



Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord in Old Town, Stevenage

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Sixth Sunday Ord. Time A, *Divine Office week 2*

16th February 2014

"The Law of Christ"

- 15th Sat No Mass in the morning**
18.00: People of the Parish
- 16th Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**
Jimmy Morgant+
- 17th Mon No mass**
- 18th Tues Feria of Ordinary Time**
09.30: Aloisia Leitner+
- 19th Wed Feria of Ordinary Time**
09.30: Sr. Joan Smythe Intention
- 20th Thu Feria of Ordinary Time**
09.30: Priest's Intention
- 21st Fri St Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor**
09.30: Priest's Intention
- 22nd Sat No Mass in the morning**
18.00: People of the Parish
- 23rd Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time (A)**
11:00: Kathleen & Tom Power+



Education Sunday

Pope Benedict on his visit to England in 2010 took time to directly address the young people of our communities in his 'Big Assembly'. He eloquently summed up the distinctive mission of Catholic schools when he set us the challenge that a good Catholic school "should help all its students to become saints." Inspired by this Education Sunday provides us with a rich opportunity to reflect upon what this means for us in our Parish. Across Stevenage we are very fortunate to have such a thriving Catholic community of schools serving young people from nursery through to preparation for university. Each school and college has its own distinctive identity but is united in the shared ethos of nurturing the young people of our parish to grow in their holiness. Catholic schools should recognise that their Christian life is one of service – caring and supporting each other, within and beyond school, as we grow in holiness. Our role is to work in partnership with families and the parish to help in the faith formation of our young people. At the heart of our work is the understanding that we are all created in Christ's image thus we have the responsibility to strive for excellence in all that we do. We are confident and secure in God's love, enabled to nurture the special gifts and talents that our Lord has bestowed upon us. In society today the role of young people can be much maligned with negative expectations and assumptions made of them. As we celebrate Education Sunday those who work in Catholic schools ask for your prayers and ongoing support in fulfilling that mission to help our young people to grow in their faith, confident in God's love to make the right choices and be the best that they can be as living saints. To conclude with the words of Pope John Paul II when he addressed school pupils on his visit in 1982, they are indeed the "youth of today and hope of tomorrow".

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat at 5.15pm – 5.45pm

Rosary: Every day before morning Mass

Divine Mercy: Every Friday morning after Mass

Sunday Readings: Year A

Weekday Readings: 6th Week of Year 2

Holy Father's Prayer intention for February: GENERAL

INTENTION: That the Church and society may respect the wisdom and experience of older people.

MISSION INTENTION: That priests, religious, and lay people may work together with generosity for evangelization.

Sunday Readings: Year A Weekday Readings:

6th Week Ordinary Time

Today's Sunday	Ecc15:16-20 1Co2:6-10 Mt5:17-37
Monday	Jas1:1-11 Mk8:11-13
Tuesday	Jas1:12-18 Mk8:14-21
Wednesday	Jas1:19-27 Mk8:22-26
Thursday	Jas2:1-9 Mk8:27-33
Friday	Jas2:14-24,26 Mk8:34-9:1
Saturday	1P5:1-4 Mt16:13-19
Next Sunday	Lv19:1-2,17-18 1Co3:16-23 Mt5:38-48

Children's Liturgy: This Sunday at 11.00 Mass

Preparing for your Baby's baptism: Course date 8th March. Please take a form, complete part 1, and return to the presbytery no later than Monday 3rd March.

First Holy Communion Class: Saturday 1st March at 9.30am in the church.

Please pray for all parishioners who are sick:

Avril Bruce, Kathy Dickenson, Cathryn Marioni
Hazel Kegg, Monica Brown, Marisa Jackson.

Sacristans:

Saturday 15th Nancy Donovan

Sunday 16th Nicole Watts

Cleaning Rota: Mrs Smithers

Linen for February: Emma & Stephen Hogan

Second collection: This Sunday is for Catholic Education Service.

Forthcoming Dates:

First Holy Communion 14th & 21st June

Confirmation 22nd June

Ash Wednesday 5th March

PPC Meeting: Thursday 13th March

"Seven days without prayer makes one weak."

Allen E. Vartlett

There will be a Mass of welcome for the Cardinal designate, Vincent Nichols, when he returns from the Consistory and this will be at 5.30pm on Friday, 28 February, Westminster Cathedral.

Growing in Faith We estimate that we will raise about £2000 per year over the next five years for the Parish to spend on a Pastoral project. This weekend we are distributing short questionnaires to obtain the Parish's views and ideas on what that project should be. Please fill it in and return to the "Growing in Faith" box over the next few weeks. Remember that "no idea is a bad idea"!!!

Irish Network Stevenage are holding their next monthly social event on Wednesday 19th February at the new time of 1.00pm until 3.00pm at Bedwell Community Centre. This will be the last opportunity to buy tickets for the St Patrick's Day Lunch. Their social events are always great fun, with dancing and a raffle and guests are provided with tea and biscuits. Everyone is welcome and entry is only £1.50 for members and £2.50 for non members. If you would like more information please contact Elaine Connolly on 01438 725400.

Car parking! We are again receiving complaints from residence of Grove Road that parishioners are blocking their driveways when parking their cars. Can parishioners who park their cars on Grove Road be considerate of our neighbours and not block their driveways.

Archbishop's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral Saturday 7th June 2014 at 3:00pm

The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60 years) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2014. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please write a letter to Fr Michael with the following details: husband and wife's name, wedding date, full postal address and email address (or telephone number, if no email). Letters should arrive no later than Sunday 2nd March 2014.

Fair Trade Fortnight The Diocese celebrates Fair Trade fortnight starting on February 24th .The main Diocesan celebration will be held at Holy Apostles Church, Cumberland St., Pimlico SW14LY on Saturday March 1st commencing at 2.00pm. If anyone wishes to attend further details can be obtained from our Fair Trade representative Michael Downing.

"There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God."

Brother Lawrence

The St. Vincent de Paul Society needs more volunteers: Visiting & Befriending

Visiting those in need and sitting side by side with them remains the core work of the Society. Regular visiting based on trust and friendship is what gives the SVP its unique character.

"The knowledge of social well-being and of reform can be learned not from books, nor from the public platform, but in climbing the stairs to the poor person's garret, sitting by their bedside, feeling the same cold that pierces them, sharing the secrets of their lonely hearts and troubled minds." **Blessed Frederic Ozanam - the Society's Founder**
Please contact Mark on 01438 743960 if you would like to help!

Last Week's Offertory Collection

Last Sunday's collection was Envelopes £526.79, Loose £231.35 S/O £521.50 Many thanks for your generosity.

Recently Deceased: We pray for those who have died, particularly for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in peace!*