

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

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13th JUNE 2021 ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



After all the months of delays, our fourth group of children received Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday—next week is the final group. These children were due to make their First Holy Communion this time last year, so it has been a long wait for them! Please pray for them and their families, that now they have received this gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time, they may come back often to receive it again, and to celebrate being more and more part of the Body of Jesus, which is the Church, here in our Parish!

THE WORD THIS WEEK



How does a tree grow? The scientists can give us their answers, but the miracle of life on our earth, in all its dazzling complexity and variety is exactly that - a mira-

cle. God is re-sponsible for the miracle of Nature and growth - how, we don't know, but we accept God's guiding hand as a fact of our faith. This mysterious growth in Nature is used as a parable today, for the life of the Church and the Kingdom of God. Just as a seed, planted and watered, turns by miraculous pro-cesses into something different and bigger and beautiful, so the seed of the Gospel will grow into something else, by some means we can never fully understand. And that is the grace of God, encouraging, prompting and helping all men and women of good will to swell the coming Kingdom of our God.

STAY WITH US, LORD, ON OUR JOURNEY!



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NEWS AND NOTES

CLIMATE SUNDAY

Bishop John has asked that all parishes in our Diocese observe Climate Sunday this weekend: this is in response to Pope Francis's repeated calls for care for creation to be a key part of our Catholic identity, and a priority as we walk as disciples of the Lord. Here is some food for thought from the teachings of recent Popes:

Saint John Paul II in 1990: "When the ecological crisis is set within the broader context of the search for peace within society, we can understand better the importance of giving attention to what the earth and its atmosphere are telling us: namely, that there is an order in the universe which must be respected, and that **the human person, endowed with the capability of choosing freely, has a grave responsibility to preserve this order for the well-being of future generations.** I wish to repeat that the ecological crisis is a moral issue."

Pope Benedict XVI in 2009: "The way humanity treats the environment influences the way it treats itself, and vice versa. This invites contemporary society to a serious review of its life-style, which, in many parts of the world, is prone to hedonism and consumerism, regardless of their harmful consequences. (...) The Church has a responsibility towards creation and she must assert this responsibility in the public sphere. In so doing, she must defend not only earth, water and air as gifts of creation that belong to everyone. She must above all protect mankind from self-destruction." Pope Francis in 2015: "It must be said that some committed and prayerful Christians, with the excuse of realism and pragmatism, tend to ridicule expressions of concern for the environment. Others are passive; they choose not to change their habits and thus become inconsistent. So what they all need is an "ecological conversion", whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them. Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience."

THE SAINT JOSEPH PROJECT

Our appeal for donations towards our new statue of Saint Joseph is now open: you will find envelopes^{*} at the back of Church for donations, on which you can also write the name of anyone to be included in the Memorial Book that will accompany the new statue: anyone, living or deceased, can be remembered, if they have been a significant part of this "Year of Coronavirus": those we have lost, those who have mourned, those who have helped us. We give thanks for the sacrifices and efforts of so many, praying for our children, and so many other intentions

COVID-SECURE RESTRICTIONS

- Please be aware that there is currently NO obligation to take part in Mass on Sundays or Holydays.
- If you are in any of the "vulnerable" groups you are still encouraged not to come to Church.
- Numbers in Church are strictly limited by social distancing measures to 60 persons (or more if in groups to a maximum of 50% capacity) - and stewards will control seating and movement; two metres distance is still required between groups; once the Church is full no extra persons are allowed inside.
- Face masks or coverings are to be worn in Church.
- Anyone showing symptoms must not attend Church.
- You must still follow all Covid-secure restrictions in Church even after being vaccinated (e.g. wearing face coverings)
- Please be aware that we cannot use our heating and doors must be left open, so Church can get quite cold!

that Saint Joseph seems to fit so well! Your envelopes with donations great or small can be posted through the Presbytery letterbox, or placed in the Sunday collection box (cheques should be made to "St Vincent's Norden") Please note that you do not have to make a donation to have a name included! Just write it on the envelopes and hand it in.

EMERGING FROM LOCKDOWN

While we still wait for any decisions or news about possible changes later this month everything is still staying "as is" for now. One thing I can announce is that from Tuesday 22nd June our timetable will be returning to "normal" (if you can remember that!) Weekday Mass will be at 9.30 a.m. Tuesday—Friday (*Please note that for the time being there will be no 12.00 noon Saturday Mass.*), and Sunday Masses will return to 6.30 p.m. Saturday and 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. on Sundays. What we are doing about confessions, refreshments and other things will be announced when we know!

VOLUNTEERING AT WARDLEY

The Diocese welcomes long or short-term volunteers at the Laudato Si' Project at Wardley Hall: if you fancy helping out with the gardens, environmental projects or even the bees, have a look at this article and see if you could be a volunteer: <u>https://tinyurl.com/y6on8dyh</u>

CARITAS REFUGEE WEEK WEBINAR

Caritas, with support from Social, is pleased to be hosting their next webinar: *Towards An Ever Wider "We"* on Tuesday 15th June, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, during this year's International Refugee Week. The webinar takes its title from the published theme chosen by Pope Francis in advance of the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees on Sunday 26

*This Newsletter uses "tiny urls" for website addresses: a "tiny url" is an abbreviated address consisting of eight letter and digits. Sometimes web addresses are huge long things, and difficult to type into a phone or PC, so a "tiny" address is much easier! Simply type **https://tinyurl.com/** followed by the eight letters and digits into the bar at the top of your browser and you should find the relevant site.

September. Responding to the undignified and often unjust process which refugees and asylum seekers currently face from the time of their arrival in the UK, Caritas invites you to be part of a facilitated panel event on the current realities and our practical response. The webinar will include a presentation about how the social teaching of the Catholic Church can lead us to advocate for a future of justice and peace, accelerating the process of working Towards An Ever Wider "We", envisioned by Pope Francis. Caritas hopes that this webinar will form part of an ongoing dialogue and encourage dynamic collaboration and solidarity, to significantly improve the experience of those who come to the UK seeking to continue their lives in sanctuary and ensuring that no one is left behind.

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS THROUGH MARK

As we return to Ordinary Time after Pentecost, the Department for Formation is pleased to offer four online evenings on the Gospel according to Mark. For full details please visit **https://tinyurl.com/dbp7w2dt**

NEXT WEEK'S GOSPEL

Mark 4:35-41

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat: and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea. 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

IN OUR PRAYERS ...

REQUESTS FOR MASSES AND PRAYERS

Recently Baptised: Sam Daniel Thompson. Recently Deceased: Mary Ellis, Jim Corcoran, Paula McNeice, Ernest Harrop. Anniversaries: Mary Lavelle. Other: Sheridan Farrell, Halle Grace Barker.

NATIONAL CYCLE OF PRAYER

During Ordinary Time (Summer) we are asked to pray for these intentions: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION (June)

Social Friendship: We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

We pray for the parishioners of Saint James the Less, Rawtenstall, and for Canon Anthony McBride, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for All Saints High School. May they plant seeds of faith within people's hearts and allow the faith within their own hearts to grow.

Eleventh Week of Ordinary Time (Year I) Monday 14th June The Dedication of the Cathedral **Tuesday 15th June** Weekday MASS 10.00 a.m. Church opens at 9.30 a.m. Wednesday 16th June Saint Richard of Chichester, Bishop 10.00 a.m. Church opens at 9.30 a.m. MASS **1.00 p.m.** Funeral MASS of Mary Ellis (family and invited guests only) Thursday 17th June Weekday 10.00 a.m. Church opens at 9.30 a.m. MASS Friday 18th June Weekdav 10.00 a.m. Church opens at 9.30 a.m. MASS Saturday 19th June Saint Romuald, Abbot 5.30 p.m. Church opens at 5.00 p.m. MASS Sunday 20th June TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) **9.30 a.m.** Church opens at 9.00 a.m. MASS 11:00 a.m. Church opens at 10.30 a.m. MASS

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY GOSPEL WORDSEARCH

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