

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



May 14, 2023 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

""To give worthy praise to the Lord's mercy, we unite ourselves with your immaculate mother, for then our hymn will be more pleasing to you, because she is chosen from among men and angels. Through her, as through a pure crystal, your mercy was passed on to us. Through her, man became pleasing to God; Through her, streams of grace flowed down upon us." -Saint Faustina

READINGS

1st Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

2nd Reading 1 Pt 3:15-18

Gospel Jn 14:15-21

<u>Introduction</u>: Today's readings tell us how the early Church accepted the challenge of keeping Jesus' memory alive by remaining a dynamic Christian community, bearing witness to Christ by their unity, fidelity in worship and spirit of loving, humble service. Today's Gospel introduces Jesus as the Way to God, the Truth to be accepted, and the Life to be shared and lived.

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from Acts, shows us the early Church as a <u>loving</u>, serving, and worshipping community (Acts 6:1-7). Hence, it easily solved a problem of perceived discrimination by instituting the diaconate for the service of the community. <u>In the second reading</u>, St. Peter advises the early Christians to renew the memory of Jesus by allowing God to make of them "living stones" and build them into a spiritual edifice, a

community of believers, with Christ for its "Living Cornerstone" (I Pt 2:4-5). Peter praises Christians, both Gentile and Jewish, as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and God's own people."

In today's Gospel, Jesus consoles his apostles (who are sad and disheartened at His announcement that He will be leaving them soon), by assuring them that he is going to prepare an everlasting accommodation for them in his Father's House in Heaven. He gives them the assurance that he will come back to take them to their Heavenly abodes. It is then that Thomas says, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus answers Thomas' question with, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me." The basic doctrine of Judaism is that Yahweh is the Way the Truth and the Life.

Hence, Jesus is making a revolutionary claim that he is equivalent to Yahweh. Jesus also declares that he, himself, is the safest and surest way to God, discrediting the notions that all religions are equally sure ways to reach God, and that no organized religion but only living a good life of sharing love is necessary to reach God. But Jesus is the Way which he calls narrow because it is the way of focused, loving, humble, sacrificial service. Jesus is the Truth who teaches revealed truths about God and God's relation to man. Jesus also teaches moral truths and demonstrates them in his life.

Jesus **is** the Life because, <u>as God</u>, <u>he possesses the eternal life of God</u> and <u>shares his Divine life with his disciples</u> through the Word of God and the Sacraments. In short, Jesus reveals the Father in the **Way** he lives, in the **Truth** of his word and in the new **Life** that he brings.

Month of Mary-May Devotions

"God wills that all his gifts should come to us through Mary" (St. Bernard) It was in Rome, towards the end of the eighteenth century, one fine evening in May. A child of the poor gathered his companions around him and led them to a statue of Mary, before which a lamp was burning, as is the custom in that holy city. There, these fresh young voices sang the Litany of our Lady. The next day, the little group, followed by other children, again gathered at the feet of the Mother of God. Next came their mothers, to join the little assembly. Soon, other groups were formed, and the devotion rapidly became popular. Holy souls,

troubled by the disorderly conduct which always increases and becomes graver at the return of the pleasant springtime, saw in these growing practices the hand of God, and they cooperated with the designs of Providence by approving and promoting this new devotion, as a public and solemn act of reparation. The Month of Mary was founded. 5

"This is the month in which, in the churches and individual homes, the most affectionate and fervent homage of prayers and devotions from the hearts of Christians are raised to Mary. It is also the month in which from his throne descend upon us the most generous and abundant gifts of the Divine Mercy."6 In our own times, we Catholics, wanting to be close to her always, offer her special presents in May: pilgrimages, visits to churches dedicated to her, little sacrifices in her honor, periods of study and well-finished work offered up to her, and a more attentive recitation of the rosary.

Mission Appeal for Network for a Better World - 20th/21st May.

Sheila Cogley will be speaking about N4BW, a lay missionary organisation which works in partnership with the Montfort Fathers and local people of Sitima in South Malawi. N4BW aims to alleviate extreme poverty through our projects in: health, education, disability and the environment. They also respond to emergencies, most recently following Cyclone Freddy in March. They welcome your kind donations but are also looking for short term volunteers willing to work with them in Malawi.

Anniversary Convention and Padre Pio Day

Date: May 27, Saturday Time: 9.30 am to 4.00 pm

Programme: Praise and Worship, preaching the Word of God, Healing Mass,

Healing Adoration, Novena to Padre Pio, and veneration of the relic.

Complimentary lunch will be served. The presence and cooperation of the parishioners on the day will be highly appreciated.

MAY 6/7 COLLECTIONS

Loose cash	204.89
Gift Aid	105.00
Total	<u>280. 56</u>

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	DAY	Intentions
13/05/23	Saturday	For the Parishioners
14/05/23	Sunday	athrina Paddy and Children
15/05/23	Monday	For Healing of the family of Sosthenes
16/05/23	Tuesday	Mariamma Kuruvila RIP
17/05/23	Wednesday	Anna Maria & Marianna Fides RIP
18/05/23	Thursday	For Collins Family
19/05/23	Friday	Healing of Anton

Please Pray for our Sick

Ann Parry, Mary Toumaine, Patrick Nagle, Phillip Mc Greavy, Anthony Parry

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Sacrament of Confession at 11.30 am on Saturday ON EMERGENCY ANY TIME 0741-749-4277

ANNIVERSARIES (May-13-May-19)

Ethel Toomey:, Sr. Patrick Moore, Dennis Patrick Cummins, 2022, Marie Robertson '82: Mona Brunton '92:, Fr. James Mitchell: Sr. Anne '86: Patrick Kevin Butcher, 2021, Catherine Connell:, Andrew Benson 2011, John Heylinn '73: Margaret Conway: Jane Neville: James Welsh, Olwen Robinson, '08, Ivor Woolley, '10,

Website: http://www.pantasaph.org Email: pantasaphstdavids@gmail.com Phone: 01352 711053, **0741-749-4277**

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