

## St Joseph's and St Patrick's

Diocese of Leeds Registered Charity No. 249404

Barnoldswick, Earby and District

Parish Priest: Canon Kevin Firth

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**14<sup>th</sup> WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME**

**5<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

### **Celebration of Mass.**

Priests may now celebrate Mass in the church in the presence of the people and Fr Firth has set out the times of Masses below.

Weekday Masses will be restarting from Wednesday 8th July as follows:

Wednesday 8th July St Joseph's at 10am

Thursday 9th July at St Patrick's at 10am

Friday 10th July at St Joseph's at 10am.

We intend to start weekend Masses over Saturday 11th July and Sunday 12th July. Numbers to these Masses will be limited because of social/physical distancing guidelines and people will need to register their intent to attend a scheduled Mass. Information on how to do this will be on next week's bulletin.

The obligation to attend Masses on Sundays and Holydays remains suspended by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales; it is unlikely to be restored until the pandemic has ended in this country and people are able to attend Mass freely once again without any restrictions.

Consequently, those who are able to attend Mass on a weekday should consider doing so, thus enabling the Masses which are celebrated at the weekend to have more room available for those who are only free to attend on a Saturday evening or on a Sunday.

Such a willingness to be flexible would ease the pressure on numbers attending Sunday celebrations and allow a gradual return to attendance at Mass for more people.

Ensuring the safety of people attending Mass will require a team of stewards to guide people before, during and after Mass and a team of cleaners to clean the church after each service. If you are able to help with this, please contact Canon Firth at the presbytery.

At the public Masses Holy Communion will be under one kind only, the Host will be placed in the hand, and the arm of the communicant must be at full stretch, there will be some form of distancing between Fr. and the communicant.

There will be NO Holy Water, hymn books, congregational singing, children's liturgy, Offertory procession or sign of peace.

Baskets for the Offertory Collection will be on the tables at the back of church.

Fr. Firth is saying Mass each day for all the intentions requested, as follows:

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Intentions of Jim & Josie Kelly
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday	No Mass
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday	Kathleen Zoe Smith
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday 10.00 a.m.	Stan Bajkowski (LD)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday 10.00 a.m. (St Pat's)	Intentions of Marie & Bob Fletcher
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday 10.00 a.m.	Dead List
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	St Benedict 10.00 a.m. 5.30 p.m.	Graham Thompson (LD) People of the Parish
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 9.00 a.m. (St Pat's) 10.30 a.m.	Francis Livesy Jenny Nixon

Please pray for Marion Wilson who has been taken ill recently and is now in hospital.

The Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) Society, who support those in need through contacting them, and other initiatives, are now meeting by ZOOM for a short prayer meeting and a chat every 3 weeks. If anyone is interested in joining the SVP please contact Kath Altham on 01282 813806. If you wish you can join a ZOOM meeting with us and get to know a little bit more about us.

Thank you for your donations : this week £240 and another £80 from the sale of papers and the Living Faith booklets. Total £320. Many thanks.

**Special Prayers**

Lillian Price – Jennie Hendley – Jim Kelly – Marie & Bob Fletcher – Mary Posiko – Margaret DeVito – Phyllis Kirage – Val Kaynell – Mark Hoare – Dale McLaughlin – Marie Keating – Max Hudson – Peter Catley – Stan Nelson – Paul Wood – Tony Atherton - Jennifer Purcell – Pat Maloney – Clifford Ball - Mandy McLaughlan.

Please pray for these and for the comfort of anyone suffering in any way. Please also remember the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**Sermon**

“I bless you, Father, ... for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children.”

1. The two groups of Catholics I have most to do with in the parish are the young and the older folk and less of the in-betweens. The very young and the old are generally more conscious of their own vulnerability. They know that they need others to live their lives successfully. Our Lords words in today’s Gospel point to this insight.
2. Why is Almighty God more evident to children and the senior section of our population? I suppose the simple reason is that they are most needy and less independent. People who see themselves as self-sufficient and in charge of things especially the well off or those in authority frequently perceive no need for help from outside themselves. It is in poorer countries, amongst powerless people and experiencing injustice or oppression who feel a stronger need for God in their lives. So, it is often when we find ourselves in difficulties that we turn for help to God or others. For instance, during the period of isolation many more have turned to God in prayer much more frequently than before the crisis.
3. In my first parish we had a family move into the area who had a child with a serious heart defect. It quickly became know when they appeared at Mass, so the family spoke about their sick child. People in the parish were very supportive and eventually the parish sponsored the family to take their child on a pilgrimage run by the Leeds Diocese to Lourdes. When the family returned, they were full of enthusiasm. No miracle occurred but gradually the child showed signs of improvement following a series of medical treatments. The girl slowly was enabled to live a normal life. Just at that point the whole family stopped coming to Mass. They no-longer felt vulnerable or in need and so Christ and His church ceased to feel so important as they had previously experienced.

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14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>
Weekday	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>
Weekday	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>
10:00 a.m. Weekday	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>
10:00 a.m. (St Paul)	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>
10:00 a.m. Weekday	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>
10:00 a.m. St Benedict	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>
8:30 a.m. People of the Parish	
7:00 a.m. (St Paul)	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
10:00 a.m. Jenny Nixon	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>

/continued ...

4. Yet when you think about it, we are all vulnerable. Every breath we take is dependent on our Creator. We are never fully in control of our own destiny as some people foolishly believe themselves to be.

It is when things go wrong that people search outside themselves for help. Some turn to God, others blame God for their troubles. In the Gospel Jesus tells people to turn to His Father through Him. God in Christ is the one to relieve us. This does not always mean taking away the source of our difficulties, but it does mean we will receive support through the hard experiences we are confronted with.

5. One of the most important elements of our prayer life with God is to give Him thanks when things are going well, realising that this is solely through our own efforts. If and when difficulties cross our path, we know that God's son will walk with us giving us support when we do feel vulnerable. He really cares for us.

**Canon Kevin Firth**

**Airedale Hospital Chaplain:** If you require Fr Michael McLaughlin please phone 01535 653153

Blessed are those who stay indoors for they have protected others.

Blessed are the unemployed and the self-employed for their need of God is great.

Blessed are the corner shopkeepers for they are the purveyors of scarce things.

Blessed are the delivery drivers and the postal workers for they are the bringers of essential things.

Blessed are the hospital workers, the ambulance crews, the doctors, the nurses, the care assistants and the cleaners for they stand between us and the grave; the Kingdom of Heaven is surely theirs.

Blessed are the checkout workers for they have patience and fortitude in the face of overwork and frustration.

Blessed are the refuse collectors for they will see God despite the mountains of waste.

Blessed are the teachers for they remain steadfast and constant in disturbing times.

Blessed are the Church workers, the deacons, priests and bishops for they are a comforting presence in a hurting world as they continue to signpost towards God.

Blessed are the single parents for they are coping alone with their responsibilities, and there is no respite.

Blessed are those who are alone for they are children of God, and with Him they will never be lonely.

Blessed are the bereaved for whom the worst has already happened; they shall be comforted.

Blessed are those who are isolated with their abusers for one day – we pray – they will know safety.

Blessed are all during this time who have pure hearts: all who still hunger and thirst for justice; all who work for peace and who model mercy. May you know comfort. May you know calm.

And may the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy

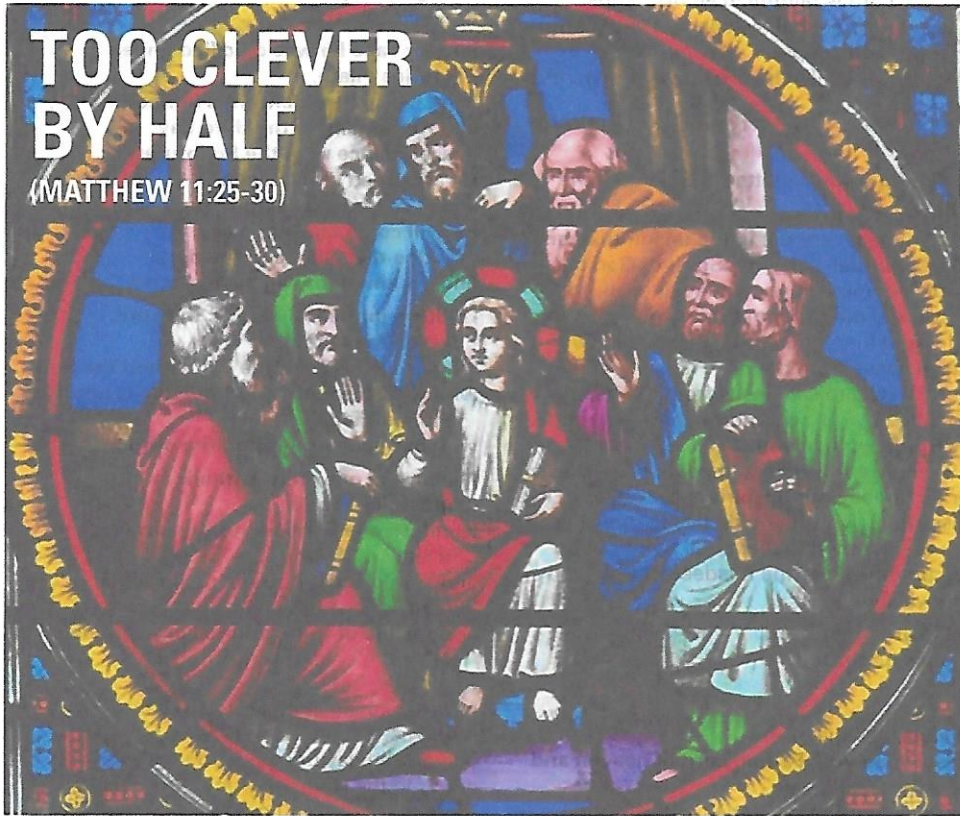
5 JULY 2020

# Sunday Message

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year A • Psalter Week 2



## TOO CLEVER BY HALF

(MATTHEW 11:25-30)

Stained glass in the Chapel of Notre-Dame-des-flots in Sainte Adresse, Le Havre, France, depicting Christ in the Temple of Jerusalem among the doctors (1857)

Jesus has been preaching throughout his home region of Galilee. He must have had high hopes that the Pharisees and the religious leaders would accept his message and recognise that it came from God.

After all, these are “the learned and the clever”, the experts on the Law who know it inside out. They, above all others, should be able to recognise God’s Son when he speaks to them.

But Jesus’ efforts haven’t succeeded. In fact, he faces mounting opposition. The Pharisees and the religious leaders reject him and his message. They see no evidence that he is the Son of God.

Jesus must have been terribly disappointed at his failure to win over “the learned and the clever” but he doesn’t lose heart. He knows that he is doing the Father’s will, and that’s all that counts.

And he realises too that his preaching has not been in vain. The ordinary people, those he describes as “mere children”, have grasped his message. The simple and ignorant, who have no education or training in the Law, recognise who he is – people like his disciples, and those who are sick, and sinners.

Jesus realises that this was God’s plan all along. He thanks God his Father for choosing to reveal his truth to the little ones, while hiding it from the self-important.

The lesson for us is that we must be open to God’s plan for us, as Jesus was, and actively trust that our heavenly Father knows best. ■

## REFLECT

There are times when we all experience life as difficult and painful. We can feel overburdened with problems or worries of one kind or another. The death of a loved one may have left our heart broken. A person close to us may be sick. Our bank balance may be deep in the red. Our business may be going under. We may have lost our job. There may be problems in the home or with an addiction. We may find ourselves stuck in a crucifying depression we can’t shake off.

Bring all of that to Jesus today. Lay your worries and anxieties on him, for he is gentle of heart. Ask him for the rest and peace that you seek. ■

## LEARN

A yoke was a bar laid across the shoulders of a slave for carrying a heavy burden. Many rabbis referred to the Law as a yoke placed on the shoulders of the people of Israel. By contrast, the yoke that Jesus invites his followers to take on is not a burden but something that is gentle and life-giving.

The Good News is for everyone.

## PRAY

There is so much trouble and anxiety in our world today, so many people caught up in civil conflict and violent unrest. Ask the Prince of Peace to ease people’s suffering and grant them the rest for their souls that he alone can give.

## DO

Look at how children relate to their parents. Observe them. Note how they trust their parents completely and instinctively, how they feel secure when they hold a parent’s hand, how utterly receptive and open they are to their parents. That is how we are called to relate to our God.



## SAY

“I thank you, Lord, for being so close to me. Strengthen my faith. Amen.”

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Your merciful love, O God,  
we have received in the midst of your temple.  
Your praise, O God, like your name,  
reaches the ends of the earth;  
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**COLLECT**

O God, who in the abasement of your Son  
have raised up a fallen world,  
fill your faithful with holy joy,  
for on those you have rescued from slavery  
to sin  
you bestow eternal gladness.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING** Zechariah 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah.

The Lord says this:

“Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!  
Shout with gladness, daughter of  
Jerusalem!

See now, your king comes to you;  
he is victorious, he is triumphant,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
He will banish chariots from Ephraim  
and horses from Jerusalem;  
the bow of war will be banished.  
He will proclaim peace for the nations.  
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,  
from the River to the ends of the earth.”

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Psalm 144

Response:  
I will bless your name for ever,  
O God my King.

- 1. I will give you glory, O God my King,  
I will bless your name for ever.  
I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever. (R.)

- 2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
- 3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their  
blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God. (R.)
- 4. The Lord is faithful in all his words  
and loving in all his deeds.  
The Lord supports all who fall  
and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)

**SECOND READING** Romans 8:9.11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Romans.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but  
in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has  
made his home in you. In fact, unless you  
possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not  
belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who  
raised Jesus from the dead is living in you,  
then he who raised Jesus from the dead will  
give life to your own mortal bodies through  
his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity  
for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live  
unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way,  
you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit  
you put an end to the misdeeds of the body  
you will live.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and  
earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to  
mere children.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Matthew 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew.

Jesus exclaimed, “I bless you, Father, Lord of  
heaven and of earth, for hiding these things  
from the learned and the clever and revealing  
them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that  
is what it pleased you to do. Everything has  
been entrusted to me by my Father; and no  
one knows the Son except the Father, just as  
no one knows the Father except the Son and  
those to whom the Son chooses to reveal  
him.

“Come to me, all you who labour and  
are overburdened, and I will give you rest.  
Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I  
am gentle and humble in heart, and you will  
find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy  
and my burden light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*(all bow during the next three lines)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May this oblation dedicated to your name  
purify us, O Lord,  
and day by day bring our conduct  
closer to the life of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Come to me, all who labour and are  
burdened,  
and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that, having been replenished by such great  
gifts,  
we may gain the prize of salvation  
and never cease to praise you.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

“Unless we look at a person and see the  
beauty that is in them, we can contribute  
nothing to them. One does not help a person  
by discerning what is wrong, what is ugly,  
what is distorted. Christ looked at everyone  
he met, at the prostitute, at the thief, and  
saw the beauty hidden there. Perhaps it  
was distorted, perhaps damaged, but it was  
beauty none the less, and what he did was to  
call out this beauty.”

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

