

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Sunday 30 August 2020

St Joseph's

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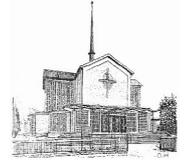
St Peter's

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Our Lady's

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Lillington CV32 7SJ
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Parish Priest, St Joseph's
Fr Noel Breslin
Priest in Residence
Fr Ramunas Gerdauskas

Parish Priest, St Peter's & Our Lady's, Dean of Warwick Deanery
Fr John Cross
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Rear-view Mirror

You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do. Matthew 16:23

I have found that God's providence is seen most clearly in the rear-view mirror. I can see God acting in my life after the fact – the "chance" meeting, the difficult challenge, the wise counsel. God's will for us is often more difficult to recognise in the present, torn between choices, buffeted by fear and selfishness.

The Scripture readings today focus on doing the will of God. In the gospel, Jesus gives us an instructive lesson in his rebuke of Peter's outburst. Only a few verses after Peter recognises Jesus as the Messiah, he tries to dissuade Jesus from his prediction of the Passion.

Jesus is reminding all of us that, so often, we are thinking not as God does, but as humans do. We want the easy path, the broad road. Jesus wants us to take up our cross. What was not easily seen until later was that that sacrifice, that cross, was God's will, and what was difficult was also a blessing.

Lord, even when the path is hard, I long to do your will.

Greg Erlandson @ Living Faith

PICNIC POSTPONED...



... until next
Sunday, 6
September
when more
favourable
weather is
forecast.

Novena to St Francis: for a world under threat

To mark the Season of Creation J&P is highlighting a different prayer for each Sunday up to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. The prayers are based on his beautiful *Canticle of the Sun*.

This Novena is a song of penitence and praise, guiding us to care for the earth and for our most vulnerable sisters and brothers. Pope Francis calls us all to celebrate this opportune moment to "*reaffirm [our] personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which He has entrusted to our care, and to implore His help for the protection of creation, as well as His pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live.*"

Today's prayer: Water

Creator God, from your gift of water flows all life, yet we pollute your clear springs. Forgive us, as the earth cries out.

St Francis, you drank deeply from Christ's living water. May we, like you, live simply and prize the good things of the earth.

St Francis, pray for us.

Go to: cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Novena-to-St-Francis#anchor for video and printable resources.

St Peter's & Our Lady's

Sunday 30 August

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

SP 11.00: Thanksgiving for Dora & Daniel on the birth of Zoe

Tuesday 1 September Feria

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

SP 12.30: Memorial Service for Doreen

Gianelli (Family only)

SP 7.00: David Ayres;

Jennifer Greenwood

Wednesday 2 Feria

OL 11.00: Joan Bolton RIP

Thursday 3 St Gregory the Great

SP 11.00: John Price

Friday 4 Feria

SP 11.00: Health of John Clancy

SP 1.30: *Requiem* Marguerite Ayres

Saturday 5 Feria

OL 12.30 Mass: Patrick McHale

Sunday 6 September

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

SP 11.00: Marcella Hazel RIP

St Joseph's

Sunday 30 August

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

9.00: May & Seamus Martin RIP

Monday 31 Feria – Psalter Week 2

9.30: Teresa Lynch RIP

Tuesday 1 September Feria

9.30: Lucas Jelonek's Intentions;

Nuala Power – Get Well

Thursday 3 St Gregory the Great

7.00: Rosaleen Thurlow RIP

Friday 4 Feria

9.30: Har Doyle Anniversary

Saturday 5 Feria

9.30: In Thanksgiving (AJ);

Pete Rowberry – Get Well

Sunday 6 September

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

9.00: Malachy Blair

St Joseph's

Please note this Monday's Mass is at 9.30 am as it's a Bank Holiday.

Fr Andy's Leaving Collection: If you would like to contribute to the leaving collection for Fr Andy, then please put your contribution in an envelope clearly marked Fr Andy's Collection and either put through the Presbytery letterbox or in the collection basket at the end of each Mass.



This week
Our Lady's
Seven Day
Candle burns for

**Teasie O'Neill RIP
Anniversary**

Church Cleaners / Stewards: we still need more volunteers over age 18 and under 70 to help so that we can continue to open our Church and offer Mass every day. If you can help, please contact the Office by phone (Wednesdays) or email. We are very grateful for all of the help already received as without this help we would be unable to open to the public.

Gift Aid Envelopes for this current year which have not yet been collected are available from Fr Noel or the Sacristy.

Congratulations to Adam Borley and Robert Morton, who won the 1st (£50) and 2nd (£30) prizes in August's 200 Club draw. The next collection and draw will take place on Sunday 6 September.

Now that the Church has re-opened for Mass, it would be helpful if you could drop an envelope into the Presbytery with some contribution towards the 200 Club if you know that you are behind. However, everyone will continue to be included in the draw for the time being so don't worry if you cannot visit the Church.

It is also possible to move to paying by Standing Order if you prefer. All profits go to the Church's Building Fund so thank you for your support.

Standing Orders/PayPal: Thank you to all the parishioners who have set up standing orders or made PayPal payments these have been a great help to the parish during the recent times. We still have several unidentified payments into our bank account, if you have set up a direct payment please ensure you have given the details to the Parish Office so that the details can be set up on the Parish banking system. Thank you.

Baptisms: If you previously had a date booked for a Baptism at St Joseph's which was then cancelled due to Coronavirus, these can now be rebooked under strict new guidelines. Please contact either Fr Noel or the Parish Office on Wednesdays.

Our Lady's 7 Day Candle: there are still a few dates remaining this year from 22nd November.

Confessions: Social distancing is observed at all Churches. The priest hears confessions in church.

St Joseph's Saturdays from 10.00-10.30 am. *Please wait in the Narthex until you are called in.* **Our Lady's:** Before Mass, at call. **St Peter's:** Saturdays from 4.00-5.00 pm. *Please wait outside the West Doors until you are called in.*

The recently deceased of our churches: Hans-Peter Boos, Deacon Peter Kilgallon, Patrick Dermott, Marguerite Ayres, Davy Sauvage, Hannah Falvey, Teresa Lynch, John Henderson, Rose Thurlow.
May they rest in peace.

Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Eileen Long, Kathleen O'Mahoney, Eugenia Rubino, William O'Leary, Sheila Sprawson, Thomas Rafferty, Stewart Smith, Concetta Clews, Dariusz Celinski, Jason Kelsey, Attilio Dematteis, Arthur Thurlow, Mary McGreevy, Bridie Blackaby, Francis Clark, Brian Thurlough, Canon Joseph Nightingale, Mgr Canon Leonard Emery, Fr J Basil Singleton, Mgr James Dunlop Crichton, Fr Bernard Salt, Fr Thomas O'Doherty, Fr James Holland, Deacon Francis Andrews.
May they rest in peace.

St Peter's & Our Lady's

Dear Parishioners,

For those of you able to attend Mass, I am sure you are aware of the special role of the Stewards and Cleaners. No Mass can take place without them, as the guidelines require me to make sure I am able to protect you in church. You may not be aware of how much planning and goodwill has gone into ensuring we are all as safe as we can be.

With this in mind, may I remind you to sit where the stewards ask you to sit. There are special places for wheelchairs and those with limited mobility. The churches have been marked out in such a way as to be able to seat a maximum capacity. If you sit in an aisle seat without another parishioner on the same bench you are reducing capacity, especially at the weekend Masses. I do not want parishioners to have to climb over those of you who have plonked yourself on an aisle seat. Nor do I want people to be turned away because a parishioner has sat down where they habitually sat pre-COVID instead of following the steward's request.

Please also be aware that by sitting in places all over the church it means every bench must be cleansed. If you sit on the allotted benches, with the distancing of the green stickers, our cleaners will not need to spend unnecessary time cleansing the entire bench when only one person has sat there. So please be considerate in where you sit, follow the instructions of the stewards who act on my behalf. On a Sunday especially, or on days when the church is full, please sit in the allocated spaces. Families and those who live in the same household can sit together.

A reminder about how you should receive Holy Communion: please hold your hands as far forward in front of you as possible. The priest will place the host on your hand and he will be at full stretch too. This is to help both the priest and the communicant to keep their distance. As you reach the priest your mask should remain covering your face. As you receive the host the mask stays in place. As you move away from the priest step to one side and face the altar, remove one side to your mask to place the sacred host in your mouth. Then replace the mask and walk back to your place. Remember you may need to walk all the way round the church to return to your place because I do not want you to cross the places where other people are sitting because of the two metre

Continued p.3

Our prayers for Giovanni Allurlino, Fr David Bazen, Solange Beccles, Edward Behan, Mary Craig, Mario Fasi, Edna Hale, Eileen Hiorns, Jo Holleron, Estelle Holmes, John Ireson, Mist Johnson, David Kendall, Mgr Christopher Lightbound, Antonina La Spisa, Nathaniel Manning, Kate Miles, Paula Newton, Jim Olexa, Fr Malcolm Prince, Ann Reilly, Marie Robinson, Patricia Robinson, Peggy Rowlands, Marjorie Smedley, Luke Sweeney, Terena Tam, Terry Tam, George Wall, Elizabeth Weston, Peter Wright & all those at home, or in the nursing homes & hospitals of the parish. **Lord Jesus, watch over all who suffer and are in pain. Bless all those who care for them.**

St Peter's & Our Lady's *continued*

distance rule. If you cross someone sitting in the pew you are not keeping your distance from them and may cause them to feel uncomfortable.

If you feel you are unable to make the complete circuit around the church after receiving Holy Communion please notify a steward. The priest will then come to you after everyone else has received Holy Communion. Please do not think you can walk back down the centre aisle; it is marked for **single file** and is **one-way**. Walking back along the aisle against the parishioners queuing to receive Holy Communion will cause them to feel uncomfortable because you are not observing the required social distancing.

You will note that the green stickers for places where parishioners can sit are positioned about 3 feet away from the end of the pew. This is in accordance with the guidelines which state that parishioners should not sit in places where they will be near to a queue – again it is about keeping your distance.

At the end of every Mass there is an opportunity for parishioners to donate to the upkeep and the running of the church. As an example, the cleaning materials for the churches: hand sanitizer, anti-virus sprays and wipes, cleaning cloths, gloves, aprons and masks etc – so far, we have spent over £150.00 at current prices just to keep the churches clean.

Every blessing, Fr John

St Peter's and Our Lady's are both opening their doors for a Heritage Open Day. At St Peter's this will be on Saturday 12 September and at Our Lady's on Sunday 20 September. A series of events is being planned throughout the day at each church. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the beauty of our churches. Volunteers are invited to join the team and make these our best days to date. Contact Helen Monastero on helen.mon@icloud.com

Please note: there will be no confessions on the Saturday of Heritage Open Day at St Peter's.

Seven-day candles:

We warmly invite you to light a seven-day candle at our two churches. There are four locations at St Peter's (the Chapels of Our Lady or St Joseph, and two on the main altar), and the Sanctuary Lamp at Our Lady's. Envelopes will be left at the back of the church. Place them in the weekly donations basket/bucket as you leave church or post envelopes through the presbytery door if you're in town. Alternatively, call the office and book your chosen date and candle location as well as the intention. The suggested donation is £10.00 but we will gratefully accept any offering. Candles can be booked from Sunday 6 September 2020.

The candles will burn from Sunday to Saturday for your intention (which will be featured in the newsletter). Your candle will light up our churches and support us financially. The first £200.00 raised will be re-invested in the flower arrangements for each church's Heritage Open day (12 and 20 September respectively).



Fr Noel's leaving collection will close this week and a cheque presented to him shortly after that.

Stewards and cleaners will be needed at every public event in the church for many months and even years to come. Without these key volunteers I will not be able to open the churches for Mass. I appeal to those who can help who are over 18 and under 70 to offer some of your free time. It is a worthwhile activity and we are all grateful for your help and support. Full training will be given. Contact Martin Foley on martinfoley73@gmail.com if you can help at St Peter's or, for Our Lady's Church, Helen Monastero at helen.mon@icloud.com.

Gift Aid envelopes for this financial year can be collected from the office, but please give advance notice.

We are not permitted to pass around collection bags during Mass. Instead, as you leave church, the basket / bucket is your opportunity to contribute to the first and second collections, cash or envelopes. You can also put in Mass Intentions.

The Mass Intention Diary is not as full as it would have been pre-lockdown! There are envelopes available in the churches and, as mentioned above, these can be put in the collection bucket after Mass. *If you require a Mass Card please email or call the office and arrange a time to collect one.*

Baptisms are now held on Saturdays, 2.00 pm (Our Lady's) and Sundays, 3.00 pm (St Peter's). There are new guidelines which must be adhered to. If you already had a date booked you will be my first priority. If you have not yet been contacted by the Parish Office, please call Jane on Mondays or Thursdays on 01926 423824.

Tales of the unexpected: Tales of the Unexpected: I now have a dedicated Facebook slot and you can find out all about me and life in and outside the Presbytery at Catholic Leamington SPA but even so for the technophobes I will continue to write for the Newsletter as I have for the past 10 years ! Best woofs, Bertie ;-) xx

Sharing the Good News: our next Evangelisation Team Zoom meeting is on Monday 7 September at 7.30 pm. Newcomers are always welcome to help us in planning how to share the Good News in these challenging times. Contact: Peter 01926 428399 mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk so an invitation can be sent out to you.

Catholic Leamington Young Adults Group (16-30) meet up: Saturday 5 September, the feast day of Mother Teresa, we'll meet up at 2.00 pm for 'Faith and fun in the park' (socially distanced of course). Come along to the Pump Room Gardens (opposite St Peter's) for some prayer, faith and fun-filled, chilled chats. If it rains, we could go to a cafe or a pub where we'll enjoy getting into the spirit! For up-to-date info join our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/949489832168594> or message Rose on 07484 127253. All welcome.

SPAN has maintained its giving both locally and overseas during the lockdown period. If you are attending Mass in person you can make donations using a SPAN envelope (or label your own envelope as 'SPAN'). Add your name / number if you are a Gift Aid donor. Pop it in the after Mass donations basket / bucket. Please get in touch if you are having difficulty over this, contact paulhayden@ntlworld.com