



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



PARISH NEWSLETTER

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY

October 30, 2022

“If you do not see any good in these persons, then say nothing, but if you do see some, speak about it to honour God in them because all good proceeds from Him”.

St. Vincent De Paul

READINGS

1st Reading: Wisdom 11:22-12:2

2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Scripture Reflection

Jesus' decision to be a guest in the house of Zacchaeus was an act of compassion towards sinners. Compassion involves going down to the status of a sinner and lift him up to the dignity of a child of God. Zacchaeus being a tax collector was despised by his own community and was an outcast. But Jesus acknowledged his dignity by being a guest in his house. This divine acceptance led him to conversion. He was ready to change the order of his priorities. Until he received Jesus in his house his top priority was money and wealth. But compassionate approach of Jesus led him to give priority to God and neighbour. That conversion led to the salvation of his family. Today many families are broken because Jesus is not welcomed at home, and worldly possessions, and selfish ambitions are given priority. A defective value system which is contrary to the gospel values has also contributed for the same. Let us resolve to welcome Jesus in our families and be receptive to his compassionate love.

OFFERING MASS FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS

The practice of offering the Holy Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased originates in the early church. The catechism teaches, “From the beginning the church has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God” (No. 1032).

The faithful here on earth can help those souls undergoing purification. The Vatican Council II affirmed: “This sacred council accepts loyally the venerable faith of our ancestors in the living communion which exists between us and our brothers who are in the glory of heaven or who are yet being purified after their death.” (“Dogmatic Constitution on the Church,” No. 51). Therefore, just as we pray for each other and share each other’s burdens now, the faithful on earth can offer prayers and sacrifices to help the departed souls undergoing purification, and no better prayer could be offered than that of the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical “*Mirae Caritatis*” (1902) emphasized the connection between the communion of saints with the Mass: “The grace of mutual love among the living, strengthened and increased by the sacrament of the Eucharist, flows, especially by virtue of the sacrifice (of the Mass), to all who belong to the communion of saints. For the communion of saints is simply the mutual sharing of help, atonement, prayers and benefits among the faithful, those already in the heavenly fatherland, those consigned to the purifying fire, and those still making their pilgrim way here on earth. These all form one city, whose head is Christ, and whose vital principle is love. Faith teaches that although the august sacrifice can be offered to God alone, it can nevertheless be celebrated in honour of the saints now reigning in heaven with God, to obtain their intercession for us, and also to wash away the stains of those brethren who died in the Lord but without yet being wholly purified.” Therefore, the offering of Mass and other prayers or sacrifices for the intentions of the faithful departed are truly good and holy acts.

The Canons of Hippolytus (c. 235), one of the earliest missals, explicitly mentions the offering of prayers for the dead during the Mass. The testimony of many of the church fathers also beautifully supports this belief: For example, St. Cyril of Jerusalem explained how at Mass both the living and dead are remembered, and how the Eucharistic sacrifice of Our Lord is of benefit to sinners, living and dead. When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any other sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. Most importantly, we always should remember our own dearly departed loved ones in the Holy Mass and through our own prayers and sacrifices to help in their gaining eternal rest. Having just celebrated the feast of All Souls (Nov. 2), let us keep in our prayers all of our faithful departed.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

October 23, 2022

Gift Aid collection	101.00
Loose cash	71.95
Total	172.95
Second Collection (Mission)	33.10

ALL SAINTS DAY

November 1st is celebrated in the Universal Church as All Saints Day and it is a **Day of Obligation**. And the **Holy Mass Will be at 10.00 am**.

ALL SOULS' DAY

Holy Mass- 10.00 am. Followed by

Blessing of the Graves- 11.00 am

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Date: November 5th

Time: 10.00 am to 2.30 Pm

Praise and worship, preaching of the Word of God, Healing Mass, Deliverance Prayer, Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Novena to Padre Pio.

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The requiem Mass for Fr. Stephen Inns is scheduled for **November 3rd, Thursday, at 11.00 am** at St. David's Church Pantasph, and will be followed by the funeral service.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Sacrament of Confession at 11.30 am on Saturday

Please Pray for our Sick

Eliza Brizzi, Mary Toumaine, Patrick Nagle,
Phillip Mc Greavy, Toni Whalley,

"Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them; and I will reveal to them an abundance of peace and truth. (Jeremiah 33:6)

ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. Blower, Bernard Taylor, David Roberts, Edwin Goldstraw,
George Laurence Burke, Sr. Margaret Mary, Brian Kittle, Mr.
Jelley, Fr. Robert Towers Perkins, Bernard McDermott,
William Sheridan.

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