

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



Parish Priest of THE COMBINED STEVENAGE PARISHES: **Fr Michael Doherty, SDS**,
Resident at St Hilda's, Shephall. Tel: 01438 352182
Fr Brian McMahon Resident at St Joseph's, Bedwell Tel: 351243 Mobile: 0753 476 4940
Church of the Transfiguration, Grove Road, Old Town.
Postal Address: 4, Basils Road, Stevenage, SG1 3PX Phone: 01438 226857
Email: stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk

Web address: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stevenagetransfiguration>
Lister Hospital: The Catholic Chaplain can be contacted on 01438 285138
(24/7 urgent need 01438 314333) via text message 0788 418 7463
Archbishop's Safeguarding Service Co-ordinator: Confidential phone numbers:
01582 712245 or 07814 879129
Parish Safeguarding Representative: John Sloan 01438 226857 / 0790 013 8371 and
email address john@sloan.me.uk.

15TH AND 16TH SUNDAYS OF THE YEAR

Divine Psalter: Week 3/Week 4
14th and 21st July 2019

PLEASE NOTE THIS NEWSLETTER COVERS TWO WEEKENDS

- 13th Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
5.00: Mass
- 14th Sunday:** 15th Sunday of the Year
9.00: Mass
- 15th Monday:** feria
9.30: Mass
- 17th Wednesday:** feria
9.30: Service of the Word
- 19th Friday:** feria
9.30: Service of the Word
- 20th Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
4.30-4.45: Mass
- 21st Sunday:** 16th Sunday of the Year
9.00: Mass
- 22nd Monday:** feria
9.30: Mass
1.00pm Funeral Mass for Jane Earl RIP
- 24th Wednesday:** feria
9.30: Service of the Word
- 26th Friday:** feria
9.30: Mass
- 27th Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
4.30-4.45: Confessions
5.00: Mass
- 28th Sunday:** 16th Sunday of the Year
9.00: Mass

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Sunday Reading Cycle: Year C

Weekday Readings: 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Week of Year 1  
15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the Year  
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Fr Brian writes...

BACKGROUND TO THE GOSPEL READING. Luke 10:25-37 *The parable of the Good Samaritan*
Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. After the attack in the story, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. He is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbour. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbour in this parable. For Jesus, a neighbour is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER THIS FRIDAY!

I wish all our children and young people a happy and fun-filled summer holiday! I pray that it will be a well-earned rest for them. I know that parents will continue to take their children to Mass every Sunday, because they love Jesus and are thankful to Him for what He has done for us. If you are away on holiday the first thing you'll want to know is where you can get to Mass on Sunday. This website is a good help, though you may want to contact the church just to confirm its advertised Mass times: <https://masstimes.org/>

Parish Secretary in the office next week

Tuesday 8:45-11.30am, Wednesday 10:00am-1:00pm & Friday 8:45am-2:00pm

If your enquiry is urgent please email the Secretary stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk (email accessed daily)

SACRISTANS:-

Saturday 20th : Mary Smithers & Philiphia Paulus
Sunday 21st : Stephanie Elliott
Cleaning Rota : Lisette Humphrism Bessie Dias,
Evita Fajardo & Emilio
Please see Cleaning Instructions on cleaning cupboard door
Linen for July : Colleen Paine

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL

There will be a **FAREWELL CELEBRATION for Fr Brian Sunday 4th August** following the 12:15pm Mass at St Joseph's, Bedwell. This celebration will be shared by all 3 parishes. **Everyone most welcome.**

JANE EARL RIP

The Funeral for Jane Earl takes place on Monday 22nd July at 1.00pm followed by burial at Weston Road. May she rest in eternal peace.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SAVIO LUIS ON RECEIVING STEVENAGE SPORTING FUTURES' TEAM 'CAN'T DO SPORT WITHOUT' AWARD

St Margaret Clitherow School nominated Savio for this annual award, he was among 4 finalists that were shortlisted and invited to attend the Awards Evening this week. This award is for that person who, if they weren't involved, sport wouldn't happen. Here is just some of what St Margaret Clitherow said:

"Savio Luis is a Governor at our school. He is also our league winning football coach. Last year, Savio volunteered to run our boys' football club. Savio had no previous experience of coaching or working with children, he gets to know each of the boys and finds ways of drawing out their characters to ensure they could be the best that they could be! This year, Savio wanted to do even more for the children and has started to coach a new girls' football team as well as the boys. This is all as a volunteer! Savio is an inspiring, motivating and humble coach. There isn't anything he wouldn't do for the team and the school."

NO PRAYER GROUP IN JULY

HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION 2020

Registration forms are now available from the Grove Road Porch. Please note the closing date!

SCHOOL GOVERNORS NEEDED AT ST VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL, BEDWELL

The School are seeking new School Governors. Please take an information letter from the bookshelf.

ASCENT GROUP

Meetings resume in September.
A dinner will be arranged before September.

FIRST FILIPINO MASS

On Friday 26th July we will have our first time Filipino Mass celebrated by Fr Alex Poblador (from Southend) at 8:00pm in St Joseph's Church, Bedwell. We will also celebrate the Feast St Joaquim and St Anne. Let us gather once again to be unified as one whole family and share lots of fun through our bring and share yummy foods after the Mass. **All welcome.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AND MASS REGISTRATION

Children's Liturgy for children from Reception to Year 6. All children from **Pre-School Age to Year 6** should sign in for Mass. **The sign-in sheets can be found on top of the organ.**

It is **IMPORTANT** that you write your child's name on the sheet each time you attend Mass with your child. **Please only sign if your child is with you at Mass.**

A big thank you to Caroline Cowen and her assistants for running the Children's Liturgy. Caroline will be stepping down at the end of July. If you would like to volunteer to lead the Children's Liturgy at the 9:00am Mass from September, please email the Parish Office stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

On Saturday 21st September. Details to follow.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY

Evangelisation: That those who administer justice may work with integrity, and that the injustice which prevails in the world may not have the last word.

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S:

Wednesday 7:00pm, Thursday & Friday 9:15am
(No 9:15am Mass on Thursday 18th July)

NO WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST HILDA'S NEXT WEEK

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST HILDA'S W/C 22ND JULY

Monday & Tuesday 9.30am, Thursday 8:00pm