



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



11.10.2020 – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to guests visitors and parishioners.

The Lord's Wedding Feast

In Christ Jesus, God fulfils all our needs, as lavishly as only God can (Phil. 4:19). All of us, no matter how unworthy we may be, are invited to the wedding feast of his Son. We have only to enter.

Masses & Intentions

Saturday 10 5.30pm	<i>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Mass
Sunday 11 10.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 12	<i>St. Wilfrid, Bishop.</i> Mass
Tuesday 13	<i>St. Edward the Confessor.</i> Mass
Wednesday 14 6.30pm 7.00pm	<i>St. Callistus, Pope, Martyr.</i> Eucharistic Adoration & Individual Prayers Intentions of Valerie Berridge.
Thursday 15	<i>St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor.</i> Mass
Friday 16	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> T & M C Family
Saturday 17 5.30pm	<i>St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</i> Mass
Sunday 18 10.00am	<i>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> People of the Parish

Dear Friends,

Hope you had a good week, are staying safe, warm and well.

We hear of more restriction ahead. Hope they will be accepted in good spirit and all will cooperate with the efforts to bring the pandemic under control. Let us not forget to create the 'Sacred Space/s' to find solace and strength. The privilege of the people of faith is to pray for God's grace, help and blessing on all who are affected and afflicted by the pandemic. May we help and support them through our prayers, good will and generosity.

The month of November is not far. It is also known as 'Month of Remembrance', and 'Month of the Holy Souls'. Words from the second book of Maccabees help us to understand this. ... *to have a sacrifice for sin offered, an altogether fine and noble action, in which he took full account of the resurrection.* (2 Maccabees 12:43).

Rightly, in November we remember all those who have gone to the Lord marked with the sign of faith. We fondly and gratefully remember those who have been near and dear to us in our own life's and faith's journey.

Parishioners now have the opportunity to submit the names of their loved ones who died in the last twelve months to be included and prayer for, especially during the month of Remembrance. Please **PRINT THE NAMES** in the list for this purpose as soon as possible. It is my intention to place the 'Book of Remembrance' in the sanctuary from the beginning and for the whole of November.

Have a very good week ahead.

- Fr. Arul

An Invitation to the Wedding Feast (Matthew 22:1-10):

A wedding is a time of joy and of completion after long preparation, a time of love and of complete satisfaction. In Judaism at the time of Jesus, the coming of the Messiah is often compared to the joy of a wedding-feast. The marriage-feast at Cana must have been some party! At Mary's request Jesus produced 900 litres of wine. The Letter to the Ephesians teaches that the love in a human wedding is only a foretaste of Christ's love for his bride, the Church. In the story of the royal wedding in this Sunday's Gospel, however, two things go drastically wrong. First, the original wedding guests refuse to come. Not only do they refuse, but they brutally maltreat the innocent messengers, and the king (who must represent God) ruthlessly burns down their city. Secondly, the man who has no wedding-garment is thrown out: a wedding-garment is a standard Jewish image for works of generosity expected of every faithful Jew. For us Christians too, the story constitutes a double warning.

Are we alert and listening for God's call? Do we rest secure in being called Christians and leave the challenging jobs to others?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Pope's Prayer Intention for October - The Laity's Mission

in the Church: We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

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

Mass at Mary's Primary School: A beautiful and prayerful Mass was celebrated in our Primary School on Thursday for the Yrs 5 & 6 with all the restrictions observed. Well done to the children and staff for making this possible. Look forward to more such occasions

The Second Collection this weekend is for CAFOD.

The Second Collection next Sunday will be for the Association Propagation of the Faith (APF).

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.

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.

Church Cleaners / Stewards: We still require more volunteers aged between 18 and 69 to help before, during and after Masses at weekends and on Wednesdays. If sufficient volunteers are found, Masses could be celebrated with parishioners on other weekdays

as well. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Fr. Arul or speak to one of the volunteers on duty.

Gift Aid Envelopes for the current year which have not yet been collected are available at the back of the church.

Just a Reminder: 'Thank you' to parishioners for complying with safety measures such as, hand-wash, wearing face mask and social distancing expected during Covid 19 pandemic in the Church. While having to communicate or catch up with friends after Mass, if parishioners could remember to observe social distancing, it will be much appreciated.

PAULINE-MARIE JARICOT

Foundress of the Association of the Propagation of Faith

The Beginning – 1822: The foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith was due to the insight, the initiative and the method of a young French lay woman, Pauline-Marie Jaricot. She wished to form a missionary consciousness in all Christians so that they would aid the Church to carry out its task of preaching the Gospel and planting the Church where it had not been before. She unselfishly left it to others to develop the Society but was in her own words 'the first match to light the fire.' A reflection on her life and message is a welcome reminder that both clergy and laity have a responsibility for the missionary activity of the Church.



The Renewal of Faith: Pope John Paul II in his 1990 encyclical *Redemptoris Missio* noted an apparent decline in missionary activity specifically directed to those nations and peoples who have not yet had the opportunity of knowing the good news of the Gospel. Missionary zeal is a sign of the vitality of the Church, just as its lessening is a sign of a crisis of faith. Pauline saw that the renewal of the Church in France after the revolution would be intimately linked with a renewed zeal for missionary activity. Promoting the faith in foreign lands would be the surest means of preserving and increasing the faith in Europe.

Born in Lyons: Pauline was the last child of the strong Christian marriage of Antoine and Jeanne Jaricot. Her parents owned a silk factory, were well respected and wealthy. Ten years after the flare-up of the French Revolution she was born in Lyons on July 22nd, 1799 and died there in obscurity and poverty on January 9th, 1862. In between was a memorable life driven by concern for the missions and concern for the poor.

She was very close to her older brother Phileas and as they grew up together they shared a common interest in missionary stories. One day Phileas announced he would become a missionary and go to China. Pauline was eager to accompany him. Phileas, however suggested another plan: 'Little sister, you cannot come; but you shall take a rake, rake in heaps of gold and you shall send it to me in barrels.'

The Transformation: At fifteen years of age she was introduced into the hectic social life of the richer families in Lyons and attracted the attention of many admirers. A Lenten sermon on vanity in 1816 was the occasion for her transformation from a selfish worldly teenager to a deep-thinking person concerned about others. She was seventeen. The romantic books, the love songs, the special hair creations, the stylish hats and the silk dresses were put aside.

A Lay Missioner: Pauline believed that God was calling her to a new life. But for this teenager the call would not be to the religious life, but to the life of a lay apostle. It was as a committed member of the laity that she would dedicate herself to Christ. She became a person of constant prayer, having a deep devotion to the Blessed Sacrament nourished by daily communion and adoration. She dressed in the garb of a poor person. She sold her inheritance and jewellery and shared the proceeds with the poor and looked upon personal visits with them as a privilege, aware that 'the poor honour us by receiving us.'

Reparation: She felt the need of making reparation for the many instances of neglect and insult placed before Jesus and invited

others to join in public reparation. In 1817 she started a spiritual association of 'those who make reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, often unknown and despised.' To the members she suggested that the Stations of the Cross be held in common every Sunday.

The Birth of the Society: In 1818 she planted the mustard seed of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith when she appealed to two hundred young girls working in her brother-in-law's silk factory to make a weekly farthing contribution from their meagre wages to ransom abandoned infants in China. The seed grew and other groups joined to help all missions. In 1822 the Society was officially constituted. Pope John XXIII in 1962 stated that it was Pauline Jaricot who 'thought of the Society, who conceived it and made it an organised reality.'

Missionary Education: In 1822, while only twenty-one years of age, she arranged the printing and distribution of religious literature. Her idea was that basic religious missionary information should be communicated. This idea would permeate the future Society through the publication of the *Annals* which contained reports from various mission territories aimed at increasing the interest and commitment of the Society.

The importance of the Rosary: Pauline believed that the Rosary was a sadly neglected prayer. She adopted a plan similar to that of Propagation of the Faith. She founded an association called 'The Living Rosary' for people who would pray the Rosary and make it better known. Groups of fifteen were organised, and each member would say one decade of the Rosary daily and meditate on the 'mystery of the rosary' assigned to them each month by the drawing of lots. It also sought to make reparation for sinners.

She saw the groups of fifteen containing the 'good, the mediocre and others who have nothing to offer but their good will....fifteen pieces of coal, one is well lit, three or four are half lit and the rest are not lit at all. Put them together and you have a blazing mass.' Pauline expanded the organisation to include the distribution of prayer leaflets, holy pictures, medals and rosaries.

Social Dishonesty: Pauline had a wide Christian vision of social problems. Her efforts to solve these met with miserable failure owing to the dishonesty of others in whom she had placed her trust. Her first idea was to create a special fund for the poor so that they would obtain interest free loans. She had the plan of obtaining a large sum of money from fifteen wealthy families to create the capital of her 'Celestial Bank', but she was unable to obtain the initial capital. Her next idea was to purchase a factory where the dignity of the working person would be upheld and families would not be separated. Pauline was persuaded to purchase a factory in Rustrel by a group of people who diverted the money provided by her and her friends. Pauline would spend the rest of her life involved in various judicial proceedings flowing from their dishonesty. Despite all her efforts the factory was sold off at a low price, and Pauline was still burdened in paying back the remaining massive debts incurred through the machinations of others.

Deep Spirituality: She was a person close to God: "I try to be in all things not complicated and to reach a state of childlike abandonment of self in the hands of a loving God. I feel that it is my destiny to be in God's hands like a toy with which he can do what he likes." She united her sufferings with those of Christ "Patience, prayer, submission, acceptance of the ways of divine providence enable me to keep Jesus company on Calvary." She prayed for those who had abused her trust in them; "Forgive them, Lord, and fill them with blessings each time they cause me more pain."

Hidden and Put Aside: From 1822 Pauline hid herself in the shade, without ever asserting herself. Her final years were a daily martyrdom of poverty, physical weakness, illness, abandonment by former friends and misunderstanding. She died in the early morning of January 9th, 1862. Her last words were fitting for the foundress of the Living Rosary:- "Mother! Oh my mother! I am all yours." http://cluster2.hwebsystems.com/uf_menu/PaulineMarieJaricot/tabid/1046/Default.aspx