

Sunday 17th September 2023

24th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A

Weekday Readings
Week 24 year 1

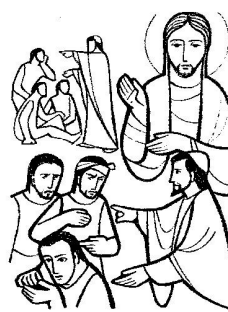
Divine Office
Week 24 psalms week 4

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
<http://www.sdc.me.uk>
[sundayliturgy/](http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/)

THIS WEEK

Sun 17 Sept 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	24th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Michael Fahey RIP Dee Kelly Loader RIP Mystica Fernandes (5th Birthday Ints.) John McHugh RIP (7th anniv.) THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 18 Sept 9.30am	feria Anne Douglas RIP
Tues 19 Sept 9.30am 11.00am	feria Anthony Manuelpillai RIP FUNERAL MASS Margaret Horne RIP
Weds 20 Sept 9.30am	S. Andrew Kim Taegon & Comps. Andrew Rozario RIP
Thurs 21 Sept 9.30am	S. MATTHEW Maria Aurora Colaco RIP
Fri 22 Sept 9.30am 11.00am	feria Joseph Haugh RIP FUNERAL MASS Ema Fernandes RIP
Sat 23 Sept 9.30am	S. Plus of Pletrelcina (Padre Pio) Kathleen McEroy RIP
Sun 24 Sept 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	25th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Linda & Terence Brown RIP Andrew Rozario RIP Watts & Ledo families RIP Norah O'Toole RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS



Today's parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people.

When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways.

First Reading: *Isalah 55:6-9*

God's ways are far beyond the ways of human beings.

Second Reading: *Phillipians 1:20c-24,27a*

St Paul tells the Philipians to live for Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 20:1-16*

In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Keep close to the Catholic Church at all times, for the Church alone can give you true peace, since she alone possesses Jesus, the true Prince of Peace, in the Blessed Sacrament"

St. Padre Pio

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

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GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*

DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.

ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, SMR, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, Aaran Thayaparan, Jocelyn Almeida, John, Rowland Watts, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Jean Lurshay, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Chris Sweeney, Marjorie Horeau, Catherine Corcoran, Barbara Gill.*

RECENTLY BAPTISED:

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Margaret Horne, Bridget Sullivan, Michael Mulvee, Luiza Maria Souza*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: *Jim McHugh (7th), Michael Fahey*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

Mary—Private Intentions

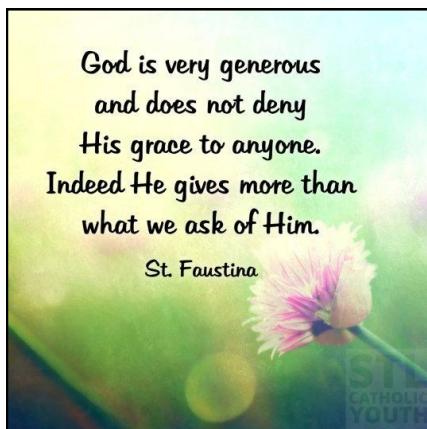
LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Birthday thanksgiving, Ruby Deveza

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for September 2023

For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant raises the frightening prospect that pardon already granted by God could be revoked. The king who forgave his servant his debt meant it. But when the servant went out and failed to forgive his fellow servant, the king revoked the pardon. By his action the servant had shown that he did not appreciate and therefore was unworthy of the pardon he had been given. Is this a good analogy of how God deals with us? That actually seems to be the point of the parable. **"So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart"** (Matthew 18:35). In other words, when God gives us His word of forgiveness, everything is not over yet. The deal is finally concluded only when we are able to go out and forgive those who sin against us. The free grace of God's forgiveness needs our response of forgiving our neighbour to be finally ratified. Isn't that a frightening thought? **"Forgive your neighbours the wrong they have done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray"** (Sirach 28:2).

Why do we find it hard to forgive others even though that is the only way to anchor God's forgiveness? I think the reason is because we fail to appreciate and celebrate our own forgiveness. Like the ungrateful servant in the parable, we focus on the 100 denarii our neighbour owes us rather than the 10,000 talents we owe to God, which God has graciously cancelled.

Let us think about this in proportion. A denarius is a labourer's daily wage. So his fellow servant owed him 100 days pay, which could be paid back in a couple of months. But this same servant owed his master 10,000 talents. A talent was equal to 6,000 denarii. So he owed his master the equivalent of 60,000,000 denarii. For a labourer working 5 days a week, 48 weeks a year, it would take 250,000 years to raise that kind of money. This astronomical figure shows that the servant owed his master so much that there was absolutely no way he could ever hope to repay that. This is symbolic of the debt each of us owes God through our sin and failure; a debt we could never ever hope to repay even if we spent out whole life in sackcloth and ashes. Not even the combined penitence of all humankind suffices to blot out a single sin. But God in his infinite mercy sent his own Son to die on the cross and take away our sins. And all He asks of us is to be grateful; to realise that He has done for us so much more than we could ever be required to do for our neighbour.

If we find ourselves in the club of those who find it so hard to forgive other people, chances are that we have not come to appreciate and celebrate sufficiently the immeasurable forgiveness that we ourselves have received from God. So, let us pray today for a deeper appreciation of the amazing love that God has shown us in Christ. It is this awareness that will make it easier for us to let others off the hook for their relatively minor offences against us.

NEWS UPDATE



WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 6th OCTOBER around 10.00am (after the morning Mass). This has always been an enjoyable and successful event, so lets keep it so. In order to do this we need contributions of raffle prizes, cakes, scones, jams, chutneys— anything that would be appropriate. Also we could do stalls with bric a brac, books etc. **CAN YOU HELP? I am sure you can!!**

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church (underneath the picture of Pope Francis).

FUNERAL MASS of Margaret Horne on Tuesday 19th September at 11.00am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Ema Fernandes on Friday 22nd September at 11.00am followed by burial in Pinner New Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Michael Mulvee on Friday 29th September at 11.00am followed burial at St Mary's Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Lulza Maria Souza—date still to be confirmed. May she rest in peace.

Fr. MIKE continues his annual break for the rest of this week We wish him rest and refreshment. Please be patient if you are waiting to hear from him, especially about baptism. He will certainly get in touch on his return.

THIS SUNDAY after Mass -SVP: St George's St Vincent De Paul Society is a Charity made up of Volunteers who support those in need in the parish. We are helping many people at the moment and we want to raise funds so we will be selling Bacon or Fried Egg Butties after all the Morning Masses Our volunteers will also be around to explain what we do and to see if you would like to join us.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023-24 - Thank you to all those Parents/Carers who joined us for the FHC Enrolment Evening with the correct documentation & enrolled successfully on our Programme last week. Parents/Carers, whose children are enrolled on the Programme, are reminded that this coming week's session, 'Handling on our Faith' is for **Parents/Carers only**. Thank you for making **childcare arrangements** in good time and for arriving prompt-

ly. Enrolment on this year's Programme is now closed.

CONFIRMATION 2024 - Those in Year 10 & above, who are registered & regularly attend Mass at this Parish will be welcome to attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer in the Parish Centre on **Monday 8th January at 7.30pm** when registration documents will be provided to those wishing to be confirmed. Please note that a copy of one's **Baptism Certificate** (and a translation if it is not in English) is also required for registration.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH Thank you, as always, to our excellent group that arranges flowers so beautifully. If you want to help with the flower arranging (please see Margaret) or purchase some flowers in memory of a loved one on a special day there are envelopes at the back of church.

GOOD NEWS. During the summer the car park was resurfaced—a long overdue project. We managed to save enough for this as it was not cheap! Now we have a great car park can we be generous on a Sunday with the limited spaces and try and make sure they go to our elderly and disabled.

MORE GOOD NEWS.. Do you remember our rather successful Advent Fair last Year? We hope, incidentally to have another one this year (more news of that in the Autumn). We have now with the help of a Charity—London Hearts—been able to purchase two defibrillators, one for the church and the other for the parish centre. Lets hope we don't have to use them but if we do we hope they will keep you alive and safe if they are needed. **UPDATE the defibrillators have arrived and will be installed this week.**

MORE PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE. We have to do a bit of work on the church roof where some tiles have become dislodged and also on the flat roof where the offices are situated. And also over the café/bar All overdue maintenance! A more complex work are the windows of the presbytery which have probably not been attended to since it was built in 1927. During the summer one window fell out! Another project in the pipeline is a new confessional for the church. This will be modelled with the architectural features of the church in mind and will be placed exactly where the old one used to exist before it was removed. It will have all mod-cons (kneeling/sitting, hard of hearing headphones, covid/flu secure, and above all safety for everyone and proper anonymity)

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY In 2024 the trip is now full and thank you to all who have put down deposits. If anyone would like to be considered on a "waiting list" please do let Mgr. Jeremy know.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY HELPERS AT 9.45 FAMILY MASS - We are seeking new volunteers to help the younger children (4-7yr) reflect on Sunday's Gospel during Mass in a fun, creative & simple way. If you might consider helping once every six weeks, joining an established group of experienced Cate-

chists, please contact Una Moran una@bfmconsult.co.uk. Thank you.

OVER 60'S GROUP: The next meeting at 1pm on Tuesday 19th September. All welcome!

WE NEED YOUR HELP for Welcomers (6.15pm Vigil Mass, 9.45am and 5.30pm) and Collectors (6.15pm and 5.30pm). If you could help, please let us know.

CHILDRENS LITURGY on Sunday at the 9.45am recommences this weekend.

MUSIC at the 9.45am Mass and the 11.15am resume this weekend. Could you help with the singing or even playing a musical instrument at 9.45am

ROSARY AT HOME If you'd like to be part of our prayer network, or know more please simply contact Cheryl on 07941002161 .

CHURCH LAMPS: If you would like to sponsor the blessed sacrament lamp or the lamp by the altar of Our Lady of Walsingham with a particular intention, the cost is £10 for the week - Please see Toni in the Parish Office.

THE FRIENDS OF JESUS Programme takes place during Term-Times on Fridays from 5.30-6.30pm providing a little Religious Education to children of primary-school age who are not attending a Catholic school and have not yet received their First Holy Communion. If you would like further information, or are keen for your child to attend this Programme from September onwards, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

A DAY WITH MARY has been booked for St George's. On Saturday 21 October. Again more details nearer the time

GRANTS TO HELP WITH ENERGY DEBTS: Possible help from a charitable trust plus lines to other advice providers at <https://fuelpoverty.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 19-27 NOVEMBER: The annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land will take place from Sunday 19th Nov to Monday 27th Nov, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. You can book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666 or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage office 0207 798 9173 It will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights will be from Heathrow. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, £682 single room supplement; travel insurance essential.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS/EVENINGS for Year 7 (First Form pupils): Gunnersbury Catholic School, Sacred Heart Language College, Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School - please visit their websites for further information.

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: *Cf. Sir 36: 18*

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Collect

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.
If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?
Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill
will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the of-
fence.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps. 102(103):1-4,9-12*

*R/. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.*

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. *R/.*
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. *R/.*
3. His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. *R/.*
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. *R/.*

Second reading: Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Allelula, allelula!

*Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.*

Allelula!

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings,
that what each has offered to the honour of your name
may serve the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Prayer after Communion

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us. Through Christ our Lord.