WHATEVER WE DECIDE, DO SOMETHING!**

Every Blessing,  
Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

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**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time EMMAUS MASS SHEET**  
**2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sunday 16th January 2022

**PEACE SUNDAY**

**TODAY** is **PEACE SUNDAY** and this year Pope Francis asks us to think about ‘Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace’.

The need for peace in the world is obvious. People are struggling against violence and conflict, growing inequalities, the effects of climate change and the covid pandemic. How can we harness the gifts and energy of all generations in the work of peacemaking? Which ‘tools for building lasting peace’ do you think Pope Francis might be talking about?

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests many ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-Sunday-2022>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you’d like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfw67x> You can also pick up an envelope at the back of the church or if you picked up one last weekend, please return.

**PRAYER FOR PEACE – GOD OF LOVE**

Show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the Creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out.

O LORD, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.

**PRAISE BE TO YOU!**

**AMEN.**

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**[Baptism of the Lord EMMAUS MASS SHEET](#)**

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**TODAY** (Sunday) we celebrate Our Lord’s baptism by his cousin John the Baptist...

Our Lord is revealed as divine, the Son of God. Our Lord commissions the apostles to go out into the whole world and baptise people everywhere in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

To be baptised means we are immersed into the life of the Blessed Trinity, so we can share God’s life. In baptism God places us in His Son and we become a son or daughter of God: when God looks on us He sees us as a son or daughter because we are *in* God’s Son. This is all pure gift, a grace of God. We could not do this ourselves: God does it for us.

God wants to share His Life with us, and for us to share our life with Him. Baptism initiates this relationship. Today, thank God for the Sacrament of Baptism, and pray we shall all live our

friendship with God more devotedly.

Fr David Barnes, *Rector*

*POPE FRANCIS ONCE ASKED: "If I were to ask you today, "which of you knows the exact date of your baptism?" I do not think there would be too many hands raised.... Yet, it is the day on which we were saved, it is the day on which we became children of God. Now, those who do not know it should ask their godparents, their dad, their mom, an uncle, an aunt: "When was I baptised"? And that day should be remembered each year: it is the day on which we became children of God".*