

Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

16th January 2021

2nd Sunday Year B

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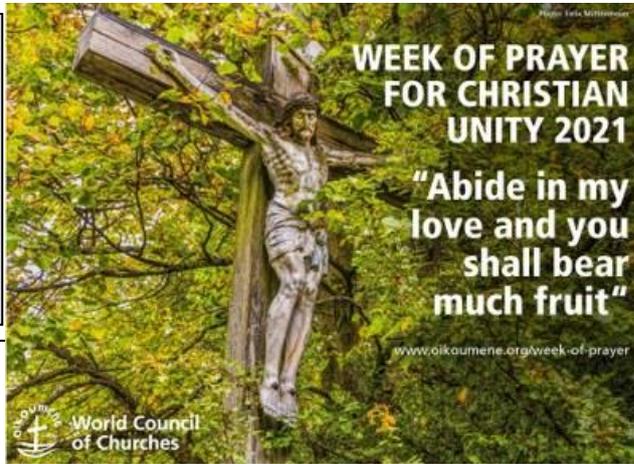
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FB: Vincent De Paul Church

Web: www.stvincentsparish.org.uk

Mass Times

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



Mass Intentions

- Sat 16: Cole Family
- Sun 17: Parishioners
- Mon 18: Sick Parishioners
- Tue 19: Parish Special Intention
- Wed 20: Owen & Elizabeth M^cEvoy
- Thu 21: Parishioners
- Fri 22: John & Margaret O’Gorman
- Sat 23: Church Workers
- Sun 24: Eileen Lyons

Homily Notes

We are a people who are disturbed by persistent seeking. Samuel and the two disciples represent our experience. They are portrayed as seekers. In the Gospel the question of Jesus that stands out; *What do you want? or what do you seek?* is a simple but a profound question. It helps us in focusing on what we give our lives to, for it is what we seek that drives our daily lives. It is a question that our conscience may hear repeatedly, and one which we are to answer many times.

From the readings we are reminded of the importance of being seekers as well as the importance of relationships with others in our search.

It is important that our conscience is awakened to *seek*. For God speaks to us through what we desire and seek. As we start the Week of Christian Unity, we remember that many are deeply seeking for that Unity. Being a Peace Sunday, we are reminded that there are many whose conscience is disturbed by the devastations of oppression and wars, and who consequently seek peace. We remember as well that in the context of COVID-19, as we seek for physical remedies, many people have been awakened to seek for spiritual understanding of their lives in the world. There are many other things that we desire and seek.

We depend on a web of relationships to find what we seek. In the first reading, Samuel whose sleep is repeatedly disturbed by unknown voice that calls him, learns through Eli, that it is the voice of God. The two disciples come to know Jesus as the Lamb of God (and to follow Him) through John the Baptist. Simon comes to know and to follow Jesus as the Messiah through Andrew. This could bring to our memories many people who have been helpful to us in our various searches.

As it was for Samuel, and for the two disciples, we as Christians primarily seek to know, love, and serve God.

Charles

Christian Unity

“I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.”

These are among the last words of Jesus with his disciples, according to the Gospel of John. It was not long afterwards that the first signs of division appeared among them as St Paul tells the disciples of Corinth to stop their bickering: *“When one of you says, “I am a follower of Paul,” and another says, “I follow Apollos,” aren’t you acting just like people of the world?”*

Aren’t we all followers of Christ? Aren’t we all baptised in the same Holy Spirit and the same water? For sure, our human, imperfect nature draws us together into different groups and clans, of all kinds; families, football, schools and colleges, workplaces and churches... Often, we don’t choose but blindly follow our heritage into one group or the other. We need such groups for our survival and security. This can pertain to our faith too and the temptation is to apply the same rules to our church adherence.

But Christ calls us to a church which teaches us a new way of belonging and loving. Christ calls us to a love that surpasses the love called *eros* and that called *philia*. He calls us to a love that goes beyond the self, to a universal love that forgives as God forgives, forgets as God forgets, gives as God gives on the cross for All. This love is called *Agape* and it is only in God that it can be found.

With Pope Francis, let us pray:

God our Father, You love each of your children and you don’t stop taking care of them and looking out for their good; help me to be the image and the example of this love of yours. May I find in each person a brother or sister and truly love them. Welcoming them despite any differences we may have, respecting them in their dignity, regardless of their origin or faith.

I pray that in the hearts of all your children, the seed of human fraternity is cultivated, to build your kingdom together on this earth. Amen

Terry

Parish Notice Board

Lottery Results

The winning numbers for
9th January are:
02 03 04 09 13 14

Angela Everett, who leads the lottery team, wishes to inform participants of the Lottery that during the pandemic the lottery is drawn by the priests on Sunday. The results are published in the newsletter the following Saturday. Anyone who wishes to know the winning number in advance can call her on 07710 394635 or email angeverett1957@yahoo.com

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Friday 11.00 – 13.00

Sacrament of Reconciliation

is available during this time and 17h00 - 17h30 on Saturday (in St. Joseph's Chapel).

The funeral service of **Brian Coyne**,

lately of Star Street, who died on the 5th January 2021, aged 82yrs, will take place in this church on Friday 22nd January at 9h45am, with Corona Virus restrictions.

Our sympathy goes to his Family.

May he rest in peace.

SUSPENSION OF MASS WITH A CONGREGATION

*It is with regret that the Parish Council took the decision on Thursday evening to **discontinue the celebration of Mass** in the church on **Saturday and Sunday** for the enduring lockdown period. We hope that you will all understand the need to avoid spreading further this new variant of the virus.*

Mass will continue to be celebrated on weekdays, at the published times, when less people come to the church and peoples' safety is, hopefully, better assured.

Sunday Morning Mass will still be streamed at 10am on Facebook

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

During this special week of prayer for unity among all Christian Churches we at St. Vinnie's want to play our part.

Each day, we will publish on our Facebook Page, a suggestion of prayer in which you can all join. There will be a Gospel reading and a short meditation, followed by a prayer. You might like to take about 15 minutes at some point in the day to participate in the prayer.

A fuller version of this prayer, published by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, will be available on the website.

Next Sunday, the Sunday in the Octave, the Reverend Louis Johnson, an Anglican priest who is part of the St. Luke in the City Parish Team, will give the homily at the streamed 10am Mass. You will surely be interested to hear what he has to say!

Let each of us do what we can to promote healing and reconciliation around us!

M *The Foodbank continues to operate* 
I *every Tuesday. The Volunteers wish to*
C *thank the parish members who have so*
A *generously continued their donations in*
H *toiletries and foodstuff. God bless you all!*

Offerings on 3rd January

Envelopes £48.00

Plate £117.90

December Gift Aid: £395.00

Other Gifts banked: £170.00

Many Thanks to YOU ALL

Pastoral Associate Update:

I am noticing signs of spring as I go on my walks now and vaccinations are moving apace – my 89-year-old mother had hers in the big Epsom centre this week and said it was so well organised and is full of gratitude and admiration to the NHS, as we all are! Hope is in the air...



We begin our “**Echoes of God**” series on Monday – it’s not “heavy” and will see us through this lockdown (we hope) and beyond: register on the website.

As a Pastoral Area we are combining our Justice & Peace resources in organising a Modern-Day Slavery Zoom with input from Sr Imelda Poole (see the Tablet article 5/9/2020) on Tuesday 9 February – St Josephine Bakhita’s feast day. This touches us all in some way and would be great to have the support of the Liverpool South parishioners in becoming more aware or what we **can** do to help combat this.

Any ideas for a Pastoral Area Lent/Easter project appreciated. “Once you choose hope, anything is possible” from Christopher Reeve (former superman actor).

God Bless - stay safe, stay well -

Helen

www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Lesley ANDERS, Judy BLOWER, Catherine BOWLES, Colin BOWLES, Vera CARTLEDGE, Gill DAVIES, Tony EDWARDS, Jean ENNIS, Joan FORD, Danny KELLY, Maureen MAGUIRE, Molly M^cEVOY, Kathleen M^cGOVERN, Tracey M^cLEAN, Alfie MONTGOMERY, May MURRAY, Danny POWER, Ava RUDZINSKI, Kelly SHEPHERD, Cathy SILKER

Also, for the intentions of: Joe ANDERSON, Anne & Joan BAXTER, Gill DAVIES, Lilly FLANNERY, Germaine, Beverly HARPER, Madeleine M^cCANN & Family, M^cGOVERN Family, MIDGHALL Family, Joey MORGAN, Carole & Billy RUDKIN, SCOTT Family, Teresa SWIFT, Terri VALIANT, WILLIAMS Family

And for those who have died: Craig DIXON, Chris DONNELLY, Connie JONES, Teresa LEAHY (1st anniversary)