

NEWSLETTER

3RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY
TIME*Fishers of Men*

Inasmuch as I advance, sustained by God, in the way that he has indicated for me, my duty is increasingly clear to me. It is important not to lose myself in unrealisable plans and projects, not to live in the future, but patiently to turn thought into action, goodwill into determination. I have had much conversation and discussion with some dear friends who do not believe,

There is a veil between them and God, a veil that allows only a few rays of love and beauty through. Only God, with a divine gesture, may part this veil, and then the true-life shall begin for them. And I, who am worth so little, believe in the power of prayers that I unceasingly offer for them. I believe in prayer because God exists, and because he is the Father. I believe in this mysterious reality that we call the communion of saints. I know that no cry, no desire, no yearning of our inmost depths is lost, but all go to God and through him to those who inspired us to pray. I know that only God effects our intimate transformation and that we can only point out to him those we love, saying, 'God, make them live'

Christianity alone addresses the individual, that which is most interior; it alone penetrates to our depths and is able to renew us. All Christians are obliged to be concerned about this crisis through which we are passing. This will perhaps change us profoundly. New needs require new apostles. The people-the masses, the majority of the country, those workers, peasants, and humble labourers of every kind-need to be shown the true source of all freedom, justice, and real transformation. If we do not make God known to them, we shall have failed in our most important obligation. But this is a work that demands self-forgetfulness, disinterestedness, a steady determination for which we need God and for which we must completely transform ourselves.

Servant of God Elisabeth Leseur

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Pope Francis instituted the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary time as The Sunday of the Word of God to held every year. It reminds us the value of Sacred Scripture for the Christian life and its relationship between the word of God and the Liturgy. It affords us the opportunity to read the Bible. This day should not be viewed as a yearly event but a year-long event because we need to urgently grow in our knowledge and love of Scriptures and of the Risen Saviour Jesus Christ. Jesus continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop a close relationship with Sacred Scripture; or else our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, inflicted as we are by so many forms of blindness. So, Let's make a conscious decision to read the Bible. Thank you

Fr. Christopher

Pray the Rosary

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has requested us all to pray the Rosary for peace in the world and an end to the pandemic. To pray it individually or as a family. Thanks.

Fr. Christopher

Your Support in Action

Join CAFOD online this coming Saturday 30th January from 1030am to 1230 and listen to CAFOD's representative live from Ethiopia talking about how your support is enabling communities gain access to clean water.

Contact westminster@cafod.org.uk for registration link and further information.

MASS INTENTIONS**January 23rd, 2020**

6pm - Pro Populo

January 24th, 2020

9am—Sick & Housebound

11am— Maria A Benjamin (Anniv)

For weekday mass intentions please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

Confession
only by appointment.

ADORATION

**Every Friday from 9.45
until 1pm.**

Everyone is invited

**Spiritual
Communion**

Jesus!

My God and my All
my soul longs for thee.

My heart yearns to
receive thee in

Holy Communion, come, O
Lord.

Bread of heaven and food of
angels to nourish my soul
heal my body and to rejoice
my heart
come most lovable friend of
my soul,

to inflame me with such love
that I may never again be
ever separated from thee.

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; 1 Samuels 3; 3-10, 19,
Psalm 39;2, 4, 7-10, responsive vv 8,9
2nd Reading - Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20
Gospel – John 1;35-42;

1st Reading; Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 24; 4-9, responsive v 4
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31
Gospel – Mathew 1;15

Saint Joseph will increase in you the virtue of Justice.

Theologians define the virtue of justice as 'giving to another his due'. For example, in our relationship with God, we owe it to him to be grateful for our existence, and to praise him for his goodness. We act justly toward God, giving him his due, when we worship him, especially by our participation in Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. If we fail to do this, we are not loving God. We are not acting justly toward God; we are not giving him his due.

For St Joseph, being a just man meant he observed the dictates of the Jewish religion. This required him to travel to Jerusalem three times a year-a long distance from Nazareth-and participate in various rituals and ceremonies. You, on the other hand, most likely live a short distance from a Catholic church. If you can't spend one hour a week thanking God and worshipping him, you are not loving God or giving God his due. You are not a just man.

Holy Mass is not about the priest, the people, or the choir. It's about returning love for love and giving God his due. Yes, priests should preach well, liturgical music should be sacred and inspiring and it's always pleasant to see familiar faces at Mass. Yet even if you find the priest less than edifying, the music a distraction, and the congregation spiritually dead, you need to remember it's not about them-it's about you acting justly and loving toward God. There is no greater way to tell God 'I love you', give thanks to God, and worship him than through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. 'Eucharist' means 'thanksgiving'.

God is not the only one that we are to act justly towards out of love. You also need to give others their due. Do you? Do you love, venerate, and honour Mary, your spiritual mother? Do you love, venerate, and honour St Joseph, your spiritual father? Do you treat members of your family with love, respect, and dignity? What about your neighbours, co-workers, and everyone else with whom you daily interact? If you are an employer, do you offer a just wage? Remember the Golden Rule: 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'(Lk 6:31). Your spiritual father acted justly and lovingly toward everyone; you should, too.

'Do you wish to know why Joseph is called just? Because he possessed perfectly all the virtues?' St. Maximus of Turin.

'The Gospel describes St Joseph as a Just Man. No greater praise of virtue and no higher tribute to merit could be applied to a man' St Pope Paul VI

[taken from Consecration to St Joseph by Donald H. Calloway, MIC]

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CLEAN THE CHURCH. If you can spare an hour or two monthly to help us to keep the church clean, please, contact the office to discuss details. Thank you.

GARDEN PROJECT; we want to launch a garden project in our parish. Our garden needs a complex approach. Each year we ask volunteers to come to help to clean it. But while cleaning it we dump a huge amount of organic matter out. If we could shred and to compost it instead of throwing away, we could reuse what is growing in the garden and put it back into the soil as compost. At the moment we do not own a garden shredder. We would very much like to buy one this season with a few other necessary garden tools. We can later share the shredder with our parishioners who have their own gardens. If you like the ecological approach to gardening and want to support us: please, donate in an envelope that you can find on the table in our porch: with GARDEN PROJECT on top of it or by your online banking with Garden as a reference.. Thank you, Katherine

Those who might be in Need

If you are aware of anyone who might be in need at this difficult time, do let the parish office know, by giving their details after having consulted with them. We can assist with food vouchers and one of our neighbours are willing to help with groceries. Do let us know if anyone might need help.

Thank you, Fr Christopher

BAPTISMS happen now on a Saturday morning or afternoon.

Parents must attend a 2-session Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – **Next baptismal course's date will be announced soon for a course in February on Zoom.** Please, drop an email to the office to reserve your space. Later we will need your email address to invite you to join the session.

Providing digital support for housebound elderly during COVID 19

St. Edmunds are delighted to offer isolated residents digital and telephone support. As the coronavirus continues, loneliness affects more people. Life can feel overwhelming. Reaching out to others may feel like a challenge at times, and knowing where to look for advice is sometimes hard.

Knowing where you can get help to cope with loneliness can be a lifeline such as where you can find help accessing essentials like prescriptions and food. Our signposting can offer advice about where to turn for financial help with money, rent and bills.

For more information on this service, please contact Dymphna Dale - Trained Befriender

on 07539 078 072 or email Dymphnasdesigns@aol.com

Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys

'Saint Joseph was such a great lover of God, but was afflicted by much suffering which he endured with a wonderful fortitude' St Joseph Sebastian Pelczar

'O most faithful saint who shared the mysteries of our redemption, glorious St, Joseph, the prophecy of Simeon regarding the sufferings of Jesus and Mary caused thee to shudder with mortal dread, but at the same time filled thee with a blessed joy for the salvation and glorious resurrection which, he foretold, would be attained by countless souls'.
Blessed Januarius Maria Sarnelli

The Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys of St. Joseph, the biblical references that go with them, and their order according to the Seven Sundays devotion are as follows:

1st SUNDAY

1st Sorrow: St Joseph resolves to Leave Mary Quietly (Mt 1: 19). Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

1st Joy: St Joseph's Annunciation (Mt 1:20) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

2nd SUNDAY

2nd Sorrow: The poverty of Jesus' Birth (Lk 2:7) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

2nd Joy: The Birth of the Saviour(Lk 2: 10-11) Say our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

3rd SUNDAY

3rd Sorrow: The Circumcision (Lk 2: 21) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

3rd Joy: The Holy Name of Jesus (Mt 1: 25)

4th SUNDAY

4th Sorrow: The Prophecy of Simeon (Lk 2:34) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

4th Joy: The Effects of the Redemption (Lk 2:38) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

5th SUNDAY

5th Sorrow: The Flight into Egypt (Mt 2:14) Say our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

5th Joy: The Overthrow of the idols of Egypt (Is 19:1) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

6th SUNDAY

6th Sorrow: The Return from Egypt (Mt 2: 22) Say our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

6th Joy: Life with Jesus and Mary at Nazareth (Lk 2: 39) Say our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

7th SUNDAY

7th Sorrow: The Loss of the Child Jesus (Lk 2: 45) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

7th Joy: The Finding of the Child Jesus (Lk 2:46) Say, our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

May he {St Joseph} take charge of the affair of your salvation. Just as he led the Son of God in his travels, may he be your guide on the voyage of this life until you arrive at the haven of eternal happiness Blessed William Joseph

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LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS: loose: £66.20 envelopes: £152.30 total: **£218.50**
Standing orders in December **£3043.00**

As a charity we rely on your donations only. As you have not been allowed to come to the church, we only were receiving donations set up as standing orders. We will be grateful for your financial support when you are back.

Your new sets of gift aided envelopes are available for collection before/after any mass or from the office.
Alternatively you could send your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

Thank you for your Generosity

WRCDT Charity No: 233699

