



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

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9 th June 2024 Psalter Week 2		Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Genesis 3:9-15 <i>I will make you enemies of each other: you and the woman, your offspring, and her offspring.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.		
Second Reading	2 St Paul to the Corinthians 4:13-5:1 <i>We believe, and therefore we speak.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!		
Gospel	Mark 3:20-35 <i>It is the end of Satan.</i>		
Saturday 8th June +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 9th June +	10.30am	Mass – (Family & Friends of the Ayles family)	
Monday 10th June <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today	
Tuesday 11th June St Barnabas - Apostle	10.00am	Mass - (Tim Ashford RIP)	
Wednesday 12th June <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today	
Thursday 13th June St Anthony of Padua – Priest & Doctor	10.00am	Service of Word & Holy Communion	
Friday – 14th June <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass (Fr Malcolm Bull Int.)	
Saturday – 15th June <i>Feria</i>	11.00am	Mass – (Children making their First Holy Communion + families)	
Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday – 15th June +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Jean Griffin RIP – 4th Aniv.)	
Sunday – 16th June +	10.30am	Mass - (Pro Populo)	

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £325.40

DCP – £50.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £839.40

Welcome – Today, **Sunday 9th June**, we extend a warm welcome to the young people of our parish together with their families and friends – especially those children that are making their First Holy Communion next **Saturday 15th June** and those who are to be Confirmed by Bishop David here in our parish on **Monday 22nd July**. After the Mass today everyone is invited to a small celebration and to wish the children well for their forthcoming special day.



First Holy Communion

Next Saturday morning here in Our Lady's, a group of our young parishioners will be receiving their First Holy Communion. Please note that this special Mass will begin slightly later than normal at 11am. In the days leading up to next Saturday, please keep our young people, their families, and friends, in your thoughts and prayers.



Pray for our Young People

Please do keep in your daily prayers all the young people of our parish as they ponder the mysteries of the faith in their lives. Also, for those at University, College or School who are taking examinations at this time and especially for those young people in our parish who will soon be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion & Confirmation.



First Thursday Club

– We remain extremely grateful to Sally & Rebekah Leatherland for the very special talk they gave last Thursday evening and for the many parishioners who attended – special thanks also to the Social Committee who provided refreshments. Sally shared with us her vast knowledge on Liturgical Vestments. At the end of the evening Sally very generously presented a wonderful Chasuble & Dalmatic to Fr David and Deacon Peter which she had so lovingly made herself – thank you so much Sally. The next a final 'First Thursday Club' gathering for the current season will be on **Thursday 4th July**.



Catholic Grandparents Association

– Many thanks to those who attended our May meeting. Together we enjoyed sharing together the subject of: **'Grandparents' fantastic opportunities when grandchildren demand to hear about 'The olden days.'** 'How much do our grandchildren know about us, and how well do we know our grandchildren.' As this was our fifth meeting members received a beautiful membership badge – congratulations! Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 26th June** – please do join us if you can – everyone welcome.



Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries invite all supporters, volunteers, and the wider Diocesan community to come together for a special Diocesan Mission Mass at St Aiden's Catholic Church, Manor Rd, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 6QJ: Saturday 29 June at midday (12 noon). The Mass will be celebrated by Fr Daniel Rooke, the

new Diocesan Director for Northampton, who will be joined by Fr Anthony Chantry, the National Director for Missio in England and Wales. The Mass will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to learn more about the work of Missio and how Red Box donations are helping to build the Catholic Church and share the Gospel message.

All are welcome.



General Election 2024

The Prime Minister has called a general election for Thursday, 4th July. Cardinal Vincent Nichols, is asking voters to be active rather than passive to engage with politicians on the key issues. *"You want to know what your candidate will think and say on your behalf when that candidate gets into Parliament,"* says the

Cardinal. *"I would like to put forward a theme for us all to think about. How do we seek to construct a society in which families can flourish? That is the bedrock."*

Gospel values inform how we look at the world as Christians. These values can also offer a different way of looking at politics, a way that puts the common good before self-interest. Throughout this election season we will be seeking answers which will help the poor, the marginalised, and the vulnerable. We seek a society in which all families can flourish and where we care for our common home, where we offer a welcoming hand to strangers in need, where we look out for those struggling to get on. Families are the heart of our communities and society. You can get further information as well as watching a brief video message from Cardinal Nichols at: <https://www.cbew.org.uk>



St Anthony of Padua

St. Anthony was born in 1195 (13 years after St. Francis of Assisi) in Lisbon, which is now known as Portugal. Given the baptismal name of Fernando, his parents, Martin and Mary Bulhom, belonged to one of the most prominent families of the city. At the age of 15 Fernando entered the religious order of St. Augustine. Monastery life was hardly peaceful for the youth, nor conducive to prayer and study, since his old friends came to visit frequently and engaged in vehement political discussions. After two years, at his request he was sent to Coimbra (Portugal). There he began nine years of intense study learning the Augustinian theology that he would later combine with Franciscan vision. Fernando was most likely ordained a priest during this time.

The life of the young priest took a crucial turn when the bodies of the first five Franciscan martyrs were returned from Morocco. The Franciscans had been preaching Christ at a mosque in Seville. They were in danger of being martyred at the outset, but the sultan allowed them to pass on to Morocco, where, after continuing to preach about Christ — despite repeated warnings, they were tortured and beheaded.



Reflections on the Sunday Readings

Genesis 3.9-15, 20 - The story of the Fall is an analysis of human temptation and sin. Sin brings shame on us: we do our best, like both the man and the woman, to blame someone else, but in the end, we know we are defenceless and naked before God. We know that we deserve our

penalties, but the wonderful thing about the biblical story is that God continues to care for us: he himself thoughtfully sews clothes for the man and the woman to hide their embarrassment. More important, God promises that evil will not triumph for ever. The penalties of hard labour and pain come not from divine vindictiveness but from human sinfulness: we are no longer in perfect harmony with God. If we were in harmony with God our confidence in him would spare us the pain. The reading pairs with the gospel reading, since it introduces Satan, the Tempter. The final bit is a 'Just So Story' of the animal world, explaining how the sinewy snake came into being: the proud, fiery serpent lost its legs and was reduced to being a mere big worm.

2 Paul - Corinthians 4.13-5.1 - Is this an older Paul, who feels that he is failing, ('this human nature of ours falling into decay'), and is looking forward to death, or rather to the weight of glory at the Resurrection? In last Sunday's reading, he was positive enough, bouncing up again after the hard knocks received in the gladiatorial combats of life. Contrariwise, in Philippians 1.21, he is caught in a dilemma and writes: 'Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would be a positive gain.' Such is his faith and conviction of the saving power of Christ that he longs to be fully united with Christ. He looks forward to 'the weight of glory' that must be the goal of every Christian. Glory is a specifically divine property. Moses was allowed to see the awesome divine glory, but the face of God he could not see. Isaiah was bowled over by his experience of the divine glory in the Temple, contrasting with his own awareness of his uncleanness. It seems that for Paul to feel 'the utterly incomparable, eternal weight of glory' is to be bathed in the divine presence and to enjoy eternally the company of God.

Saint Mark 3:20-35 - The first stage of Jesus' ministry comes to an end. He is rejected as 'out of his mind' by his own family. Then he is rejected by the scribes as being in league with Beelzebul. Finally, his family again arrive, looking for him, and he turns to those who are listening to him as his true family. This all leads into the Parable of the Sower, which seems to be Jesus' reflection on his rejection by most people, and his fruitful acceptance by a small number of disciples. It is, of course, significant that the scribes cannot deny that he drives out evil spirits. If even his enemies are forced to admit it, it must be true. The best they can do is sarcastically to ascribe his powers to the chief of evil spirits, here named 'Beelzebub' or 'Beelzebul' (two different versions of the text). The former name means 'lord of the flies', probably a mocking corruption of the latter, which means 'lord prince', the title of a local deity. The whole scene presents an agonizing picture of the isolation of Jesus. In Luke's version of the scene, by a very slight adjustment, Jesus' mother and brothers are the prime example of those who hear the word of God and keep it.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Peace, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St Rita, St John Mary Vianney, St Barnabas, St Anthony of Padua, Blessed Carlo Acutis pray for us.

With our love and prayers, Fr David, Fr Patrick, and Deacon Peter