



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

14th November 2020

33rd Sunday of Year A

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Mass Times

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| Sunday (streamed) | 10.00 |
| Monday | 07:30 |
| Tuesday | 07:30 |
| Wednesday | 09.00 |
| Thursday | 07:30 |
| Friday | 09.00 |
| Saturday vigil | 18.00 |



Mass Intentions

Mon 16: Alan Philpot RIP
Sun 22: Deceased Members and relatives of Catenians

Homily Notes

The two servants who were praised by the master both knew what he wanted of them. They knew the master and they loved him. We can see that in the way they lived and acted in his absence. They took the talents he had given them and worked with them, invested them, so that they would increase. When the master returned, they were able to show him how their work had enriched him. It was as if it were a joy for them to do well for the master and to show their respect for him. They were rewarded accordingly.

The third however, acted out of fear. He did not trust the master. He was frightened of him. He did not seek to do well by him, but only thought of his own skin and how to stay out of trouble. So, he buried the talents in the sand and waited his return. He was like a disciple who does not really trust in God. This disciple does not really love God or believe in God's love but is fearful of God. There is the God of the pagans, the God whom one must fear and obey out of fear. His is the God who holds society together through fear and blind obedience. One who believes in such a god is not open to the risk of freedom. He will just do everything in the same way as it has always been in the knowledge that this pleases his god and all will be well. So, when the master returns and asks this disciple to account for his actions, he can show nothing. He has made little or no progress in his life; he simply buried his talent and waited the master's return.

God's love does not induce fear. God's love gives freedom and allows us to take risks, assured of God's love and forgiveness, assured that God, even in his absence, is always with us and never leaves us.

Terry

DIWALI

As you probably know from the News services, this weekend Hindus and others

are celebrating Diwali. It is good to know what the celebrations of other believers are about and so we include the following explanation taken from the **Daily Telegraph**.

"Diwali, a five-day festival of lights, celebrates a number of themes, including joy, forgiveness, knowledge, the goddess of wealth, Lakshmi, and the legend of Rama and Sita. Put simply, the festival represents the triumph of good over evil."

Hindus, Sikhs and Jains both in India and across the world usually take part by decorating houses and public spaces with thousands of lights, candles and colourful designs. As well as the bright colours and glittering lights, there's music, dancing, delicious food and a cresting wave of community feeling."

This year however, with the advent of Covid-19, Diwali celebrations will look somewhat different. Though some parts of the festival will still be possible – the ritual of cleaning and decorating your home, dressing up and creating light displays – the more social aspects will be impacted by distancing rules".

This is a major festival for our Hindu Brothers and Sisters, and we wish them well. The branch of the Vatican responsible for interreligious relations sent a message to the Hindu Communities and Cardinal Michael summarises it here:

"Dear Hindu Friends,

The Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue offers its warmest greetings and best wishes to you on the occasion of Deepavali, which you are observing this year on 14 November. Amid the difficulties of the Covid-19 pandemic, may this very meaningful feast dispel every cloud of fear, anxiety and worry, and fill your hearts and minds with the light of friendship, generosity and solidarity!" ...

"An encouragement to be optimistic may well sound unrealistic to those who have lost their loved ones or livelihoods or both. Even the boldest hope and positivity can dissipate in the tragic situations caused by the present pandemic and its grave effects on daily life, the economy, healthcare, education and religious practices. Yet it is precisely trust in God's providence that inspires us to remain optimistic and to work to rekindle hope in the midst of our societies." ...

(continued overleaf)

Parish Notice Board

Lottery Results

The winning numbers for
8th November are:
03 05 60 07 11 14

Though the church is closed for public worship, the parish lottery will continue. You can send your contributions to the parish bank account or put them through the letter box of the parish house.

BINGO-RAFFLE

During the summer months a parishioner organised a raffle with her Bingo Group. The resulting profit was £150 and she kindly gave this to the parish. We thank all involved for this generous and profitable initiative. *FVC*

Christmas Church Celebrations

Though we have not yet started the period of Advent, during the Parish Council meeting we have been thinking already about Christmas. The celebration of the Eucharist on **Christmas Eve will be at 7 pm and on Christmas Day at 10 am.** Because of the restrictions and the capacity of the church, we will have to implement a **ticketing system**, by which people will have access to the celebrations. In next week's newsletter we will explain better how this will function. *FVC*

Councillors' Christmas Parties

The councillors' parties will not be possible this year due to Covid. But they and the **Florrie**, between the **14th and 18th December**, will cook and deliver 1000 three-course Christmas dinners with all the trimmings and a few extra doorstep surprises to our older and isolated Riverside residents. 🌸🌟 **If you know of any parishioner who would benefit from this, please inform Fr. Ferdinand THIS WEEK.** 🌟🌸

Church Open for Personal Prayer: Friday 11.00 – 13.00

Though churches are closed during this lockdown for communal worship, they can be opened for personal prayer and support for those in need. During the Zoom meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday, it was decided to open the church during the lockdown for personal prayer on Fridays, 11am until 1pm. All are Welcome. *FVC*

Diwali (cont)

“Experiences of suffering and a sense of responsibility for one another have brought our communities together in solidarity and concern, in acts of kindness and compassion for the suffering and those in need. Such signs of solidarity have led us to appreciate more deeply the importance of coexistence, the fact that we belong to one another and that we need one another for the well-being of all and that of our common home. ...

Our respective religious traditions teach us to remain positive and hopeful even amid adversity. In cherishing those religious traditions and teachings, may we strive in the midst of this global crisis to spread what Pope Francis delights in calling "the contagion of hope" (Urbi et Orbi Message, 12 April 2020) through gestures of care, affection, kindness, gentleness and compassion which are more contagious than the coronavirus itself.”

Offerings for 8th November 2020

Envelopes £39.00
Plate £81.00
Candles £10.00

Pastoral Associate Update:

Taking time to be still gives us all an opportunity to experience closeness to those who are not with us this year. Another opportunity to be still is on Sat 21 Nov and join in an hour of **Worldwide Adoration Prayer** for each other from home as part of the preparations for the **International Eucharistic Congress** in Budapest in Sept 2021. Details on our website. The preparations for our **Pastoral Area Advent Service**, which will be available on YouTube on Sun 20 Dec at 4pm, are really taking shape: thank you to all who have helped so far - it's not too late to join in. I need some readers (not visible) so do drop me an email h.jones@rcaol.org.uk or text **07449 633977**.

CAFOD in Liverpool South are getting us active and although the normal annual 5km is not possible this time, keep an eye on our website for the alternative plan – we can all join in!

Do check out the Synod proposals www.synod2020.co.uk if you haven't already done so and let your Synod member know which ones you are drawn to – they need your input now more than ever! And finally – Cardinal Michael will be sharing advent reflections linked to **Fratelli Tutti** during a time of prayer on Mondays at 7pm. Details on our and the J&P website.

On Facebook this week: *‘Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me. “Be still” they say. You are the result of the love of thousands’* Keep safe and we keep praying for one another, God Bless, *Helen*

Prayer Intentions

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Judy BLOWER, Percy COLE, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Ryan EDWARDS, Tony EDWARDS, Joan FORD, Ronnie & Joan HART, Molly McEVOY, Kathleen McGOVERN, May MURRAY, John OSBALDESTON, Danny POWER, Ava RUDZINSKI, Kelly SHEPHERD.

Also for the intentions of: Anne BAXTER, Joan BAXTER, Catherine BOWLES, Lilly FLANNERY, Beverly HARPER, Joan HART, Frances KERWIN, Madeleine McCANN & Family, MIDGHALL Family, Joey MORGAN, Prudence MULENGA, Ann NEEDHAM, Carole & Billy RUDKIN, Joseph SAVAGE, SCOTT Family, Teresa SWIFT, Terri VALIANT, Michael WALSH, WILLIAMS Family, Jess, Adam, Jack and Isla (FB)

And for those who have died: Jimmy BLOWER, Margaret CAVE, Betty HASAN, Joe PERRY, James BOYLE (1st Anniversary)