



St. David's Parish
Monastery Road, Pantasaph,
Holywell. CH8 8PE



PARISH NEWSLETTER TWENTYFIRST SUNDAY

August 28, 2022

"Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." "The demands of justice must be satisfied first of all; that which is already due in justice is not to be offered as a gift of charity": When we attend to the needs of those in want, we give them what is theirs, not ours. More than performing works of mercy, we are paying a debt of justice"

St. John Chrysostom

READINGS

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

2nd Read: Hebrew 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Scripture Reflection

Jesus' advice to guests and hosts: Humility and generosity are the two virtues extolled by Jesus in today's Gospel- humility of the guests and generosity of the hosts. Jesus promotes these two virtues not simply for this worldly reward but for eternal reward. St. Luke often used banquet scenes to teach about the heavenly banquet to which the faithful are called to enjoy (5:34-35, 12:36-48, 13:29-30, 14:15-24). So the advice of Jesus to the guests and hosts are not for this worldly banquet etiquette but for enjoying the eschatological banquet. Those who will be honored during the heavenly banquet are the humble who opt for the last place. The hosts who prepare banquets should not

expect to be reciprocated by being invited for banquet in the future. If they are generous to invite the poor who cannot give back anything they will be highly rewarded in the heavenly kingdom.

Pope Francis' teaching about Humility

Humility is the “golden rule”. “Advancing”, for Christians, means “lowering themselves”. It is precisely on the humble path, chosen by God, that love and charity proceed.

The whole history of faith, is made of humility and “speaks of humility to us all”. This likewise applies to the historical event of Jesus' Birth. It seems that God wanted every event “to be concealed, that it not be made public”, that it be, as it were, overshadowed by the Holy Spirit”. This is why, everything happens on the road of humility. God, humble, lowers himself: he comes among us and lowers himself — and he continues to humble himself even to the Cross.

“Mary”, at the Annunciation, also humbles herself: she does not properly understand, but she is free: she grasps only the essential, and says ‘yes’. She is humble: ‘May God's will be done’. She entrusts her soul to God's will”. “Joseph, her betrothed, also lowers himself and takes this great responsibility upon his shoulders”. Joseph “also says ‘yes’ to the angel when in his dream the angel tells him of this truth.

The attitude of Mary and Joseph shows that “to reach us, God’s whole love takes the path of humility. The humble God who wanted to walk with his people”. “God, humble and so good. The patient God. This is different from the attitude of idols; idols are powerful and make themselves heard: ‘it is I who command here!’”.

Our God — for he is true, he is not a false God, he is true; he is not a wooden God made by men, he is real — thus he opted for the path of humility. All this love comes from this way of humility. Being humble does not mean following the road with one’s eyes cast down: no, no! Humility is what God as well as Mary and Joseph teach us.

“Humility”, is Jesus' humility which ends on the Cross, and this is the golden rule for Christians: to persevere, to advance and to humble themselves. There is no other path. Unless I humble myself, unless you humble yourself, you are not Christian. I think we should say “lowering ourselves”. Let us look at Jesus and ask for the grace of humility. If humility is absent love has no access; let us ask for the grace of humility — from Our Lady, from St Joseph and from Jesus.

ST. PADRE PIO & ST. VINCENT DAY AT PANTASAPH

Pantasaph has a long tradition of great devotion to St. Padre Pio. People from far and wide come here to pray for the intercession of the great Franciscan Saint. Keeping up the legacy and tradition of Pantasaph a Special day of devotion to the Saint is scheduled for September 24, 2022. The Feast of St. Vincent De Paul, the heavenly patron of the Vincentian Congregation, falls on the 27th of September. So this being the first year of the Vincentian Mission here at Pantasaph we will have a combined celebration on that day. The Programme will start at 9.30 am with Rosary and Praise and worship which will be followed by preaching on the virtues of Padre Pio and St. Vincent De Paul, Holy Eucharist, Healing Adoration, Novenas to St. Padre Pio and St. Vincent, and veneration of the Relic. Complementary lunch will be served. The programme will end at 3.30 pm.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

August 14, 2022

Gift Aid collection	187.00
Loose cash	127.08

Registered Charity No. 70042