

FIRST READING

Job 7:1-4,6-7

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, "When will it be day?" Risen I think, "How slowly evening comes!" Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

1. Alleluia!
Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving;
to him our praise is due.
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars
he calls each one by its name.
3. Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straight-away. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out, many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, "Everybody is looking for you." He answered, "Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too. because that is why I came." And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

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St Anthony of Padua

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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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Healing

'Jesus focused on healing and transformation of persons and systems. There was no prerequisite for this healing, no belonging to a specific group, no adherence to a specific life-style. The only requirement for healing was desire. So, there first must be the wanting and that's symbolised by Mary's "Let it be." We always have to state our "Let it be," or I don't think it happens.' [1] 'When the recognised need of the individual coincides with the incoming force of the blessing, great change can begin.' [2]

This week we again see Jesus healing those who were sick or possessed with demons, in the grip of a destructive spirit. 'Such a healing—the blessing that comes when facing the chaos rather than turning away from it, the blessing that comes in naming what is contrary to God's purposes rather than letting it persist unchecked—makes way for the wholeness we crave. It brings release to what has been bound; it invites and enables and calls us to move with the freedom for which God made us. This kind of change and reconfiguration means that healing is not always a comfortable and cozy thing. Sometimes the healing most needed is one that involves confrontation and calling out, that requires standing against what is not of God. Such a blessing may be difficult to receive. It calls us to acknowledge and challenge and grapple with forces that thrive within chaos, forces that often work in ways that are exceedingly subtle and cloaked, disguising evil as good. This requires even more wisdom and discernment of us than when such forces take clear and obvious forms.' [3]

"The human heart continues to dream of a state of wholeness, a place where everything comes together, where loss will be made good, where blindness will transform into vision, where damage will be made whole, where the travails of a life's journey will enjoy a home-coming. To invoke a blessing is to call some of that wholeness upon a person now.' [2]

'Let there be an opening into the quiet that lies beneath the chaos, where you find the peace you did not think possible and see what shimmers within the storm.' [3]

Adapted: [1] Richard.Rohr [2] John O' Donohue [3] Jan Richardson

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

7th February 2021

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 6th February 2021

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Private intention	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Winnie Gildea For our parish Private intention	<i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Helen Towey	
Tue 1.45pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Mass: Margaret McEwan	
Wed 9.15am 11.15am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Thomas Newsham Funeral Service: Thomas Newsham	<i>Feast: St. Scholastica</i>
Thur 10.30am	<i>St. Ant.</i>	Funeral Mass: Margaret Nugent	<i>Feast: Our Lady of Lourdes</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Agnes Long	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Catherine Holmes	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Private intention For our parish Seretse Graphine	<i>6th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Day of Prayer for unemployed</i>

Masses received this past week: Seretse Graphine, Catherine Holmes.

BIDDING PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Tuesday is the feast of St Josephine, patroness of the victims of human trafficking. We pray for those working to put an end to this evil trade, which still continues even in our own country.

- We pray for national and local government leaders, for scientists and for frontline workers in the battle against covid-19: God guide their efforts to bring healing to individuals, families and communities aching for a return to normality.

- Thursday is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes—the World Day for the Sick, we remember in our prayers those of the parish who are suffering ill-health just now, and those who care for them, particularly: Bill Embery, Lawrence Dunnagan, Betty Murphy, Joan Green, John Myerscough, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, Frank Stanton, Marie Gardner, Carole Adnitt, Jo Counsell, Les Farrer, Theresa Wilkinson, Rev. John Kilshaw.

Pray for those who have died recently: Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue, Joseph Welsby, Margaret McEwan, Margaret Nugent, Thomas Newsham, Agnes Long;

... and for those whose anniversaries are around now: Harry Billington. Agnes Embery, Ivor Hilton, Irene Oldham, May Eccles, Maureen Berry, Mary Radcliffe, Ian Holmes, Gabrielle Sudell, Eric Ridge, Malcolm Brindle, Gertrude Docherty, Canon Leo Harrison, Olive Hughes., William Etherington, Maureen Stella Cox, Catherine Mary Holmes, Thomas Riding, Joan Wane. May they rest in peace.

Livestreaming Mass

We are able to celebrate Mass in church as normal but we are now able to livestream the 9.30am Mass from St. Anthony's church. Go to the St. Anthony of Padua YouTube page and look for the link there. Although the sound of the priest and the reader is good you will not be able to hear the responses from the congregation - you can make those yourself! Although you cannot obviously receive holy communion while watching this streaming you could make your own spiritual communion at this time, as follows:

My Jesus, I believe You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since at this moment I cannot receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

LENT

Is only ten days away. Following on from the Advent Jesse Tree project and the daily scripture readings, members of the parish are working on resources for the season of Lent. Details to follow.

Castlerigg Youth Service

The Youth Service at Castlerigg Manor are launching two online groups for young people to come together, have a laugh, make some friends, and deepen their faith. Overflow, an online group for 18-30s, began on Monday 1st February. See www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/overflow to sign up. Rise, for young people in years 7 to 9 begins in March, but sign up now to keep up to date www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/riseonline

First Holy Communions

It seems unlikely that we'll be able to celebrate first Holy Communions for the foreseeable future. We'll have another look at the situation after Easter. It is very sad for the children who are at the stage when they could be taking this great step forward in their faith. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Virtual Coffee Morning

Join your fellow parishioners at the Zoom Coffee Morning at 11.00 am this Sunday
Meeting ID: 898 4267 4110 Passcode: 229935

Walk for Water

CAFOD has written to remind us that in 2021 the UK is set to host two major international meetings—the G7 and the UN Climate Talks (COP26). Climate change means that access to clean water is becoming more unpredictable. We know that one in three people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water. This Lent can you take on our 'Walk for Water' challenge? Sign up, get sponsored and get walking -10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days. Find out more at cafod.org.uk/walk

The Bible in a Year

This free American podcast guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/podcast/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes>

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