



ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH
41/42 LANGDALE GARDENS, PERIVALE, UB6 8DQ

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21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18 Ephesians 5:21-32 John 6:60-69

22nd August 2021

Parish Mass Book p.123

The second reading today from St Paul's letter to the Ephesians is one that many struggle with or even avoid as it can sit uncomfortably with how we live our lives today, but that is because it is often taken out of context and misunderstood.

Up to this point in this letter, Paul has been urging the Ephesians to change, to give up their impure way of living and to imitate Christ, walking a life filled with the Spirit, a life of forgiveness, unity and love. How does one walk in love? By living in mutual submission to others.

Paul envisions a different way for the people. He uses marriage as a metaphor for Christ's relationship with the Church and uses the image of the head and body to describe this relationship.

Metaphorically, Jesus is the "head" united to the Church, which is his "body". This unity was made possible because Jesus so loved the Church, he made the ultimate act by giving himself up for us. The Church sustains this union by participating and remaining faithful to Jesus.

And so in marriage, the husband (the "head") and the wife (the "body") are also united. To promote this unity, Paul urges husbands to love their wives "as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her". Even more, he urges husbands to "love their own wives as they love their own bodies." For to love the body, they cannot abuse it or neglect it, but must instead feed it and care for it, just as Christ does the Church." He also urges wives to submit to their husbands, but not out of fear or as something that belongs to them, but out of love for the Lord, with respect and loyalty.

The instructions are for mutual submission and sacrificial love. Just as husbands and wives become a new unity in marriage, practicing kindness and forgiveness, in the same way, Christ and his Church also become a single entity.

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CAFOD RESPONDING TO MULTIPLE EMERGENCIES ACROSS THE WORLD

As you have seen in the news, a number of countries are facing significant crises at the moment. The people of Haiti are coping with yet another catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm; the people of Afghanistan are dealing with the shock of the rapid Taliban take-over of most of the country; and millions of people in Ethiopia, South Sudan and Nigeria are facing extreme hunger.

CAFOD is responding to all of these situations. In Haiti they are working with local Church organisations to deliver emergency aid to the people affected. In Afghanistan, they are working to ensure the safety of local partners and their communities. They are also supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria.

Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped CAFOD to stand together and enable them to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Please continue to pray for them and the communities they support.

**Loving Lord,
For those who have died, give them eternal rest.
For those who are bereaved, comfort and console them.
For those who are hurt, heal and strengthen them.
Lord God, enable us to help our suffering brothers and sisters in whatever way we can.
Heavenly Father, be with us now and always.
Amen.**

You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: [Emergencies news | CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org.uk/emergencies-news)

LITURGY & LIFE

We cannot deny that many young people step away from practicing their faith, for some just temporarily. Like some of the disciples in today's Gospel, they find the ways of Jesus and the Church hard to accept or cannot see the relevance in their lives. What is our response?

Scripture makes it clear that Jesus never forced adherence but instead invited, urged and appealed. That is still the way God works today. If you have a young person in your life, someone who has set aside faith life, pray for them and, if it feels appropriate, encourage them to come to Mass, to perhaps volunteer, or quietly at home, simply read the bible and pray.

ELSA ROBERTSON RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elsa Robertson who sadly passed away on 16th August. Elsa was a parishioner and Eucharistic Minister here at St John Fisher for many years.

Please also pray for her daughter Diane, granddaughter Alexandra, the rest of the family and friends at this time.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen

TERESA GANNON RIP

FUNERAL SERVICE

24th August, 12.00noon

The funeral service for Teresa Gannon will take place here at St John Fisher Church on **Tuesday 24th August at 12.00noon**. Parishioners, family and friends are welcome to attend the service and there is no need to book in advance.

Please pray for the eternal repose of the soul of Teresa and for her family and friends at this time.

LITURGY TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	21	Mass	6.30pm	Alcinda Ramos RIP
Sunday	22	Masses	9.30am	Joao Francisco de Noronha RIP
			11.30am	Carlos Pereira RIP A Birthday Intention
Monday	23	No Mass		
Tuesday	24	Funeral	12.00noon	For the late Teresa Gannon
Wednesday	25	No Mass		
Thursday	26	No Mass		
Friday	27	Mass	10.00am	Joanna Coutinho RIP (Anniv) Sonia Betancourt - Good health & wellbeing
Saturday	28	Mass	6.30pm	Chris Bennett & Bridie McCamley RIP (Anniv) A Birthday Thanksgiving

22nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Sunday	29	Masses	9.30am	Carlos Pereira RIP
			11.30am	Carlos Pereira RIP A Birthday Thanksgiving

Confession:

Appointments can be made when Fr Agustin returns in September

Please pray for: Hannah Tran, Mary Dykes, Clare Ashton, Gigi Reale, Jo Dearlove, Malgorzata Myrkwa, Terril Park, George Brum, Chris Keeffe, David Newbert, Teresa Oatway, Stanley Cummins, Avit Castillo, Avelina Pelaez Siddiqi, Marlene Lock, Michael Delaney, Maria Wales, Suzanne Acton, Carl Bryan,
for those who died recently: Elsa Robertson, Teresa Gannon, Carlos Pereira, Anne Wilson, Barbara Czaykowska, John Preston, Stefania Browne, William Swords, Mariano De Gregorio, Bridget Rozario, Sedley Gayle, Joseph Cedric Robertson, Margaret Taylor, José Fernandes and Eugene Garcia.
and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Fernanda Holecz, John Doherty, Ellen Heduan, Patrick James Burns, Ann Murphy, Basil Keys, John Langan, Pamela Maher, Nancy Byrne, Maurice Griffin, Michael Buckley, George Hughes, John Daly, Martin Dunning, Armando Luis, Maureen Ahmed, Martin Gannon, Noel Hooper, Harold Wood, Arthur Tremayne, Susanne Hollis, Betty Halpin, Christopher Bennett and Tina Riglia.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES DO YOU HAVE YOUR BOX?

We have endeavoured to distribute boxes of envelopes to those people who we know are still members of the parish and wish to continue to donate using the weekly envelopes.

If you are a parishioner and were in the weekly envelope scheme but have not yet receive your box for 2021-22, please contact the parish office (020 8997 3164) and we will get your box to you.

BAPTISING YOUR CHILD

**The next Baptism Course will be on
Monday 13th September at 7.30pm.**

If you would like to baptise your child and register for this course, please contact the parish office and request a Baptism Registration Form.