



# Twenty Second Sunday of the Year

3rd September 2017

## Revolution in kindness. Thought for this week

Say "sorry", coming from the heart. Try not to delay.

Today's **Scripture readings** challenge our complacency. To be a disciple of Jesus is to be challenged constantly. Jesus speaks of it as a cross to be carried. Remarkably, this will **give** life, not destroy it. Jesus means it literally – if being a follower brings the cross so be it!!

As Paul says *"do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you...let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind... this is the only way to discover God's will"*.

In the Scriptures the relationship between God and his people is never an easy one. For the prophet, like Jeremiah, the message can be quite horrific. By his life and words Jeremiah was warning the people about the excesses in their lives, then threatening them with the consequences they would bring on themselves if they continued with what they were doing. For him the Word of God had brought *"insult"* and *"derision"*. It had brought persecution, the constant threat of death, and he told God he could do it no more. Then, he tells us, *"there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart...the effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it"*. He had to continue despite the suffering which was tearing him apart.

Peter is soundly rebuked for suggesting there was a soft option for Jesus. Then Jesus makes clear there is no soft option for the disciple either. The bottom line is – life with God or no life at all. It has to be on God's terms. Only God knows what life really means and what has real value.

If we are tuned into the Gospel message we will instinctively sense the selfish trends within ourselves, within our society, the desire for instant satisfaction, the constant compromise with truth and honesty, our grasp at the short term and least demanding solution. What is certain is that the more we compromise the less clear we will be able to make the Christian response. We will be uncertain, even confused. The *"behaviour of the world"* has won. As Paul says our first duty *"is to discover what God wants"*.

Today's Scripture readings place in very clear opposition the *"cross"* and the *"behaviour of the world"*. We cannot run away from this confrontation. *"If anyone is to be a follower of mine let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me"*. This is the only way to eternal life.



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St Anne & St Bernard Liverpool



@annebernAdmin

The next **Co-Ordination meeting** will be on 23<sup>rd</sup>. September

The **Prayer Group** meets every Friday at 7.30 p.m. in the Sion Room

The **Men Group** will meet on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup>. September at 7.30 in St Bernard's. All men welcome

**The next Justice and Peace** is Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup>. October, at 7.30 p.m. in St. Bernard's

Please keep **our sick friends** in your prayer – Kathie Elliot, Josie Burger, Flo Coffey, Sister Win, Annie Barton, Ann McMahan, Eddie Barrett, Bernie Connolly, Andy Murphy, Trish Riley. There are many other house bound people to whom we take Holy Communion weekly. We would like to know of anyone at all who is housebound. We also take Holy Communion to the Marmaduke Street Care Home (Lotus Care), Arundel Park Nursing Home, Greenheys Lodge and Redford House (Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust) on Upper Parliament Street. If you seek prayer for your sick family and friends please let us know.

**Very important.** We are an evangelising Church. We have Good News to offer. All the difference between life and death. Isn't that what you believe? Well then the **Journey to Faith** programme will be starting again at the end of September. We should now be inviting people to seek Baptism and Holy Communion. Those who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to join us. Journey to Faith programmes for Farsi and Kurdish speakers have already begun. Both groups meet on Wednesdays.

**Care for our common world.** This week's **ECO tip** – Remember to take your own bags when you go shopping, so you don't have to buy a plastic bag. These bags can take years to decompose and

**Mass** this week is as follows -

Saturday 5.30 p.m. Agnes Shendon  
Sunday 10.30 a.m. Parishioners

Tuesday 12.00 noon The Horay family

Wednesday *No Mass*

Thursday 12.00 Fagan family

Friday **1.30 a.m. Requiem Mass**  
for Sheila Parr

Saturday 5.30 p.m. Larkin family

**Funerals** this week

Wednesday 11.30 a.m. Funeral service

Friday 11.30 **Requiem Mass**  
for Sheila Parr

*Please pray for their eternal rest and ask God to bless their families.*

There will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** on Saturday 4.15-5.15 p.m. and on

Sunday 9.15-10.15 a.m. **Confessions** are heard during the times of Exposition – and any other time you need



The **Fair Trade stall** is open every Sunday after 10.30 a.m. Mass

Tea, coffee and biscuits served after Mass every Sunday in the kitchen.

**Money Report.** The collection last weekend was **£450.59**. Add on £624.80 from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,075.39**. **Thank you**

The **First Communion programme** will be starting soon. We need to order the booklets used. Any parent with a child in school other than St. Anne's, who wishes to be part of our 2018 first Holy Communion programme, please notify Deacon Francis. Please let us know by next week. As you know we meet monthly with parents and children, and parents work with their children for the rest of the month.



The **Catholic Truth Society**, CTS, has made many books available as ebooks. Please take an explanatory card from the back of the church. They are available on kindle, kobo and iBooks. Visit [www.ctsbooks.org/ebooks](http://www.ctsbooks.org/ebooks)

### **St Wilfrid's 10<sup>th</sup> 'Living Christ' Retreat Friday/Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> January 2017**

**Venue: Holy Trinity School, Banks Road, Garston**

The Retreat lasts from 7.15pm to 9.30pm on the Friday and continues from 9.15am to 5.00pm on the Saturday. For further information, please telephone Stella or Maurus O'Donnell on 0151 427 3386.

The **Nugent Care Charity Shop** on Allerton Road is in urgent need of stock consisting of clothing, books, bric-a-brac, shoes and handbags. If you have any unwanted items please consider donating them to our Charity Shop. These can be dropped off at Nugent Charity Shop, 73 Allerton Road, Liverpool, L18 2DH from 9am – 5pm, Monday to Saturday. Thank you. They are also looking for a volunteer driver.

**Syrian Resettlement Programme:** Community Sponsorship Scheme, to sponsor a Syrian family in conjunction with other parishes, working ecumenically. The aim is for the family to become independent and settled in the community. ***We need parishioners who feel they can give a little bit of practical help to volunteer to join a support group.***

**Terrorist threat to Pope** A new video from supporters of Islamic State shows extremists threatening to target Italy and tearing up photographs of Pope Francis. The video, which also shows the destruction of a Catholic church, was filmed in The Philippines, where militants have been fighting the government for control over the city of Marawi. The Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, said the video was worrying but added that the level of security in the Vatican was high already.

**Pax Christi**, the international Catholic movement for peace, has called on people to support two separate days of prayer and non-violent resistance to the international arms trade in London. On Tuesday, faith groups will come together at the ExCel exhibition centre in east London to say "no faith in war", ahead of the opening of the world's largest arms fair in the venue. The final vigil will be on 11 September, the day before the exhibition gets under way.

President Donald Trump has been criticised after he cancelled a programme that allowed youngsters escaping violence in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala to settle in the US, leaving more than 2,500 children waiting for approval. The chair of the Migration Committee of the US bishops' conference, Bishop Joe S. Vásquez, said that the administration had "unnecessarily chosen to cut off proven and safe alternatives to irregular and dangerous migration for Central American children".

LIKE MOST Jesuits, Pope Francis is not overly interested in the liturgy. He says a simple, unfussy daily Mass in the chapel in the Casa Santa Marta, and routinely uses Latin for the big set-piece papal liturgies. For Francis, the Eucharist is the summit of the life of the Church and a spur to Christian action; it shouldn't be a battleground. So it caught people off guard when, during a speech to Italian liturgists last Thursday, the Pope delivered what some are describing as one of the most authoritative statements of his papacy. He solemnly declared that the changes to divine worship ushered in by the Second Vatican Council are "irreversible".

Many of these reforms are still hotly disputed by traditionalists. Francis' decision to throw the full force of his papal office behind the insistence there will no "reform of the reform" suggests the issue is deeper than a debate about vestments, or whether the priest should face the congregation. The furious rows over worship are symptomatic of a bigger struggle. Opponents to liturgical reform are often the same people who are most vociferous in their criticisms of this papacy.

For Francis, the Mass is an action for the people and by the people; a "living liturgy", showing that the Church is missionary and outward-looking. As he pointed out, the liturgical reform movement goes back to the beginning of the last century, with traditionalist heroes Pius X and Pius XII among those instituting significant changes to the liturgy. The reforms had been bubbling away under the surface well before Vatican II came along.

Yet critics of the council's reforms argue that things went too far. Cardinal Robert Sarah, the Pope's top liturgy official, argued in April that "promoters of a living liturgy" have caused disaster, devastation and even schism. Francis isn't giving any ground. Three days after his address to the Italian liturgists, he subtly reminded his critics that Jesus appointed Peter and his successors to be the "visible centre of communion in the Church", which is in turn neither static nor incapable of reform. "Jesus wants to continue building his church," he explained. "This is a house with a solid foundation, but there are also cracks, and it is in continual need of repair, as at the time of Francis of Assisi."

(from the *Tablet*)

## Little Mick's Spot.

### *Paws for Thought*



I am glad I am a dog and not like you people. There is TD, having to shower and shave every day, and put on silly clothes and then

having to work. Imagine if I had to shave!! All I have to do of a morning is to get out of bed, have a stretch, and go on my first walk. Then I come back, maybe have a drink and a snack, and then go to my watching post at the top of the stairs, with my snout though the bannister, waiting to bark at the first noise at the door. I like to have a good bark early on. Jane is normally the first visitor. She gets a good greeting. Talking of barking those fireworks on Thursday night made me really angry. TD was listening to music while doing some typing. He didn't hear the fireworks at first and thought someone was at the door. I went with him to look after him. I am the guard dog you see. Though mind you, even the most unsavoury characters give me a pat. TD was not happy with me the other day. We were in the park, I was collecting the ball. Then I saw some nice people some way away and took the ball over to them, asking them to play with me. I am usually an obedient little dog but I didn't respond when TD called me. I know I embarrassed him. However, we don't stay long in the dog'ouse in my house. TD has to do what he preaches. I'm happy with that. I don't preach so I can do what I like! Not really. TD was saying the other day that he couldn't imagine life without me. I don't think I feel quite the same. But we do get along OK.