



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



February 4, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“He Himself bore our sins in His body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed”. *1 Peter 2:24*

Mass Timings

Saturday Vigil Mass 4.00 Pm
Sunday Mass 10.00am
Weekdays 9.00 am In Denbigh House

READINGS

First Reading Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

Second Reading 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

GOSPEL Mk 1:29-39

Introduction: The readings today challenge us to go courageously beyond people's expectations by doing good as Jesus did, instead of brooding over all the pain and suffering in the world that we cannot end. They invite us to explore the importance of work in our lives and to learn a lesson about work and its motives from Job, Paul, and Jesus. While the Gospel presents Jesus enthusiastically living out his

Sabbath day of missionary work, **The first reading** details Job's attitude in striking contrast: in the midst of his long suffering, Job speaks of the tedium and futility of life, and he describe the miseries of human existence. Eventually, Job arrived at a place in his life where, in trust and in Faith, he finally surrendered himself, his undeserved but essential suffering, his work, and everything he had had and lost to the greater wisdom of God (Job 42:1-6).

The second reading, on the other hand, reveals Paul as a true and dynamic follower of Jesus, ready to do something extra for his Lord. Paul's conviction about the Good News and his commitment to Christ were so intense that preaching the Gospel had become a compulsion for him. Knowing that he had been called to do more than just "preach" the Gospel, he resolved to preach it without recompense. Pointing out the spontaneous response of Peter's mother-in-law after she had been healed by Jesus – "*...the fever left her and she waited on them*" (Mark 1:31)"—

Today's Gospel teaches us that true discipleship means getting involved in giving selfless service to others. Jesus' first day of public ministry at Capernaum was a Sabbath day. During the day, he had taken part in the synagogue worship, taught with authority, exorcised a demon and healed Simon's mother-in-law. After all that, when the sun had set, he "*cured many who were sick with various diseases and drove out many demons.*" Thus, Jesus spent himself and most of his time ministering to the needs of others, bringing healing, forgiveness, and a new beginning to many.

Yet, he was well aware that even the most important work had to be continually refueled and evaluated before God his Father. Hence, Jesus rose very early the next morning and went off "to a deserted place" to pray in order to assess his work for his Father's glory and to

recharge his spiritual batteries. **Jesus priority was His obedience to His Heavenly Father.** In his preaching and teaching, therefore, Jesus' only interest was to reach the people who flocked to listen to His preaching and teaching of the Truth, the Word of God and, so, to bring them to conversion. For Jesus, that was "success, -- not gaining popularity or winning the patronage of the religious or political power-holders. He came to the world to minister to the needs of the shepherdless sheep of the Lord God's Flock, Israel, by bringing them and all peoples spiritual salvation and blessing .

That is why, for the remaining two years of his life, Jesus went from town to town preaching the Kingdom of God. Traveling to neighboring villages and throughout the whole of Galilee (and beyond), Jesus remained continually on the move so that everyone could benefit from his saving words and works. He used his energies to bring healing and wholeness into the lives of the people.

Jesus' purpose was to love, to teach, to serve, and to give them Life by sharing their lives. Since nobody can be saved who has not first believed (Mark 16:16), it is the first task of priests, as co-workers of the bishops, the successors of the Apostles, to preach the Gospel of God to all men (2 Cor 11:7). In the Church of God, all of us should listen devoutly to the preaching of the Gospel, and we all should feel a responsibility to spread the Gospel by our words and actions. Jesus shows us that we reach perfection only by allowing the element of risk into our obedient, surrendered lives.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS- January 27, 28

Loose cash	94.32
Gift Aid	130
<u>Total</u>	<u>224.32</u>

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

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

ANNIVERSARIES Feb-3-9

John Saunders, Mrs. Parry, '82: Bridget Sweeting, 2000:, Michadel Antony Springgay, 2020, Mrs Wilson, Annie Williams, Alice Cliffe, '83: Fr. Peter, '86: Joseph Reed, '01:, Margaret Higgins, '01: Michael Wall, 2012, Rita Williams, 04., Philip Raymond Powell, '91:, Tom Gibbons, '83: James Hannigan (Bishop of Wrexham), '91: , Jessie Brown, '75: Catherine Fleming, Benjamin Hall, '12., Rosalina Williams, 2000: Arnold Ravenscroft '13, .

Let us Remember the Sick in Prayer

Patrick Ngale, Philip McGreavy, Antony Parry

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

Account Name: Wrexham Diocesan Trust

Account Number: 08190771, Sort Code: 55-81-42

Website: <http://www.pantasaph.org>,

Email: pantasaphstdavids@gmail.com

Phone: 0741-749-4277, 01352 711053,

Registered Charity No. 70042