



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

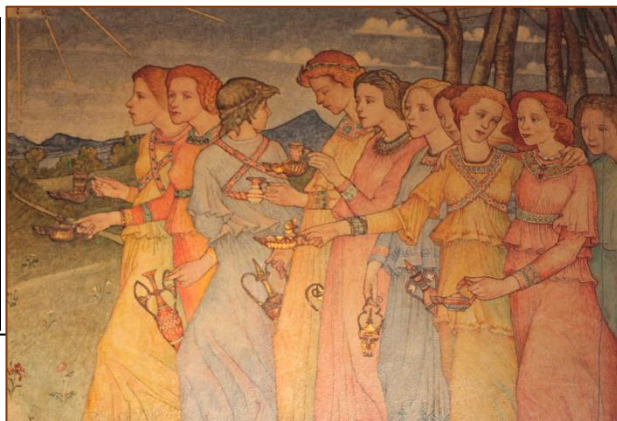
Newsletter

7th November 2020

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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



Mass Intentions

Sun 8: Barbara Hyland.
The Faithful Departed.
*There is no open Mass this week. The priests will, however, celebrate the Eucharist for the intention of the parishioners each morning. We can also receive **private intentions** for those who wish.*

Homily Thoughts

In today's parable Jesus is reminding us that this world is not permanent; one day it is going to come to an end. The thing is that we don't know when this will happen. We have to wait for this time to come. Jesus tells us not to wait passively, not to go to sleep, but to keep awake and be active, to be prepared.

For each one of us our life in this world will come to an end, but we don't know when. Today some people live until a hundred, while others die young. Many people are dying of COVID-19, consequently we try to avoid contracting the disease, and try to avoid transmitting it. This is what "staying awake" means for us at the moment.

At least partly. What is going to happen when we die? We don't really know. We do know that we shall meet Jesus and that we are going to be judged by him. How? Jesus tells us how. He will say: "I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome." Surprised by this we may ask him: "When did this happen?" And he will say: "In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did it to me." So to prepare ourselves to meet Jesus, we should be concerned and caring towards our brothers and sisters.

This is perhaps what is meant by keeping our lamps lit, but for this we need oil. This is the love in our hearts allowing us to be attentive and considerate, kind and caring to our brothers and sisters who are in need. But the oil may run out. We have to replenish our love. Where does this love come from? From God, our Father, from Jesus the Son of God, from the Spirit of Love poured into our hearts. We need to pause and ask God to fill us with his Love.

Michael

Covid Reflections

Returning from my month of monastic relaxation in Ireland on Thursday evening, as we were driving out of the Queensway Tunnel onto the Strand, I was shocked to come across the crowds of revellers massed on the streets, on their way to the Pier Head. Was it really for a passing fireworks display?

This was the first day of the one-month lockdown the Government has "imposed" on us. What were these revellers thinking of: or not thinking? There was no social distancing and I saw very few faces protected by masks in the few moments we were stopped to let them pass over the road. "How could this be?", I thought. "Are they not aware of the dangers both to themselves and to their loved ones?"

We are told that Liverpool's hospitals have the highest occupancy of ICU Covid beds in the country. Riverside is the ward with the highest number of cases in Merseyside. It is surely right that we take the necessary measures to restrict the spread of this disease. We cannot think only of our own short-term inconvenience or the minor sacrifice of an evening of fun. We have also to think of those to whom we will turn to demand care and treatment when we fall ill. Do they, and all those who have to keep working for our service and well-being, not also have the right to safety and security of health?

Today's individualism and the culture of "my rights first" are apparent in the reaction of those who resist the restrictions called for in the effort to control the pandemic. "I'm alright and I demand my rights" is a reaction inspired only by selfishness. The Gospel calls us to consider the other's needs and to give way to the other's rights. This pandemic calls us to work for the common good, to forget our own needs and to cross the road to take care of the stranger fallen victim to the virus.

Our church is closed again. Once more we have the time and opportunity to pray at home. I would invite you to obtain a copy of Pope Francis's new work, *Fratelli Tutti*, to read it closely and allow its message, the message of the Gospel, to sink into your heart.

Terry

Parish Notice Board

Lottery Results

The winning numbers for 1st November are:
01 06 07 10 12 13

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.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

All the tickets for the raffle were sold within a short period of time. Thank you for the £120 raised for the parish. Almost all the winners received their prizes. Those not yet claimed are:
Fuzzy Duck Bath Set: 316-320
Black Handbag: 381-385
Black Handbag: 391-395
Brown Handbag: 851-855
Jerusalem Icon: 976-980

NEWS FROM MISSIO

Thank you for your donations to World Mission Sunday. The **£117.55** and your **prayers** will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the work of **Missio** and those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples.

Synod Proposals Theme 4 BUILDING COMMUNITY, NURTURING BELONGING.

With the newsletter you are receiving the proposals for the fourth Synod theme. In order that the Parish Synod Members (Marian Bird and the priests) know which proposals you feel are important, please read through them, tick those you feel most drawn to and return the paper to the parish by e-mail or by hand. Thank you very much!



Ferdinand

Offerings for 31st October 2020

Envelopes £61.00
Plate £113.55
Candles £40.50
Missio £10.00

October Offerings STO & gifts:
£470.00

"I am fully satisfied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus". St Paul to the people of the Church in Philippi.

"Fratelli Tutti"

Pope Francis on fraternity and social friendship



Councillors' Christmas Parties at the Florrie:

The councillor's parties will not be happening this year due to Covid. But they and the Florrie 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 as soon as possible.

Pastoral Associate Update: As we enter another period of lockdown, I was grateful to attend an online talk from David Wells (a dedicated Catechist and speaker) who spoke of holding onto Joy in these difficult times. His tips: Stop! Time to breathe in; Allow for interruptions (biblically they are good); Don't wait for Joy – go for it; Fly – the cage is not locked; Joy casts light on the little stuff – keep it simple. His full talk is on YouTube under Pastoral Ministry Office Diocese of Northampton. The Pastoral Area online Advent service is coming together with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love threading through. I'm delighted that voices in the area will be heard sharing their moments of these themes in their lives. Do get involved. If you'd like to participate – contact me on h.jones@rcaol.org.uk or 07449 633977. 'Big Questions' arranged by the RCIA Archdiocesan team is available on zoom to enable us to connect with one another over 3 Wednesday evenings – links on the pastoral area website. "Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls" Mother Teresa. Keep safe, keep praying and keep smiling, God Bless,
Helen

Fratelli Tutti
"Let us admit that, for all the progress we have made, we are still "illiterate" when it comes to accompanying, caring for and supporting the most frail and vulnerable members of our developed societies. We have become accustomed to looking the other way, passing by, ignoring situations until they affect us directly." (No. 64)

Prayer Intentions

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Sheila ABBOTT, Joan BAXTER, Judy BLOWER (née Almond), Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Tony EDWARDS, Bill FLATLEY, Joan FORD, Ronnie & Joan HART, Jess, Charlotte KELLY, Tracy McCLEAN, Molly McEVOY, Alfie MONTGOMERY, May MURRAY, John OSBALDESTON, Joey PERRY, Danny POWER, Ava Rudzinski, Kelly SHEPHERD.

Also for the intentions of: Anne BAXTER, Catherine BOWLES, Lilly FLANNERY, Beverly HARPER, Joan HART, Barbara HYLAN (birthday), Sr. Johanne, Darren KELLY, Frances KERWIN, Madeleine McCANN & Family, Kathleen McGOVERN, MIDGHALL Family, Joey MORGAN, Tommy MURPHY, Ann NEEDHAM, Leigh ROBINSON, Carole & Billy RUDKIN, Joseph SAVAGE, SCOTT Family, Teresa SWIFT, Terri VALIANT, WILLIAMS Family.

And for those who have died: Jimmy BLOWER, Kitty HARNICK (née McDermat)