

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Francis' Church will be the location for public masses on Saturday 18 July at 5.30pm, on Sunday 19 July at 8:00, 9:30am and 11:15 am and on Tuesday 21 July at 10:00am. Please remember to wear a face covering in church, thank you.

It was a real step forward to celebrate two Sunday masses last week. This Sunday we return to our more usual practice, all at St Francis' Church, of having four Sunday Masses. It has been lovely to see so many of our parishioners at Mass over last Sunday and on Tuesday. Please remember that confessions are also available on Saturday afternoons and Tuesday mornings.

Soon I shall be giving information about Baptisms. There is something of a problem here, as we will need to have the church cleaned after each baptism, which will involve stewards / cleaners helping at times other than just for mass. When I have consulted further about this I will be in touch with you all. **All Marriages have been postponed.**

The reality of evil in the world, co-existing with the good is emphasised in the first of the parables for this Sunday at Mass – weeds and wheat growing together. It will only be when the things of this world come to their ultimate conclusion that the Lord's judgment is given. Until then we must try to live the life of God's kingdom, seeking the forgiveness of the Lord as expressed in the reading from the book of Wisdom and in the psalm. The life of prayer, the very consolation of the Holy Spirit is also given to us to sustain us on our journey of faith.

I hope that you and your family will have some blessed times together in spite of all the present difficulties.

ST AUSTIN'S

I have received some enquiries about St Austin's Church. It seemed to me at the beginning of 'lockdown' that I would be offering a private mass at the church where I live, from the point of view of ease of use. When we needed to think of stewards, cleaners and preparing the church to open up, St Francis' was the obvious choice; large car park, easy access, no need to 'open up' the site. There was no necessity to have the same procedure for St Austin's. Now, however, there is also the issue of **damp** again in the church. This will be addressed over the next few months, making impossible the use of the church at present. I hope you will all wish use St Francis' Church for Mass and private prayer.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS AND OUR SCHOOLS

With the arrival of this Sunday, both St Augustine's and Crackley Hall Schools will now have come to the end of the school year and be on holiday. May I congratulate the schools on their achievements during the year both in the Curriculum and also the many activities, spiritual, musical and dramatic, sporting and cultural? How difficult the last four months have been, and yet the schools have provided so much for the good of the pupils! The life and the atmosphere in these two schools come in no small measure as a result of teamwork between the Head teachers, staff, pupils, parents and Governing bodies. May I thank Mrs. Ritchie and Mr. Duigan for their commitment, energy and loving pastoral care shown in the schools and for the wonderful way Father David and I are welcomed when we are able to visit?

FROM FATHER KEVIN

I am grateful to the whole parish for the expressions of congratulations and good wishes at the time of my twenty-third anniversary of ordination as a Catholic priest. It was strange to be celebrating Mass alone and in an empty church last Thursday. That was very different from twenty-three years ago in the Cathedral!

Thank you for the greetings cards, Mass cards and gifts. I am truly grateful to you all.

CONGRATULATIONS

Many of you will remember the Ordination to the Priesthood of Father Richard Walker at St Francis' Church on 22 July 2000. Father Richard will celebrate his twentieth anniversary of Ordination on Wednesday and Mass will be offered for him here on that day. We send him our sincere congratulations and our prayers for his coming ministry in the Archdiocese from September as the new Vicar General.

This means that our Parish Centre is also twenty years old on that day!

The Cathedral Dean, Monsignor Timothy Menezes also celebrates his Silver Jubilee of Ordination on that day. We remember him in prayer on the same day and with our congratulations. Ad multos annos vivant!!

CONDOLENCES

We offer our sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to Roe Richardson following the death of her sister, Allison Cartmail, the daughter of Nina Humble, and to Joseph and Dominic McDonnell, following the death of their uncle, Patrick James Ruddy. May they both rest in peace.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES – Please collect those in church if you haven't already

These envelopes and other donations may be posted through the Presbytery inside letter-box. Thank you for this sign of kindness and generosity.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Members of the SVP are distributing paper copies of the weekly parish newsletter to parishioners who do not have access to the online version.

If you are aware of anyone who would benefit from receiving a copy, please phone 01926 858 436.

SVP AID

Our SVP conference in Kenilworth is here to provide practical assistance to those in need. If you need support, or know of anyone who does, contact us to see if we can help. Contact is PresidentF021304@svp.org.uk

CALLING YOUNG ADULTS!

Just finished 6th Form and would like to put your faith into action? Check out what SVP for young adults 18-33 is like by looking at: <https://www.svp.org.uk/svp1833> and Instagram: svpyoungadults, twitter: svpyoungadultse&w; and Facebook: Vinnie Young Adults.

Or, join the new young adult virtual conference: Young Adult Virtual. You will be linked virtually via zoom meetings for prayer, spiritual reflection, planning and reporting and linked to an adult conference nearby for practical works of charity or, if this isn't appropriate at the moment, to local projects like food banks or refugee centres. Interested? Email lynnelong@hotmail.com or teresak@svp.org.uk

MAY OUR LORD BLESS YOU ALL DURING THESE DIFFICULT AND CHALLENGING TIMES, FATHER KEVIN