

Catholic Parish of Walsingham

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

(1836)

Parish Mass Book, Readings & Prayers 122-125 Prayer of the Church, 2

22nd SUNDAY

YEAR OF ST MATTHEW

AUGUST 30th 2020

St Paul makes no bones about it: “The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor. 1:18) For those who see through the eyes



of faith the cruel and ignominious death on a cross of the one identified by Simon Peter as, “the Messiah, the Son of God,” has begun to make sense. For the unaided understanding of human beings in any age it is preposterous. In the gospel today Simon Peter himself is caught up in this conundrum. His concept of the ‘Messiah, the Son of God’ does not include execution as a common criminal. Such a fate would surely defeat his purpose. And yet Jesus, who accepts Simon Peter’s designation of him a few lines earlier in the gospel, now tells him, and us, very clearly that he is, “... destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously... to be put to death.” When Simon Peter remonstrates with him Jesus calls him ‘Satan’.

It is as if Simon Peter’s intervention reminds Jesus of Satan’s tempting him, at the beginning of the gospel, to choose an easier path. To be a disciple of Jesus, to accept him as the one who ‘takes away the sin of the world’ is to recognise, along with him, that there is no easier path; the way of salvation is the way of the cross. After his devastating reply to Simon Peter, Jesus goes on to say to all those who want to be his disciples that they must, “Deny yourselves, take up their cross, and follow me.” We learn from this gospel incident that it took time for Jesus’ message to penetrate to the very core even of those whom we call the Apostles. Our own faith has developed at a time when the theology of the cross has been absorbed into our culture over centuries and its familiar symbol is everywhere around us – not least in secular jewellery. We have to make an effort to remember what a shocking business the crucifixion really was, and is. The distinction Paul makes between ‘those who are being saved’ and ‘those who are perishing’ is very stark and rests on their respective understanding of Jesus’ message about the cross as the power of God or foolishness. Jesus says that having suffered and died he will, “...on the third day be raised.” Herein lies the power of God. For having risen, Christ will “come in his Father’s glory” to be welcomed by those for whom the message of the cross reveals God’s power.

....from CHRISTUS VIVIT

“Listening calls for three distinct and complementary kinds of sensitivity...

The third kind of sensitivity is the ability to perceive what is driving the other person. This calls for a deeper kind of listening, one able to discern the direction in which that person truly wants to move. Apart from what they are feeling or thinking right now, and whatever has happened up to this point in their lives, the real issue is what they would like to be. This may demand that they look not to their own superficial wishes and desires, but rather to what is most pleasing to the Lord, to his plans for their life. And that is seen in a deeper inclination of the heart, beyond the surface level of their likes and feelings. This kind of listening seeks to discern their ultimate intention, the intention that definitively decides the meaning of their life. Jesus knows and appreciates this ultimate intention of the heart. He is always there, ready to help each of us to recognize it. We need but say to him: “Lord, save me! Have mercy on me!” (294)

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

“Take up your cross and follow me”

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.

Sunday:	Jeremiah 20:7-9	Psalm 62	Romans 12:1-2	Matthew 16:21-27
Monday:	1 Corinthians 2:1-5	Psalm 118		Luke 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Corinthians 2:10-16	Psalm 144		Luke 4:31-37
Wednesday:	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Psalm 32		Luke 4:38-44
Thursday:	St Gregory the Great 1 Thessalonians 2:2-8	Psalm 94		Matthew 16:13-19
Friday:	1 Corinthians 4:1-5	Psalm 36		Luke 5:31-39
Saturday:	1 Corinthians 4:6-15	Psalm 144		Luke 6:1-5

CHURCH OPENING THIS WEEK

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham:	Sunday 10.30 Mass Monday, Tuesday and Saturday 9.30 Mass (followed by exposition on Monday) Tuesday to Friday inclusive, 10 – 11.30 Private Prayer Confessions after 1030 Mass on Saturday
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 Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1030-1130 Private Prayer

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.

Under the present circumstances 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.

THE SEASON OF CREATION

As the Laudato Si' anniversary year gets underway, we are encouraged to take part in the annual Season of Creation. This annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home begins with the World Day of Prayer for Creation on 1st September and continues until the 4th October. Christians of all traditions are invited to take part by organising prayer services, litter clean-ups, or advocacy actions. A good way to celebrate would be to read Pope Francis' Laudato Si', which was published five years ago. There are more suggestions for celebration on the CAFOD website.

FR KEITH

Fr Keith is now recovering quietly at home. He would like to thank everyone for all their thoughts, prayers and good wishes. For the moment, Fr Tom and Fr Des will be answering the telephone.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Maureen Schofield, who was looking after the Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, is unwell and unfortunately this means that we will not be participating this year. Please pray for her, and for all those who are sick.

MGR JOHN ARMITAGE

This week we say farewell to Mgr John, who has been Rector of the Shrine for the last five years. We thank him for his support and wish him well in his new ministry.

FOR SALE

Ford Focus Zetec climate pack 2005. Goes well, looks tatty. £350 or near offer. Ring 01328 713044.

Parish Clergy: Revv. Keith Tulloch, SM, (Parish Priest), Thomas Goonan, SM,
Steven Leeder (Deacon)

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