



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Samy Deacon: Rev. Terry Hum (Rtd)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Angela Scull, Phone: 07847611013

Parish School: St. Mary's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Daventry Road, Southam CV47 1PS

Tel. No. 01926 812512 Head Teacher: Mrs. Price

Tel: (01926) 812351 E-mail: presbytery@stwulstan-southam.co.uk www.stwulstan-southam.co.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



19.07.2020 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weeds among the wheat

The Church, and indeed the world, is like a field in which wheat and weeds grow side by side until they are separated at the harvest time.

Masses & Intentions

Sunday 19 9.30am	<i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> People of the Parish
Monday July 20	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> Mary & Tim Early (50 th Wedding Anniversary)
Tuesday July 21	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> St. Mary's Catholic School
Wednesday July 22	<i>St. Mary Magdalene</i> Caroline de Vasconcelos Intentions 6.00 - 7.00pm Individual Prayers (TBC)
Thursday July 23	<i>St. Bridget, Religious, Patron of Europe</i> William & Margaret Mullen RIP
Friday July 24	<i>Feria / St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest</i> John Clifford RIP
Saturday July 25	<i>St. James, Apostle</i> In Thanksgiving
Sunday July 26	<i>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> People of the Parish

A warm welcome to everyone to Mass in our church this weekend. This is the third Sunday that we gather for Mass after lockdown has been eased.

Many thanks to our stewards for their help. Without their assistance we would not be celebrating Mass in our church.

As we gather for Mass this weekend, let us pray for all those who are unwell and housebound in our parish and community, especially those affected by Covid 19 and those serving in frontline services.

Sadly, countries around the world are still struggling with the pandemic and in some countries the situation is rather alarming. We are aware of Covid – 19's lingering, painful effects of loss, bereavement and job insecurity. Let us pray for all those in positions of authority and those entrusted with the responsibilities of dealing with the pandemic!

Guidelines and restrictions such as social distancing, wearing face mask, use of sanitizers are to be observed.

After Mass this weekend there will be a brief review of the current arrangement. Keeping our church open on Wednesday between 6.00 and 7.00pm for individual prayers or organizing one more Mass at the current circumstance will be discussed.

Hence we appeal for more volunteers.

Visiting the housebound / sick in the parish will resume as soon as it is safe to do so.

Please be encouraged to celebrate the **Liturgy of the Hours**. For accessing 'Liturgy of the Hours' or 'the Readings at Mass' please visit: <https://universalis.com> for assistance.

www.wednesdayword.org offers reflections (Lectio Divina) as well as reflections / activities for children & family.

A Parable of Growth (Matthew 13:24-30): The Gospel of Matthew gathers together a whole set of pictures which Jesus used to describe the society of God's servants which he was intent on setting up. Matthew calls it 'the Kingdom of Heaven'. Jews avoided bandying around the name of 'God', so Matthew calls it by the place where God is enthroned, Heaven. The first picture, the wheat and the darnel, shows that in some of those called the good seed has been overlaid by weed. In its early growth this weed, the inedible darnel, is incredibly difficult for a non-farmer to distinguish from good barley. No more can we presume to sort out who is seeking God and who is not; it is dangerous to despise or to dismiss anyone at all. The explanation given by Matthew constitutes a warning that the harvest, the judgment, will come in the end.

Do we have any right to judge others (or may we be mistaking wheat for darnel)? What is the darnel in us that needs weeding out before the judgment?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Pope's Prayer Intention for July - (Our Families): We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

Sick: Please pray for all those who are unwell at this time, especially all those who are affected by Covid-19, those who are in isolation and all who help / take care of them as well as all those who serve our communities in frontline jobs.

RIP: Please pray for **John Clifford** and all those who died recently and for all the faithful departed. *May they all, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Telephone support: Some of our parishioners are supporting each other by telephone. Please phone 811703 (Shirley) or email (shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com) if you want a chat or to receive calls or if you would like to join those who are calling others.



Congratulations to Bernard & Jill Cadogan who will be celebrating their Golden Jubilee of their Wedding on Aug 1st. Let us offer them our prayers and best wishes

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you have already come and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. — St. Alphonsus Liguori

Welcome to Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy at our Church normally takes place alongside Mass on Sunday mornings but of course this has not been happening in recent weeks due to the pandemic. Our Church is now proposing to hold the

Children's Liturgy on-line using Zoom. The Liturgy is a time of worship and fun for children of primary school age and usually involves a bible reading, songs, prayers and handicraft activities. The first on-line Liturgy will take place on Sunday 14th June at 10.15 - 10.45. All children will be most welcome to attend even if you do not attend Church.

If you would like your child to take part please e-mail presbytery@stwulstan-southam.co.uk as soon as possible and further details including log in instructions will be sent to you.

Evangelisation Team: Members from various parishes of our part of the deanery are involved in discerning and discussing various opportunities and means of sharing the Good News in these challenging times. The parish would welcome volunteers to represent our parish. Please speak to Fr. Arul

Children's Liturgy Newsletters / Materials are also available at www.wednesdayword.org and Redemptorist Publication's newsletters are sent to all parishioners on the e-mail contact list.

PRAYERS FOR THE PANDEMIC: FOR THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS

God of Gethsemane, who knew deep anxiety,
the desire for the cup to be taken away,
your sweat dropping onto the clay of earth like blood,
be with those who suffer at this time
from anxiety, the fear of their world
running out of control.

The facts alone
fan the embers of anxiety
in all of us: the grim daily numbers,
the fear of falling ill, of facing our end.
In our loneliest darkness,
in the night of our Gethsemane,
may we find you there. Amen



(Raymond Friel)

St Mary Magdalene

Mary of Magdala was healed of "seven devils" by Jesus. She ministered to him in Galilee and was present at his crucifixion. She was in the group of women who were the first to discover the empty tomb, and it was to her that the risen Jesus first appeared.

The Western tradition is that Mary Magdalene is also "the woman who was a sinner" and the sister of Martha and Lazarus of Bethany. There is no evidence either way, and the tradition is tenuous enough for even such authorities as St Ambrose to hold, with the East, that they are three different people. It seems, therefore, that although the Western tradition is to be respected and is a real inspiration, it may not necessarily be historical. This kind of ambiguity is inevitable in a religion such as Christianity, which is founded on definite historical events rather than myths which can be adjusted into logicity. We need not worry about it too much: if it had been harmful to us to celebrate the tradition of heroic penitence, the Holy Spirit would not have allowed it.

Even without the extra tradition, Mary Magdalene is a unique and important character in the story of the Resurrection, chosen by Christ as one of the first witnesses of the event that changed the world.

St Bridget of Sweden (1303 - 1373)

She was married to a nobleman and had eight children. At the age of 30 she was summoned to the court of the King of Sweden, where she served as lady-in-waiting to the queen. She tried without much success to moderate the riotous and indecent life of the royal court.

After a pilgrimage to the shrine of St James at Compostela in Spain, Bridget and her husband Ulf decided to spend the rest of their lives in monasteries. Ulf died in 1344, but Bridget went on to found a double monastery (for men and women in separate but adjacent institutions) as the start of a new monastic order.

In 1350 she travelled to Rome for the Holy Year, and spent the rest of her life there caring for the poor and the sick, denouncing the excesses of the aristocracy, and robustly telling the Pope to return to Rome from Avignon.

She had many mystical visions, which alarmed her because she feared that they might be the work of the Devil; but a learned Cistercian monk reassured her, and she subsequently dictated and published the revelations she received, which were partially devotional and partly prophetic.

Liturgical colour: green

The theological virtue of hope is symbolized by the colour green, just as the burning fire of love is symbolized by red. Green is the colour of growing things, and hope, like them, is always new and always fresh. Liturgically, green is the colour of Ordinary Time, the orderly sequence of weeks through the year, a season in which we are being neither single-mindedly penitent (in purple) nor overwhelmingly joyful (in white).

Liturgical colour: white

White is the colour of heaven. Liturgically, it is used to celebrate feasts of the Lord; Christmas and Easter, the great seasons of the Lord; and the saints. Not that you will always see white in church, because if something more splendid, such as gold, is available, that can and should be used instead. We are, after all, celebrating.

In the earliest centuries all vestments were white – the white of baptismal purity and of the robes worn by the armies of the redeemed in the Apocalypse, washed white in the blood of the Lamb. As the Church grew secure enough to be able to plan her liturgy, she began to use colour so that our sense of sight could deepen our experience of the mysteries of salvation, just as incense recruits our sense of smell and music that of hearing. Over the centuries various schemes of colour for feasts and seasons were worked out, and it is only as late as the 19th century that they were harmonized into their present form.

<https://universalis.com/20200723/today.htm>

Year of the Word: Scripture is at the centre of everything the Church does. The word of God shapes our prayer and worship. The Bible shows us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other.

The year 2020 marks the 1,600th anniversary of St Jerome's death. St. Jerome translated the Sacred Scriptures from the original languages into Latin, the common language of the educated at the time. This year also marks the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini – Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord'. These dates have inspired the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to dedicate 2020-21 as a period of focus on the Bible. Be encouraged to read the Bible.

Prayer for Year of the Word

*Living God,
you walk alongside us
and speak to us throughout the Scriptures.
Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears
and shows us how to live for one another.
Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds
so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world.
Amen*

*V/ Your word is our path and your truth is our light.
R/ This day and every day.*

*Our Lady of the Annunciation
Pray for us
St Matthew
Pray for us
St Jerome
Pray for us.*

