



## THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

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



### 30.08.2020 – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to guests visitors and parishioners.

#### Christ who overcame the reluctance of the flesh

It comes to us as no surprise that the Prophet Jeremiah should have felt reluctance to offer himself as a living sacrifice to God's will, because we all experience the same reluctance to accept the cross. But what consolation it is to know that Christ experienced the same reluctance of the flesh and had to struggle to overcome it.

#### Masses & Intentions

<b>Sunday 30</b>	<i>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
9.30am	Stewart Family Intentions
<b>Monday 31</b>	<i>St. Aidan, Bishop &amp; the Saints of Lindisfarne</i>
	People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday 01</b>	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
	John Clifford RIP
<b>Wednesday 02</b>	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
6.30pm	<b>Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Individual Prayers</b>
7.00pm	Stewart Family Intentions
<b>Thursday 03</b>	<i>St. Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church</i>
	Hamjad Howrani RIP
<b>Friday 04</b>	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
	Pam Foley & Ashraf (Intentions)
<b>Saturday 05</b>	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
	Thomai (Anniversary) & Rosamma (RIP)
<b>Sunday 06</b>	<i>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
	Selvanayagam & Arockiammal (RIP)

Dear Parishioners,

Hope you are all keeping well and safe. As the month of August comes to an end, our minds are drawn to the prospect of schools reopening and our children getting back to schools. We hope and pray that this happen in safe and healthy environment.

From the first week of September we endeavour to provide parishioners attending Sunday Mass with a copy of the Readings at Mass and the Sunday Plus combined. Parishioners are asked take / receive a copy it. Please be reminded that this must not be left behind either in your seats or at the back of the church, but must be taken with you to be safely disposed of at your convenience.

– Fr. Arul

**RIP:** Please pray for **Deacon Peter Kilgallon** (retired deacon from Rugeley Parish) 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](mailto: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.

**Sanctuary Lamp:** The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for **Jane Burnell**. May God be gracious to her and bless her.

**MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF MISSIO:** During this difficult time for us all, we have made every effort to keep in touch with our 2,500 parish volunteers. Many have been concerned about not being able to collect and empty the Red Boxes. To help them we have put in place some alternative ways to give including through a dedicated donation page at [www.missio.org.uk/redbox](http://www.missio.org.uk/redbox)

To learn more about the difference Missio is making through prayer and charity please see our Impact Report, available on-line [missio.org.uk/mission-today](http://missio.org.uk/mission-today) or ringing 020 7821 9755.

Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement.

– Fr Anthony Chantry

**APF RED BOX:** Thanks to our parishioners who help the Missions through your thoughtful and generous donations through the 'Red Box'. If convenient and possible, please bring / send them to the church for your contributions to be forwarded to the Missio office.

**CAFOD - DEC CORONAVIRUS APPEAL:** The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) launched a nationwide Coronavirus appeal on Tuesday 14 July. CAFOD is an active member of the Committee and are currently giving support to communities in 26 countries with the £1.6 million they have raised so far, to help prevent the spread of the virus and limit the impact of hunger that lockdowns have caused.

**The Cross of Jesus (Matthew 16:21-27):** What a turn-around! Last Sunday Peter was being congratulated on at last realising the Jesus was the Christ. He was promised the keys and authority to make decisions valid in heaven. Now Jesus shoos him away and tells him that he is Satan, the Tempter. Why the change? Jesus had told Peter that his role as Christ Messiah was to suffer and die in order to achieve his purpose, and Peter shied away from it. What is that particular soft option which you find it so easy to take? What is the difficult task Christ is asking of you, and you are avoiding? We are no better than his first disciples! It happens twice more in the gospel that Jesus foretells his passion and each time the disciples simply fail to understand. Each time Jesus puts it bluntly that you cannot be a Christian without following Jesus in carrying a Cross. We see people suffering the whole time, physical disabilities, breakdown of relationships, heartless treatment from others, financial worries – and then we grouse at a twinge of pain or a hurtful word. Carry the Cross behind Jesus? Yes, of course I will, but if you don't mind, I'll just take that section which is well padded and fits my shoulder nicely. No point in unnecessary splinters in my neck!

**What is the heaviest Cross in your life? How can you share it with Jesus?**

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

**Pope's Prayer Intention for September - (Respect for the Planet's Resources):** We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

**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.

The need is immense, particularly in countries where there is conflict and displacement of whole communities

“The Church [is] a community of people, animated by the Holy Spirit, who have lived and are living the wonder of the encounter with Jesus Christ and want to share this experience of deep joy, the message of salvation that the Lord gave us.”  
– Pope Francis

### **The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows**

Why has the Catholic Church traditionally dedicated the month of September to Our Lady of Sorrows? The answer is simple: The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows falls right in the middle of the month, on September 15. But how was that date chosen? Because the day before, September 14, is the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross.

Like many of the lesser-known Marian feasts, the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows is tied to an event in the life of her Son. On September 14, we celebrate the instrument of Christ's victory over death; and the next day, we remember the suffering of Mary as she stood at the foot of the Cross and witnessed the torture and death of her Son. We are also reminded of Simeon's words to Mary (Luke 2:34-35) at the Presentation of the Lord—that a sword would pierce her soul.

Through these (days of pandemic), we can unite ourselves to Mary in her sorrow, in the hope that we will one day also share her joy in the triumph of her Son.

### **The Seven Sorrows of Mary**

1. The Prophecy of Simeon: [Lk 2:25-35](#)
2. The Flight of Jesus, Mary and Joseph into Egypt: [Mt 2:13-15](#)
3. The Loss of Jesus in the Temple: [Lk 2:41-52](#)
4. Mary meets Jesus on the Way of the Cross: [Lk 23:26-32](#)
5. Jesus dies on the Cross: [Jn 19:17-30](#)
6. Mary receives the Dead Body of Jesus: [Lk 23:50-56](#)
7. Jesus is placed in the Tomb: [Jn 19:38-42](#)

<https://www.learnreligions.com/prayers-for-september-542771>

### **Prayer to Our Mother of Sorrows**

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus, and with tender care you bore Him in your arms, mourning and weeping. We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of His passion. Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love. Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs. Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen!  
<https://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=2456>

**Saint Gregory the Great (c. 540 – March 12, 604):** Gregory was the prefect of Rome before he was 30. After five years in office he resigned, founded six monasteries on his Sicilian estate, and became a Benedictine monk in his own home at Rome.

Ordained a priest, Gregory became one of the pope's seven deacons, and also served six years in the East as papal representative in Constantinople. He was recalled to become abbot, but at the age of 50 was elected pope by the clergy and people of Rome.

Gregory was direct and firm. He removed unworthy priests from office, forbade taking money for many services, emptied the papal treasury to ransom prisoners of the Lombards and to

care for persecuted Jews and the victims of plague and famine. He was very concerned about the conversion of England, sending 40 monks from his own monastery. He is known for his reform of the liturgy, and for strengthening respect for doctrine. Whether he was largely responsible for the revision of “Gregorian” chant is disputed.

Gregory lived in a time of perpetual strife with invading Lombards and difficult relations with the East. When Rome itself was under attack, he interviewed the Lombard king.

His book, Pastoral Care, on the duties and qualities of a bishop, was read for centuries after his death. He described bishops mainly as physicians whose main duties were preaching and the enforcement of discipline. In his own down-to-earth preaching, Gregory was skilled at applying the daily Gospel to the needs of his listeners. Called “the Great,” Gregory has been given a place with Augustine, Ambrose, and Jerome, as one of the four key doctors of the Western Church.

An Anglican historian has written: “It is impossible to conceive what would have been the confusion, the lawlessness, the chaotic state of the Middle Ages without the medieval papacy; and of the medieval papacy, the real father is Gregory the Great.”

**Reflection:** Gregory was content to be a monk, but he willingly served the Church in other ways when asked. He sacrificed his own preferences in many ways, especially when he was called to be Bishop of Rome. Once he was called to public service, Gregory gave his considerable energies completely to this work. Gregory's description of bishops as physicians fits in well with Pope Francis' description of the Church as a “field hospital.” <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-gregory>

If the intention is unclean, the deed that follows from it will also be evil, even if it seems good. (Pope Gregory the Great)

### **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)

### **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.*

