

Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

3rd January 2021

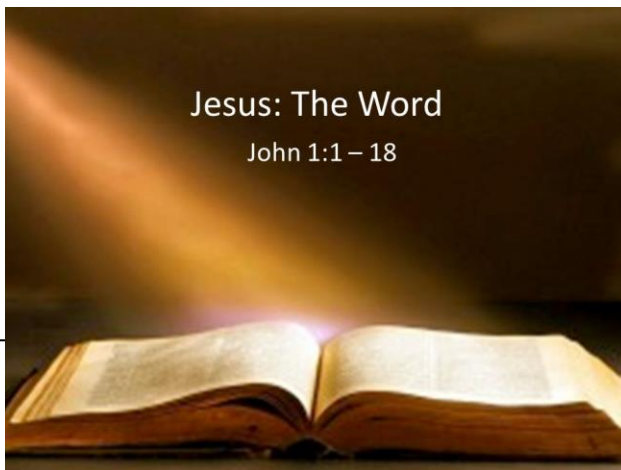
Happy New Year

2nd Sunday of Christmas

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Mass Times

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



Jesus: The Word

John 1:1 – 18

Mass Intentions

- Sat 02: Christmas Flower List
- Sun 03: Parishioners
- Mon 04: John & Margaret O’Gorman
- Tue 05: Ivy Jones
- Wed 06: Mary Thompson
- Thu 07: Eamon Doyle RIP
- Fri 08: Violet & Thomas Galvin
- Sat 09: Frank Hastie
- Sun 10: Joseph & Shelly Glanville

Homily Notes

Today, we are not going to stand simply and listen to the Gospel. I invite you all to sit and meditate this most wonderful text. We call this gospel text the Prologue of St. John. It comes right at the beginning of the fourth gospel, that of St. John, and it has a special place in Christian thought and prayer; in Christian Theology. Those of us old enough to remember the old Latin Mass will remember that this gospel was read at the end of every Mass.

It is such a beautiful piece of writing, such a beautiful exposé of Christian faith, that I would rather we sit and listen in a meditative way. So, there will be no homily today, just a quiet and peaceful reading of the gospel with moments of silence after each section, so that we can all concentrate on what we hear and listen to the Word of God as she enters our minds and our hearts. God speaks to us. Let us listen.

There is a wonderful verse – but the whole thing is truly wonderful – in the middle of the reading which tells us: *“But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.”* It is a reminder to us that at our baptism we are all reborn in the Holy Spirit. This birth is not a physical birth, but a spiritual one. By our belief in Christ, we become someone, other than who we were before baptism. For most of us, we do not remember our baptism, so we do not remember what it is to be baptised. But for many who receive baptism later in life, this rebirth is a real emotional and physical reality. They know what it is to be reborn in Christ Jesus. If only we could all go through the same experience! Let us ask God to help us truly accept his presence in our lives and we will be changed!!!

Terry

A CULTURE OF CARE AS A PATH TO PEACE

Pope Francis wrote a three-page letter to all People of Good Will on the 1st of January 2021, World Day of Prayer for Peace. Here, Fr. Michael gives us a brief presentation of the letter.

Pope Francis remembers the carers of the sick in 2020. *In paying tribute to them, I renew my appeal to political leaders and the private sector to spare no effort to ensure access to Covid-19 vaccines and to the essential technologies needed to care for the sick, the poor and those who are most vulnerable.*

God the Creator is the source of our human vocation to care. *Genuine care for our own lives and our relationship with nature is inseparable from fraternity, justice and faithfulness to others.*

The example of Jesus: *In his compassion, Christ drew near to the sick in body and spirit, and brought them healing; he pardoned sinners and gave them new life.*

Following Jesus demands a culture of care, the promotion of the dignity and rights of each person, care for the common good, for the entire human family, both for the present and for coming generations. Care implies solidarity and also the protection of creation. Recalling *Laudato Si’* Pope Francis proposes its teachings as a *compass* pointing to a *common direction*. He exclaims: *How many resources are spent on weaponry, especially nuclear weapons that could be used for more significant priorities such as ensuring the safety of individuals, the promotion of peace and integral human development, the fight against poverty, and the provision of health care.*

Finally Pope Francis underlines the need of educating for a culture of care. This education begins in the family. Schools and universities and the communications media, religions
(Continued overleaf, middle column)

Parish Notice Board

Lottery Results

The winning numbers for
27th December are:
04 06 09 10 11 13

The funeral of
CRAIG DIXON,
lately of Duncan Street,
who died on the
18th December 2020, aged
45 years, will take place in
this church on
Wednesday 6th January at
11am,
Our sympathy goes to his
Family.
May he rest in peace.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Wednesday 6th January is the
Feast of the Epiphany and is
a Holy Day of Obligation, to
be treated, as far as possible,
as a Sunday.
Mass is at 09h00

SCHOOL MASS

Please Note that the St.
Vincent de Paul Primary
School children will come for
their monthly Mass on
Friday 8th this week.
Mass will be at 9.30am,
replacing the 9am Mass.

HAPPY 🧡
New 🌸
Year
2021

St. Vincent de Paul Church
Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament:
Friday 11.00 – 13.00

(Continued from front page)

in general, and religious leaders in particular, have a part to play. He concludes that there can be no peace without a culture of care.

In his message on 1 January the Pope said:
This year, while we hope for new beginnings and new cures, let us not neglect care. Together with a vaccine for our bodies, we need a vaccine for our hearts. That vaccine is care. This will be a good year if we take care of others, as Our Lady does with us.

Fr. Michael

1st January: World Day of Peace

The 1st of January is, for Christian Churches, World Peace Day, when we are invited to pray for peace. The Parish J&P Group composed this prayer for the event.

Let us pray for peace in our world.

Lord you promised "Blessed are the peacemakers, they shall be called children of God"

Send your spirit into the hearts of all men and women, especially our world leaders, to inspire us all to be peacemakers in your world, which is torn by war and injustice.

Help us to live peacefully - in our hearts, our homes and the world around us, so that your peace, which passes all understanding, can heal the roots of war and division.

May the Lord uncover His face to us and bring us peace.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Offerings for Christmas 2020

Envelopes £132.00, 25th / £51.00 Sun
Plate £322.26, 25th / £77.15 Sun

Many thanks for your contributions to the purchase of FLOWERS, which were £270.00. Mass for your intentions today, Saturday 2nd Jan.

APOLOGIES

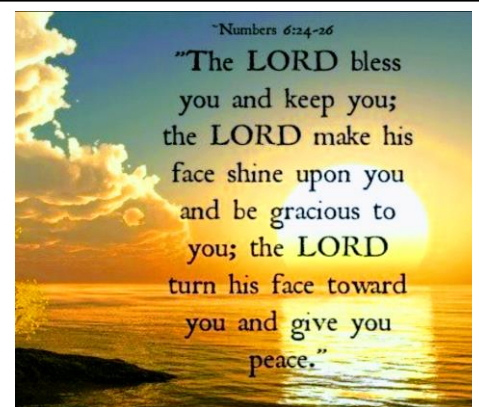
The Editor of the Newsletter apologises for the typing error last week, where it was indicated that the envelope offering was £3956.00! **If only!!**

It was, of course, **£39.56.** 😊



Cafod Christmas Fun Walk

£72.30 was the amount donated to the above intrepid walkers for the 10km walk around Sefton Park last Sunday. Thank you to all who donated. God bless you!



PRAYER INTENTIONS

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Lesley ANDERS, Judy BLOWER, Catherine BOWLES, James CARR, Maureen COOK, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Ray FIGUEROA, Joan FORD, Lisa HEALEY, Stella HUGHES, Darren KELLY, Kathleen McGOVERN, Tracey McCLEAN, May MURRAY, Teresa NALL, Danny POWER, Ava RUDZINSKI, Kelly SHEPHERD, Cathy SILKER, Geoff STABLER

Also for the intentions of: Joe ANDERSON, Anne & Joan BAXTER, Ryan EDWARDS, Lilly FLANNERY, Germaine, Beverly HARPER, Madeleine McCANN & Family, MIDGHALL Family, Mike RICHARDS, Cathie ROSE, Carole & Billy DUDKIN, SCOTT Family, STABLER Family, STABRAWA Family, Teresa SWIFT, Susan TAYLOR, Terri VALIANT, WILLIAMS Family

And for those who have died: Khalil Jones BAIDOE & Craig DIXON for whom we have been praying, Rodney DAY