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Parish Secretary: Sharon O' Toole

The Parish Office is open:

Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm

Wed 9:30am - 12:30pm

Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

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### Mass this Sunday: Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020

#### Today's Readings

*Isaiah 5:1-7* Israel is pictured as a well-tended vineyard that has only produced sour grapes.

*Philippians 4:6-9* Paul urges the community to fill their minds with all that is good and true so that the peace of God may be with them.

*Matthew 21:33-43* Jesus uses the parable of the vineyard to warn the Jewish leaders of their failures in leadership.

#### Mass This Week

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00am

10:30am

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm

St Bruno

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> 9:15am

Our Lady of The Rosary

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> 9:15am

Weekday

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> 9:15am

St John Henry Newman

#### Intention

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

The Holy Father's Charities

For Our Parishioners

In Thanksgiving (JO)

Churches Together in Royston and District

Health Care Workers

John Henry Newman School

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** by appointment only

**The Sanctuary Lamp** burns for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

**We hope to have the Church open for private prayer** for one hour after the morning weekday masses (9:45am-10:45am, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and for Exposition from 5:30pm on Saturday (on the presumption there are sufficient volunteer stewards -last week we did not have enough volunteers and could only open for one morning)

**Keeping Covid Secure** As the year has turned we will need to close the front doors of Church during mass – this will keep out the cold and wet but reduce our ventilation which makes it even more important we assiduously keep to the other mitigations in place:

- use the hand sanitiser provided, on entering the church.
  - wear a face covering, over nose and mouth, all the time whilst in Church
  - Follow the one way system for entering and leaving the Church
  - We continue to operate a 'track and trace' system, so if you wish to attend a weekend Mass, ensure you book in beforehand at <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/events/>
- NB Volunteers will also need to book in through this system.

- **Do not come to church if you are feeling unwell.**

**Second Collection** This weekend, there will be a second collection for Peter's Pence (normally the Sunday nearest 29th July)

**The Parish Office** is open. However, please do not visit in person. Should you wish to contact the parish office, it must be done by telephone or email only. If you have items for inclusion in the newsletter please make sure that they are in by Tuesday night.

**Last Week's Offertory** Many thanks for all your generosity. We are still advised against receiving cash or cheques. Please, if you can, give electronically via your bank or

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/donate/> We have installed contactless giving in the Sacristy.

**Volunteers** Thank you to all who have helped keep things going. If you can help at this time when we need everyone to pull together please do volunteer. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H4qwiorMMd7z9kM7SICs1RbNWwitBs4epVfMWNCNX8/edit?usp=sharing>

### **CAFOD Family Fast Day – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

We remember the impact of the pandemic on our brothers and sisters worldwide. This year's appeal focuses on Asal, a mother from Afghanistan whose husband died from Coronavirus. Your generosity will help fund CAFOD's local self-help group, providing Asal with the skills to start her own small poultry farm business and feed her five children. We encourage you to donate directly to [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give), as we will not have a second collection in Church. Please keep those in the world's poorest countries - hardest hit by the pandemic – in your prayers this harvest season. You can also give easily via text. Text CAFOD to 70085 to donate £10.

**Sacramental Preparation 2021** Over the next few weeks we shall be collecting names and contact details for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA next year. Please can the forms be returned by October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**The Year of the Word** This special year of celebration of Holy Scripture has been extended. It began on the feast of St Jerome (30<sup>th</sup> September 2019) and will now continue until the Sunday of the Word of God (Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January [3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time])

**RCIA.** The sacraments of initiation will be celebrated at **10:30am on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October.** Please keep Ashley, Toby and their sponsors in your prayers

**Confirmation Preparation Team** There will be a preliminary video conference for the catechist team to plan our Confirmation preparation at 7pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88031524953?pwd=cVIBUDVBMnVORkduTFBYbjJHZ0RrZz09>

If you are willing to be part of the Team do please let Fr Philip know and come to this meeting. Some of those who have previously been part of our confirmation preparation team I know are not able to do so for this rotation. If you can help please let Fr Philip know as soon as possible. New blood is always welcome!

**School Transfer** Several Catholic schools ask practising Catholics to provide *A Certificate of Catholic Practice*. If you are eligible for this and would request such evidence of your practice, please see Fr Philip after any Sunday Mass to arrange an interview.

**According to Thy Word** The Autumn Faith Sharing booklet has arrived. When we asked how many copies to order six people expressed an interest in it but we have ordered and received ten copies (£3 each). Following on our spring Parish Book Club I would suggest we have a video conference weekly meeting of about 90 minutes. I would propose 7pm to 8:30pm on a Wednesday evening. If this isn't convenient then we can find another time – or indeed have more than one group. Please let Fr Philip know ([philipknights@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:philipknights@rcdow.org.uk)) if you wish to be part of this and if the proposed timing works for you.

### **October is the month of the Holy Rosary and the month of mission.**

A beautiful way of holding these together is the mission rosary. The five colours of the mission rosary represent the different regions of the world for which we can offer our prayer (*OK the illustration would look better if we had a colour printer!*): Green - for the forests and grasslands of Africa (green is also a sacred colour for the Muslims); Red - calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas (US, Canada, Latin America and Native Americans); White - symbolizing Europe, the home of the Holy Father; Blue - for the ocean surrounding the Islands of the Pacific (Australia/Oceania); Yellow - symbolizing the morning light of the East and 'beginning of civilization' for Asia/ Middle East.

The MARYKNOLL Missionaries Have also developed a set of 'mission mysteries' we may meditate upon: The visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1); Jesus talks with the Samaritan woman (John 4:23); Jesus cures the centurion's servant (Luke 7:9); The conversion of Paul (Acts 9:20); and Jesus sends out His disciples (Luke 9:6).

