

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

Liturgy

3rd Sunday of OT (C)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Cf. Ps 95:1,6

**O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.**

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10

Ezra read from the law of God and the people understood what was read.

PSALM: Ps. 18:8-10,15.R,In 6:63

**R) Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R)**

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **(R)**

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **(R)**

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! **(R)**

SECOND READING:

I Corinthians 12:12-30

*You together are Christ's body; but each of you
is a different part of it.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Lk 4:18
**The Lord has sent me to bring the good
news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

This text is being fulfilled today.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 33:6

**Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION



It is a shame that more Christians don't get involved in politics. Why? Because Jesus himself was a revolutionary politician. He came to change the world. More political and revolutionary than that you can't get. In today's Gospel he reads his manifesto in that quotation from Isaiah: '... He sent me to bring good news to the poor...to set the downtrodden free...'. Isn't that what every socialist politician wants to do? The difference however is that Jesus' method of 'doing politics' is not through aggression and violence - it is through loving to the point of giving his life. This is why so many of the Jewish people in Palestine at the time of Jesus just could not understand that their long-awaited Messiah was not a great military leader who had come to rid them of their Roman overlords. Jesus wanted to change the

world by changing people's hearts, and any form of hatred, even for one's enemies was completely contrary to his teaching. It is easy to see why in countries where there is or was extreme oppression and injustice the so-called 'theology of liberation' was embraced. But the Church was very keen to make clear the dangers of mixing Marxist ideology with the teaching of Jesus. When communism finally crumbled all over Europe, it wasn't through violence. Many saw it as the influence of Pope John Paul II. Through him, God was able to bring about something which no armed uprising had been able to do.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



CHAPTER FOUR *The Social Dimension Of Evangelization*

176 - 178. To evangelize is to make the kingdom of God present in our world. ... At the very heart of the Gospel is life in community and engagement with others. The content of the first proclamation has an immediate moral implication centred on charity.

To believe in a Father who loves all men and women with an infinite love means realizing that "he thereby confers upon them an infinite dignity".¹⁴¹ To believe that the Son of God assumed our human flesh means that each human person has been taken up into the very heart of God. To believe that Jesus shed his blood for us removes any doubt about the boundless love which ennobles each human being.

¹⁴¹ John Paul II, Message to the Handicapped, Angelus (16 November 1980): Insegnamenti, 3/2 (1980), 1232.

Day by Day with St Francis*

THE LITTLE FLOWERS OF SAINT FRANCIS

At the beginning of the religion, Saint Francis had gathered in a place with his brothers to speak of Christ. In fervour of spirit he commanded one of them in the name of God to open his mouth and speak of God as the Holy Spirit inspired him. As the brother fulfilled the command, speaking wonderfully of God, Saint Francis imposed silence on him, and commanded a similar thing of another brother. As he obeyed and spoke subtly of God, Saint Francis similarly imposed silence on him; and commanded the third one to speak of God. He similarly began to speak so profoundly of the secret things of God that Saint Francis knew for certain that he, like the other two, spoke by the Holy Spirit. And this was shown by an example and a clear sign, since while they were speaking, the blessed Christ appeared in their midst in the appearance and form of a very handsome young man, who blessed them all, filling them with such grace and sweetness that all were rapt out of themselves, lying as if dead, feeling nothing of this world. Then, as they returned to themselves, Saint Francis said to them, 'My dearest brothers, give thanks to God who has willed to reveal the treasures of divine wisdom through the mouths of the simple, since God is the one who opens the mouth of the mute, and makes the tongues of the simple speak very wisely.'

**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.



ST. JOHN FISHER, REDBOURN with FLAMSTEAD AND MARKYATE.

PARISH PRIEST: Father Michael Mannion Telephone 01582 792270

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 27TH JANUARY 2019

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sunday (Saturday)	5.30pm Joseph Paiva (Ints.)
Sunday	9.00am Rosa Chacko (RIP Anniv.)
	7.00pm Evening Prayer Service (Taize) Redbourn Churches Together Praying Together
Monday 28 th January	11.45am St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor Maisie Sheridan (Ints.)
Friday 1 st February	11.45am feria
Sunday 3 rd February (Saturday)	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5.30pm Seale Family (Ints.) 9.00am John Loftus (RIP Anniv.)

Feast Days This Week: 2nd February – The Presentation of the Lord

Please remember in your 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:
Chequer Lane, Lamb Lane, Snatchup, West Common, Monks Close, Tingey's Close, Blacksmith's Row, Cornerwood, Green Lane, New Stable, Roman Way, Windmill Road, Green Lane, Pie Garden and White Hill (Trowley Bottom)

Coffee Morning Rotas for 2019 are available at the back of the Church. We need some more volunteers. Please add your name to the list. This is a once a 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 is 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.

Bishop Paul McAleenan will be visiting the two parishes over the weekend of 23rd/24th February.

Admission to Nursery – Academic Year 2019-20 = ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Applications for entry to St Dominic Nursery Academic Year 2019-20 will open on **Monday 4 February 2019** and close at **3.30pm on Monday 4 March 2019**. The school will offer 30 places in the Nursery and, by working with *Friends Together* (our Breakfast and Afterschool provider) in the afternoon, we will be able to offer parents access to 30 hours free childcare, should it be required.

Nursery morning sessions will run daily from 8.45 - 11.45am. The school then offers a Lunch Club which parents of all Nursery children will have the option to use, at a small cost.