

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

Liturgy

2nd Sunday of OT (C)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Ps 65:4

All the earth shall bow down before you,
O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 62:1-5

The Bridegroom rejoices in his bride.

PSALM:

Ps. 95:1-3,7-10.R.v3

**R) Proclaim the wonders of the Lord
among all the peoples.**

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **(R)**

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R)**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. **(R)**

Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R)**

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 12:4-11

*One and the same Spirit, who distributes gifts
to different people just as he chooses.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Cf. Jn 6:63,68
Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life:
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

John 2:1-11

*This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it
was given at Cana in Galilee.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 22:5

**You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that
quenches my thirst.**

GOSPEL REFLECTION



This Gospel of the wedding feast of Cana is a beautiful illustration of the relationship between Jesus and Mary, mother and son. When Mary appeals to Jesus about the shortage of wine he seems to rebuff her rather abruptly: 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not yet come.' But Mary is quite confident that her request will be carried out: 'Do whatever he tells you.' She could have said: 'I don't think he wants to do anything,' but her relationship with Jesus is so strong that she has no doubt that he will save the embarrassment of the hosts. The 'do whatever he tells you' can also

apply to us, but first we have to ask what we would like from him. God knows what is best for us and he also wants to help us reach our goal, which is eternal life. So, if he seems not to grant what we have asked, or even seems to give us something we don't want, our wisest course of action is to do what he tells us. This Gospel should also encourage us to ask Mary's help when praying, so that in some way she can support us in our efforts to build a relationship with her son.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



II. THE HOMILY

Words which set hearts on fire

144. To speak from the heart means that our hearts must not just be on fire, but also enlightened by the fullness of revelation and by the path travelled by God's word in the heart of the Church and our faithful people throughout history. This Christian identity, as the baptismal embrace which the Father gave us when we were little ones, makes us desire, as prodigal children – and favourite children in Mary – yet another embrace, that of the merciful Father who awaits us in glory. Helping our people to feel that they live in the midst of these two embraces is the difficult but beautiful task of one who preaches the Gospel.



Day by Day with St Francis*



THOMAS OF CELANO, THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE DESIRE OF A SOUL

With his heart already completely changed—soon his body was also to be changed—he was walking one day by the church of San Damiano, which was abandoned by everyone and almost in ruins. Led by the Spirit he went in to pray and knelt down devoutly before the crucifix. He was shaken by unusual experiences and discovered that he was different from when he had entered. As soon as he had this feeling, there occurred something unheard of in previous ages: with the lips of the painting, the image of Christ crucified spoke to him. 'Francis,' it said, calling him by name, 'go rebuild My house; as you see, it is all being destroyed.' Francis was more than a little stunned, trembling, and stuttering like a man out of his senses. He prepared himself to obey and pulled himself together to carry out the command. He felt this mysterious change in himself, but he could not describe it. So it is better for us to remain silent about it too. From that time on, compassion for the Crucified was impressed into his holy soul. And we honestly believe the wounds of the sacred Passion were impressed deep in his heart, though not yet on his flesh.

**Excerpts from Day by Day with St Francis: a Franciscan Breviary Published by New City ISBN: 9781905039166
These writings by or about Francis of Assisi are from the time of Francis which means that the language is sometimes rather archaic but it reflects the true spirit of Francis.



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SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 20TH JANUARY 2019

Friday 18th February is the start of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 20th Prayer Service for Christian Unity at St. Mary's Church at 6.30pm

Everybody is welcome

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sunday (Saturday)	5.30pm John & Anne O'Donovan (RIP)
Sunday	9.00am Kesari Khurwal (RIP 3 rd Anniv.)
Monday 21 st January	11.45am St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
Friday 25 th January	11.45am NO MASS
Sunday 27 th January (Saturday)	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5.30pm Joseph Paiva (Ints) 9.00am Rosa Chacko (RIP Anniv.)
Sunday 27 th January	7.00pm Evening Service at St. John Fisher Church (Churches together in Redbourn)

Feast Days This Week: 24th January – St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor
25th January – The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle
26th January – Ss. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

Please remember in you prayers : Sick: Nigel Clark, Ivor Hopla, Judy Atkins, Sofia Mayorga, Una Hewitt Mary Jones, Breda Iommi, Baby David Ruth, Maria Maynard, Liz Mevin and Lucy Swift.

Please remember in your prayers this week in The Churches Together List the Residents of:
Church End, Heybrigg Close, Long Cutt, Hemel Hempstead Road, South Common, Gertrude Peake Place, Becks Close, Cleveland Road. Grange Close, Manse Court, Roe End Lane, William Street, Gill Hill, Pie Corner and Vicarage Gardens.

Coffee Morning Rotas for 2019 are available at the back of the Church. We need some more volunteers. Please add you name to the list. This in a once the month community gathering.

Parish Breakfast Morning. Again this for raising funds for the building of a water well through CAFOD. The previous one was extremely successful. The next one is scheduled for 10th March. Tickets will be available in the coming weeks.

Church Cleaning Rota for 2019 in on the notice board in the porch. Please sign your name against one of the free months. Ideally two parishioners are required each month and you can do the cleaning at a time to suit yourself.

Kitchen area on Parish Room. Two pictures are on the notice board giving an idea of the redevelopment of the kitchen area. We are reminded that the money to pay for this is our parish money from the Giving in Faith project. Please do look at the pictures and the letter which gives details of the ongoing work in the Church. Any comments can be written on the back of the letter, copies of which are on the table in the porch.

Children's Liturgy: The Children's liturgy classes on Sunday are currently running with just three volunteers. We would love at least three more volunteers to explore the Word of God. Its not at all difficult, no previous experience is required, and with more people, we can ensure that all our children benefit. Please let Fr. Michael if you can help. We are also looking for people to have CRB clearance. We should always have two CRB clearance volunteers in the classes. Therefore one CRB cleared person could be present but not necessarily active with the children. This would greatly help the volunteers. This CRB clearance is the very basic one. Please speak to Vicky Carr if you can help.