

St Joseph's and St Patrick's

Diocese of Leeds Registered Charity No. 249404

Barnoldswick, Earby and District

Parish Priest: Canon Kevin Firth

Telephone No. 01282 812204

www.stjosephsbarnoldswick.org.uk

18th WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

2nd August 2020

Celebration of Mass.

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.

There is now no need to register to attend the weekend Masses, just sign your name and the number in your group, on entry to Church. Ensuring the safety of people attending Mass there are teams of stewards to guide people before, during and after Mass and a team of cleaners to clean the church after each service.

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 are on the tables at the back of church.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is resumed before weekday Masses (except Tuesday) from 9.30 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.

Confessions on Saturday evening 4.45 p.m. – 5.15 p.m.

Times of Masses:

Saturday 1 st Aug	Vigil	5.30 p.m.	Dead List
Sunday 2 nd	18 th Sunday	9.00 a.m. (St Pat's)	People of the Parish
		10.30 a.m.	Liz Hall (LD)
Monday 3 rd	Weekday	10.00 a.m.	Service of the Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 4 th	St John Vianney	7.30 p.m.	Special Intention (GP)
Wednesday 5 th	Weekday	10.00 a.m.	Hubert & Kathleen Martin Intentions
Thursday 6 th	The Transfiguration of the Lord	10.00 a.m. (St Pat's)	Refugees
Friday 7 th	Weekday	10.00 a.m.	Jenny Nixon
Saturday 8 th	St Dominic	10.00 a.m.	Dead List
		5.30 p.m.	James & Hilda Marshall
Sunday 9 th	19 th Sunday	9.00 a.m. (St Pat's)	SVP & Friends
		10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish

Mass Intentions received: Special Intention (GP)

Numbers at Masses: Last weekend - 5.30 p.m.:	13	Monday Service:	7
9.00 a.m.:	14	Tuesday 7.30 p.m.:	8
10.30 a.m.:	32	Wednesday 10.00 a.m.:	24

Donations this week: From the baskets: £504.50 - Many thanks.

Money donated to the various Special Collections: £135.00

The SVP is here to help in whatever way it can. Its members are aware that as society starts to find ways to function many people will be affected in different ways. We are concerned when we hear about redundancies, and other ways people are losing their jobs. Such additional worries add to the already existing concerns the virus has brought. If anyone is aware of individuals or families who are struggling financially or in other ways and think we could be of help, please do contact a member of the SVP, or pass a message through Canon Firth, or ring Kath Altham 01282 813806. If you contact one of us to make a referral please ensure you have the permission of the individual or family concerned. Our funds are not limitless so should you wish to make a donation to the SVP, that too can be done by contacting a member of the SVP.

Special Prayers

Lillian Price – Jennie Hendley – Jim Kelly – Marie & Bob Fletcher – Mary Posiko – Margaret DeVito – Phyllis Kirrage – 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 for the 18th Sunday of the Year

“When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist’s death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place ...

1. In today’s gospel Jesus had just heard that His cousin John the Baptist had been beheaded by King Herod. As a result Our Lord cut short His active ministry and withdrew by boat to a lonely spot where he could just have the company of His closest friends. The death of His cousin must have touched Jesus very deeply. No doubt our Lord saw it as a foreshadowing of His own fate. Quiet time alone with those who would not make demands on Him was needed. Yet, the gospel tells us that, by the time Jesus and His disciples had reached the desired lonely spot, the place was crowded. The crowds rushed there before Jesus had arrived. His plans for a quiet restful interval to take in the reality of Jesus’ cousin’s death was destroyed. If Jesus had reacted to this situation with anger we might well side with Him. Instead, we are told that Jesus reacted to the crowd and their demands with compassion. He simply gave of Himself in His bereaved state to those who had eagerly sort Him out.
2. Now let us reflect briefly on our own lives. When things do not work out as we had planned. We may react in various ways. We can allow anger and self-pity to take over us or we can attempt to give ourselves to the altered situation even though it is not what we had hoped for at the time. If we are able to give ourselves generously to the unexpected, something very worthwhile can be the result. Has this not been the very place where many have found ourselves in the last few months? Most of the plans, projects, holidays and much more have been put on hold. What we had looked forward to during this Spring and Summer has largely been dissolved by an invisible virus. How have we reacted to this unexpected and unique situation?

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3. Look at what happened in the gospel when Jesus gave Himself generously to the unexpected; a great crowd of people were fed not only with food but also with hope out in the wilderness.

You may have noted that the disciples did not see things in the same light as their Master when they said, "Send the people away". It is a way of saying to Jesus "Let us get back to what we originally planned! In the eyes of the disciples, they seemed to be in an impossible situation, how could they feed the thousands of hungry mouths with just one hamper of bread and dried fish? The disciples felt overwhelmed and just wanted to escape the crowds Who could blame them! The resources they had were so insignificant. But Jesus took those resources and worked with them in such a way that they went far beyond the expectations of His disciples. The little they had turned out to be more than enough when transformed by the Lord.

4. So What are the implications for us in this story? If we can be persuaded to give of ourselves generously to a new situation or an unexpected turn in our lives but feel utterly inadequate to deal with it, what does the gospel tell us? We are not alone. The Lord is with us and if we face the situation with Him, we will accomplish far more than we might have initially expected.

There is a great example of this situation in the history of our own parish. When the new school was built, and our children vacated the 1913 building next to the church what could the parish do with the old school? There was not very much money in the parish coffers and so how could this old building become a valuable asset both for the parish and the town?

But with very little a start was made in the mid-1990s and first with generous loans, a committed team of people and eventual access to grants and outside support. We see what has been achieved in the last twenty-five years. St Joseph's possesses one of the best community centres in our area and indeed in the whole diocese of Leeds.

Let us give thanks to the Lord for what we can achieve with His presence at our side!

Canon Kevin Firth

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

Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year A • Psalter Week 2



A LAVISH GENEROSITY

(MATTHEW 14:13-21)

In today's Gospel, Jesus sees that the people are hungry and he responds to their need.

He says a prayer of blessing and then gives the disciples food to share among the crowd. To their amazement, not only is there enough food for everyone but the leftovers fill twelve baskets. He doesn't let the people go hungry. He doesn't just give them food; he gives them more than enough to eat. There is a superabundance of food.

It is a foretaste of the eternal banquet in the kingdom of heaven, and a statement of how we too must live. ■

REFLECT

Today's Gospel speaks of love and generosity. It echoes the kind of lavish love that St Paul writes about in the second reading. Both challenge us in two ways.

First, as individuals. They remind us that to be a Christian means to be generous. We must share – not just our money, but also our time, our love, our very selves with all who are in need. There is no such thing as the private Christian.

Second, they challenge us as a community, a society. As Christians, it is not enough that we are charitable. We are also obliged to build a more just world. We cannot be indifferent to the poor, those who do not have enough to eat. Catholic social teaching is one of the Church's greatest secrets. Most people know where the Church stands on sexual morality. And many think that sex (and money) are all the Church talks about. But the Church has a whole body of wonderful teaching built up over time that speaks about care for the poor, teaching that speaks of solidarity and places the Church and its members firmly on the side of the voiceless and the oppressed. It was because of his fearless defence of the poor of El Salvador that Archbishop Oscar Romero was martyred while celebrating Mass. It was because of her support for the indigenous people of the Amazon that Sr Dorothy Stang was shot dead in 2005. Their fidelity to the Gospel placed them on the side of the poor, even to the extent of losing their lives. The great Brazilian Archbishop Hélder Câmara summed up the distinction between charity and justice in a famous phrase: "When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist."

To be a follower of Jesus is to work for justice. In fact, the Church teaches that action for justice is a constitutive part of living the Gospel. It is not enough for us to tell the poor, the abused, the unjustly treated, that we will pray for them or give money to charity to support them. We must also do whatever we can to address inequality and injustice. There is plenty of food to go around if we are prepared to share. ■

SAY

"Lord, help me to be the kind of person you want me to be. Amen."

DO

In today's second reading St Paul makes a wonderful profession of faith. He says there is nothing that can separate him from God's love made visible in Christ: not persecution, hunger, nakedness, danger or even death. No matter what he does or doesn't do, God loves him. He is absolutely certain of God's love. Can you say the same thing? Make his profession of faith your profession of faith.

PRAY

Everything about the Eucharist speaks of solidarity and community. We share the one meal, we call each other sisters and brothers. We offer each other the sign of peace, the sign of unity and togetherness. Pray for a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist.

LEARN

Jesus is the bread of life.

The Christian has a passion for justice.

The Christian is always aware of the needs of others.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

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

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,
and answer their prayers with unceasing
kindness,
that, for those who glory in you as their
Creator and guide,
you may restore what you have created
and keep safe what you have restored.
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 Isaiah 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
Thus says the Lord:
Oh, come to the water all you who are
thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good
things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting
covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 144

Response:
You open wide your hand, O Lord,
you grant our desires.

1. 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.)

- 2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R.)
- 3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. (R.)

SECOND READING Romans 8:35,37-39

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans.
Nothing can come between us and the love of
Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or
being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes,
or being threatened or even attacked. These
are the trials through which we triumph, by
the power of him who loved us.
For I am certain of this: neither death nor
life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists,
nothing still to come, not any power, or
height or depth, nor any created thing, can
ever come between us and the love of God
made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest
heavens!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 14:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.
When Jesus received the news of John
the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat
to a lonely place where they could be by
themselves. But the people heard of this and,
leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So
as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd;
and he took pity on them and healed their
sick.
When evening came, the disciples went
to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and
the time has slipped by; so send the people
away, and they can go to the villages to
buy themselves some food." Jesus replied,
"There is no need for them to go: give them
something to eat yourselves." But they
answered, "All we have with us is five loaves
and two fish." "Bring them here to me," he
said. He gave orders that the people were to
sit down on the grass; then he took the five
loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to
heaven and said the blessing. And breaking
the loaves he handed them to his disciples
who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as
much as they wanted, and they collected the
scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those
who ate numbered about five thousand men,
to say nothing of women and children.

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

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord,
we pray,
and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual
sacrifice,
make of us an eternal offering to you.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have given us, O Lord, bread from
heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in
every taste.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

"The friend who can be silent with us in
a moment of despair or confusion, who
can stay with us in an hour of grief and
bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing,
not healing, not curing: that is a friend who
cares."
Henri Nouwen

