Catholic Parish of Walsingham

ST PETER, BLAKENEY A ST HENRY WALPOLE, SJ, BURNHAM MARKET A OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION, WALSINGHAM * OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA

Parish Mass Book, Readings & Prayers 111–113 Prayer of the Church, 2

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY YEAR OF ST MATTHEW AUGUST 2ND, 2020

Jesus, "Took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples." The story of the feeding



of the multitude is in all the gospels and, like the account of Jesus appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus, always contains the same sequence of verbs: took, blessed, broke, gave. In the minds of the evangelists, and in the minds of those for whom they wrote their gospels, this is an unmistakable reference to the Eucharist in which they were already accustomed to participating. This is not the whole story, of course, and at the time when the incident took place Eucharistic worship was still in the unknowable future. By any standard it is an extraordinary event. There is a conversation between Jesus and 'his disciples'. They are concerned about the hungry crowd, but Jesus says, "You give them something to eat." They protest that

they have nothing except a pitifully small amount of food. Jesus, who had refused to 'turn these stones into loaves' on his own account (Mt4:3-4) takes their loaves and fishes and feeds the hungry crowd. In doing so he shows himself to be the chosen one of God. The people who were fed by the miracle may not even have noticed what was going on; like the wine steward at Cana (John 2:9), however, the disciples who supplied the loaves and fishes certainly did. From this passage of the gospel we, too, learn much about who Jesus is. We learn, too, about the way in which his disciples developed their relationship with him after the resurrection and ascension when they met on the Lord's Day and shared their memories of him. When they re-enacted, as he had told them, the supper he shared with his disciples on the night he was betrayed, "in memory of me" (1 Corinthians 11:23-25) they also shared in other experiences of those who accompanied him in Galilee. By entering into the reminiscences of Jesus collected in the gospels they learned how to relate to Jesus who had promised, "I am with you always, even unto the end of time." (Matthew 28:20). He feeds us with the bread which is blessed, broken and given to us in the Eucharist but also, through the gospels, with, "Every word which proceeds from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4)

....from CHRISTUS VIVIT

"When seeking to discern our own vocation, there are certain questions we ought to ask. We should not start with wondering where we could make more money, or achieve greater recognition and social status. Nor even by asking what kind of work would be most pleasing to us. If we are not to go astray, we need a different starting point. We need to ask: Do I know myself, quite apart from my illusions and emotions? Do I know what brings joy or sorrow to my heart? What are my strengths and weaknesses? These questions immediately give rise to others: How can I serve people better and prove most helpful to our world and to the Church? What is my real place in this world? What can I offer to society? Even more realistic questions then follow: Do I have the abilities needed to offer this kind of service? Could I develop those abilities?." (285)

PARTICIPATION IN THE LITURGY Now, once again, we are able to celebrate the Eucharist. This is a real cause for rejoicing but we must still be careful to take every precaution against Covid 19. We are not obliged to put ourselves at risk in order to take part in the Mass. There are many online liturgies.

You can take part in the liturgy via the internet at the Catholic Shrine webpage: www.walsingham.org.uk

"... You give them something to eat."



THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Befriending the Scriptures cannot, of course, meet at present We can, however, keep reading Matthew's gospel and the readings appointed for the Mass of the day even though we cannot meet.

Isaiah:55:1-3 Romans 8:35-39 Matthew 14:13-21 Sunday: Psalm 144 Monday: Jeremiah 28:1-17 Psalm 118 Matthew 14:22-36 Matthew 15:1-14 Tuesday: Jeremiah 30:1-22 Psalm 101 Jeremiah 31:10-13 Wednesday Jeremiah 31:4-7 Matthew 15:21-28

Thursday: Transfiguration of the Lord Daniel 7:9-14

Matthew 17:1-9 Psalm 96 Nahum 2:1-3:7 Matthew 16:24-28 Friday: Deuteronomy 32:35-41 Habakkuk 1:12-2:4 Psalm 9A Matthew 17:14-20 Saturday:

OPENING OF CHURCHES

As you will have heard on the news, the Government has now decided that church buildings may be open not only for individual prayer but also, from July 4th, for public services. We may celebrate the Eucharist together but must proceed carefully; there are many regulations to be observed (See *Distanced but Together*). We are in a period of transition and things will probably change from time to time. For this week the timetable will be as follows.:

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham: Sunday 10.30 Mass

Tuesday 9.30 Mass

Tuesday to Friday inclusive, 10 – 11.30 Private Prayer

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wells-next-the-Sea: Saturday 6.00 pm Mass

Thursday 9.30 Mass

St Peter's, Blakeney: Sunday 11.00 Mass

Wednesday 9.30 Mass

St Henry Walpole, Burnham Market: Friday 9.30 Mass

Sunday 9.30 Mass

Please hand on this information to people you know who are unable to receive this newsletter via the Web site. Who'd be a steward? Please do as they ask you without question.

Hand sanitiser will be available at each church but you should provide your own mask. 'Social distancing' must be observed. There will be clear indication in each church where you may sit.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION

I rejoice that, once again, we are able to share, even if under serious constraints, in the fundamental Christian act: the Eucharist. Under the present circumstances, however, be assured there is no obligation to attend Mass on Sundays. If you are isolating, sheltering or in any way nervous about public gatherings, just take your time.

FR KEITH

At last, but suddenly, a long-expected date for my surgery has been announced: August 3rd. Because of the Covid 19 situation a period of fourteen days quarantine is required before surgery, so I'm already isolated. In order to prevent Fr Tom, as a member of the same household, being isolated as well and the whole parish operation grinding to a halt, I'm away from home and pretty well incommunicado. (In desperation I can be reached by mobile phone or e-mail.) I will be out of action for some time following surgery. Manpower assistance has been sought and the changing situation will be reviewed here each week. Thank you for the patience I feel sure you will show.

CANCER RESEARCH

Tim Chrales, and Jackie and are taking part in a MacMillan CAncer support monery raiser: "Brave the Shave Information at https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/timcharles). Tim writes: "Sponsors would be welcomewelcome but, in any case, we wouln't want to turn up at church with near skinhead haircuts creating alarm and despondency!"

> Parish Clergy: Revv. Keith Tulloch, SM, (Parish Priest), Thomas Goonan, SM, Steven Leeder (Deacon) Contact Parish Priest: 07538 130655; 01328 713044 Web page: www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org annunciation22@gmail.com

> Newsletter contributions: annunciationnewsletter@amail.com