Our Faith on Sunday

LITURGY

6th Sunday in OT (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 30: 3-4

**Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

FIRST READING: Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

PSALM: Ps 118:1-2.4-5.17-18.33-34. R.v1

R) They are happy who follow God's law!

They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **(R)**

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. **(R)**

Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. **(R)**

Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **(R)**

SECOND READING:

I Corinthians 2:6-10

God predestined wisdom to be for our glory before the ages began.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! 1 Sam 3:9; Jn 6:68
**Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:17-37

**You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors;
but I say this to you.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Cf. Ps 77: 29-30

**They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.**

VOCATION

PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE:

Lord God you call many of us
to be husbands and wives, parents,
and children, in youth and old age,
in sickness and in health.
You call us to love and holiness.
Help us be a living image of you,
and bring life to the world.
Amen.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



In his preaching Jesus has assured his listeners many times, but particularly on the eve of his Passion, speaking at the Last Supper with his disciples, that God his Father loves his human creatures very much; that they are precious children to him, more valued than "many sparrows" even though "not one sparrow falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge". So precious are his children that, in spite of their original rebellion – or perhaps because of it - and in spite the years of rebellion and stubbornness that have followed, God the Father has been gently drawing his children, by means of the commandments, back to a way of life suited to their happiness and flourishing. "What father does not discipline his children?" St. Paul asks; discipline them for their adult self-control and happiness? In today's Gospel passage, Jesus speaks strongly and decisively on matters of human behaviour; he speaks from his heart as Son of the Father. He describes the discipline of earthly happiness that will in its turn lead to Heavenly happiness.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



III. THE COMMON GOOD AND PEACE IN SOCIETY

TIME IS GREATER THAN SPACE

224. Sometimes I wonder if there are people in today's world who are really concerned about generating processes of people-building, as opposed to obtaining immediate results which yield easy, quick short-term political gains, but do not enhance human fullness. History will perhaps judge the latter with the criterion set forth by Romano Guardini: "The only measure for properly evaluating an age is to ask to what extent it fosters the development and attainment of a full and authentically meaningful human existence, in accordance with the peculiar character and the capacities of that age".[182]

182 Das Ende der Neuzeit, Würzburg, 1965, 30-31.

The Sacrament of the Present Moment*

GOD IN THE SOUL AND THE SOUL IN GOD

There are two ways of journeying belonging to two different times in our lives. There is a time when we live in God. And there is a time when God lives in us.

When we live in God we must explore carefully every means that will lead to Divine union. God remains beside us as Guide and Friend, and we must follow the paths laid out for us by attentive reading, and evaluating our lives and ideas.

But when God lives in us there are no longer any clear plans or marked paths. We become like a child who can be led anywhere and sees only what is pointed out. Often we are left in darkness, with no support other than God.

No matter how we feel, at this point we can only wait in hope, calm and untroubled, until God takes over and fulfils all our desires. We may seem useless, but that is not the case.

People like this are so surrendered to God that nothing can disturb them, least of all what others may think.

*Jean Pierre de Caussade's Self-Abandonment to Divine Providence for everyone by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard and published by New City ISBN: 978-1-905039-11-1

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THE GOD WHO SPEAKS. A YEAR OF THE WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 16TH FEBRUARY 2020

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sunday (Saturday)	5.30pm	Suzy S Intentions
Sunday	9.00am	Deceased Memembers of Carr Family
Monday 17th February	11.45am	feria - Intentions
Friday 21st February	11.45 am	feria
Sunday 23rd February		**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**
(Saturday)	5.30pm	
Sunday	9.00am	

Confessions are available after Saturday evening Mass and on request.

Feast Days This Week; 21st February – St. Peter Damian, Bishop
22nd February – The Chair Of St. Peter The Apostle

Please remember in your prayers: Sick; Nigel Clark, Judy Atkins, Sofia Mayorga, Una Hewitt, Mary Jones, David Ruth, Maria Maynard, Liz Mevin and Diane Boba.

Please remember in you prayers this week in The Churches Together List the residents of:
Stephen's Way, St. Matthew's Care Home, Crouch Hall Gardens, Fish Street Farm, Shepher'd Row, Bettespol Meadows, Caddington Hall, Cowper Road, Hicks Road, Old Vicarage Gardens, Sharose Court, Chapel Road, Holtsmere End and Puddephat's Lane.

St. Albans Abbey Gateway Orchestra will be performing a charity concert at St. John Fisher Church, Redbourn, on Saturday 28th March at 7.30pm. Tickets, adults £10 and children under 16 £5, are available after all Masses.

Coffee Morning Rota for 2020. This is a once a month community gathering.
We need more volunteers, especially for July & August.
Please add your name to the list on the table at the back of the Church.

World Day of Prayer takes place on 6th March at 11.00am at the Methodist Church.
This year the service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe.

The Churches Together In Redbourn
Sunday evening services during February.
16th February 6.30pm St Mary's Church
23rd February 7.00pm St. John Fisher

Throughout the year 2020, the Catholic's Bishop Conference of England and Wales will be celebrating a Year of the Word called ***The God who Speaks.*** This special year marks not only the 10th anniversary of Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation *Verbum Domini,* The Word of the Lord, but also the 1600th anniversary of the death of St. Jerome, known for translating the Bible into Latin, the Vulgate.

The retiring collection today is from last week's celebration of Racial Justice Sunday