

#### FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: "Violence and ruin!" The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, "I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more." Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 62

#### For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.

3 So I will bless you all my life,  
In your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.

4. For you have been my help.  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

#### SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

#### Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to re-monstrate with him. "Heaven preserve you, Lord," he said. "This must not happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?"

"For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour."

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# St Anthony of Padua

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Rev. Tom Butler (retired - 07853777957)

Sunday Masses: 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am, 5.00pm (Sunday Morning)

Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)

Confessions: on request

Annexe: 725544

Social Centre: 735963

Primary school: 726621

Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

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## Our True Self

On our spiritual journey we often take 3 steps forward and two (or more!) steps backward. This is clearly illustrated in the character of St. Peter. In last week's gospel Peter has an epiphany of who Jesus is: the Christ, the anointed one, the Divine Presence which pervades all creation. His profession of faith reveals a deep understanding of the Christ Mystery. When in today's gospel Peter refuses to believe in Jesus' predictions of his suffering and death, he shows that his way of thinking is no longer God's way. Jesus then tells Peter that in order to fully participate in the Christ Mystery, we need to "lose our self to find our self." Jesus said this very clearly in several different settings.

Many spiritual writers speak of the false self and the True Self. The false self is who we think we are but thinking doesn't make it so. The false self dies and passes away. Yet it is the raw material through which we discover our True Self in God. And who we are in God is who we are. And who we are in God will live forever. Life is not a matter of creating a special name for ourselves, but of uncovering the name we have always had. Some form of suffering or death—psychological, spiritual, relational, or physical—is the only way we will loosen our ties to our false self and surrender ourselves to the process of transformation into our true self. We will then discover that the true self is who we already were all along, but we didn't know it. We didn't know how to live consciously out of that deep place of union. If we're living from the true self, we're going to live from connection and communion with God, with everyone, with everything. (Richard Rohr)

We shall not cease from exploration  
And the end of all our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time. T.S. Eliot

## Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th August 2020

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# DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 29th August 2020

|             |                 |                       |                                       |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sat 6.00pm  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Elizabeth Anne Allen  |                                       |
| Sun 9.30am  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Tom & Catherine Keane | <i>22nd Sunday of the Year</i>        |
| 11.00am     | <i>H.Family</i> | For our parish        |                                       |
| 5.00pm      | <i>St. Ant</i>  | For our parish        | <i>Sp. Collection: Catholic Trust</i> |
| Mon 9.15am  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Katie O'Neill         |                                       |
| Tue 9.15am  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Elizabeth Lawler      |                                       |
| Wed 9.15am  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | John Myerscough       |                                       |
| Thur 9.15am | <i>H.Family</i> | Donor's intention     | <i>Feast: St. Gregory the Great</i>   |
| Fri 9.15am  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Kevin O'Neill         | <i>Feast: St. Cuthbert</i>            |
| Sat 6.00pm  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Margaret Watson       | <i>Feast: St. Herbert</i>             |
| Sun 9.30am  | <i>St. Ant</i>  | Joan Anderton         | <i>23rd Sunday of the Year</i>        |
| 11.00am     | <i>H.Family</i> | For our parish        |                                       |
| 5.00pm      | <i>St. Ant</i>  | For our parish        |                                       |

**Last Weekend:** Attendance 127. (6.00pm 54, 9.30am 46, 5.00pm 27) Offertory c.£420. We also acknowledge two donations of £100 to make up for the lockdown and a further donation of £50 for Church Funds.

### BIDDING PRAYERS

We pray for all those who falter on their faith journey and struggle to believe in the triumph of life over death. We ask that they find inspiration and strength in the witness of the Church.

For all those who hold local or national public office: grant them the wisdom and strength to discharge their duties with humility and integrity.

We pray for the hungry and the homeless both in the developing world as well as those in our community. May they experience God's love through our friendship and help.

As we enter the last days of the school holidays, we pray for all of the teachers, staff and students in our schools as they return refreshed for the new school year.

**We pray for the sick and the housebound** of our parish and for those who care for them, particularly: Lawrence Dunnagan, John Myerscough and Alice Myerscough, Frances & Les Farrer, Bill Embery, Kathleen Kellett, Chris Goldsmith, Frank Stanton, Betty Murphy, Marie Gardner, Joan Green, Carole Adnitt.

**Pray for those who have died recently:** Doreen Davis, Margaret Watson, Herbert Rushton, Joan Anderton, Rhoda Case;

**... and for those whose anniversaries are around now:** Elizabeth Lawler, Frank Smith, Harold Wareing, John & Gwen Cracknell, Margaret Wearden, baby Rooney, Doreen Dunderdale, Terrence Gregson, Mary McCormack, Joan Walsh. May they rest in peace.

### Care of Creation

Pope Francis established 1 September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation in 2015, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home. The day is inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth. He calls us all to celebrate this opportune moment to "reaffirm [our] personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation, as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live."

This World Day of Prayer begins the Season of Creation, which runs until 4 October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi. This is an ecumenical season dedicated to prayer for the protection of creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles.

### Face coverings

Face coverings must now be worn in places of worship (as well as other public places). If you have forgotten to bring a mask we can let you have one.

There are some circumstances, for health, age or equality reasons, where people are not expected to wear face coverings. Please be mindful and respectful of such circumstances, noting that some people are less able to wear face coverings, and that the reasons for this may not be visible to others.

- Priests in the sanctuary do not need to wear face coverings during Mass, except when distributing holy communion, provided they are at least two metre distance. Similarly Readers do not need to wear face coverings when proclaiming the scriptures.

**Parish website:** Thanks to the work of Fr. John this has now been revived and updated. The weekly Newsletter is now there. There are still new items to add but its looking much better already. We've needed a re-vamp for a while.

**Baptisms** We can now celebrate baptisms though there are some restrictions and we are limited to 30 people and masks will have to be worn.

**First holy Communion.** Sadly we were not able to complete the children's preparation for this great sacrament nor celebrate their first Communion. We'll tie things up quickly when schools get back but it will not be possible to have one first holy Communion Day for all the children because we are limited to a maximum of 58 people in church. We'll have to come up with a suitable way of celebrating with them.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** To John Myerscough who is 100 years old this week! Until recently John lived on Black Bull Lane but he is now in residential care.. He's only a youngster compared to his sister Alice who is 103!

**Virtual 'Coffee Morn'** We have another zoom Coffee Morning today. Log in details: Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82854754810> Meeting ID: 828 5475 4810

**Offertory Counters** Thank you to our Offertory Counters for getting back into routine. We count a week in arrears and we ensure social distancing.

**Masses received this week:** Joan Anderton, Donor's Intention, Kevin O'Neill.

**Catholic Voice**—a new issue if our Diocesan Newspaper has been published but again it is only available online.