



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



NOVEMBER 3, 2024

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Timings

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

READINGS

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28
Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

November 4 St. Charles Borromeo
November 6 St. Illtude
November 7 Dedication of the Cathedral, Wrexham
November 8 All Saints of Wales

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

In the first reading, Moses is presented as explaining the Law to the Israelites after his return from Mount Sinai. He tries to make the people reverence and obey the Law as something that will bring them dignity, purpose, stature, distinction, and a unique place in history. He promises them temporal rewards (*“that your days may be prolonged, that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey”*), if they remain loyal to Yahweh. They have to prove their loyalty to God by observing His commandments.

Second Reading- Today's passage shows us how the older religion and priesthood come to their fulfilment in Jesus, their Self-

sacrificing Messiah and High Priest. Paul affirms that Jesus, the new High Priest, is superior to the old High Priests for three reasons: a) Jesus can not die and so doesn't need to be replaced generation after generation. b) Jesus is sinless and so need not offer sacrifices for personal sins. c) The Jewish priests were appointed according to the Law, but Jesus is appointed by the word of God.

In today's Gospel a scribe, who heard Jesus so tactfully answering the trapping questions of the Sadducees about marriage, asked Jesus which is the most important commandment. To the scribes, the Mosaic Law was the greatest, fullest, and most perfect revelation of God's will that could ever be given. However, in the Judaism of Jesus' day there was a double tendency: to expand the Mosaic Law into hundreds of rules and regulations and to condense the 613 precepts of the Torah into a single sentence. David condensed the Law into 11 statements (Ps 15), Isaiah reduced them to two (Is 56:1), Micah condensed them into three (Mi 6:8). Jesus gave a straightforward answer, quoting directly from the Law itself, startling them, and demonstrating Jesus' profound simplicity and mastery of the law of God and its purpose. Citing the first sentence of the Jewish *Shema* prayer: "*Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength*" (Dt 6:4), Jesus then added its complementary law: "*You shall love your neighbour as yourself*" (Lv 19:18). Jesus' contribution combined the originally separate commandments and presented them as the essence of true religion. True religion, Jesus says, is loving God in Himself, and in others by loving service. That is, the only way a person can demonstrate real love for God is by showing genuine, active love for neighbour. The "great commandment in the Law" is really threefold: We are commanded (1) to love God, (2) to love our neighbour, and (3) to love ourselves. We are to love God, for it is in loving Him that we are brought to the perfection of His image in us. We are to love our neighbour and ourselves as well, because both of us bear God's image, and to honour God's image is to honour Him who made it. We are to love our neighbour and our self as a way to love God: God gives us our neighbours to love so that we may learn to love Him.

Questions we should ask ourselves on a daily basis: Is my love for God all that it should be? Do I pray to Him as I should? Am I in His Word as I should be? Are there people or things that have crept in and taken over first place in my life? Is Jesus somewhere down the line after some person, some thing, or even myself? What about my love for others? Is it all it could be? How loving am I to the members of my family, to my neighbors, to the members of my parish community? The answers to all these questions will help us to measure the degree of our love of God, and, with His grace, to adjust our lives accordingly.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON:

During the November Plenary Assembly of the Bishops of England and Wales, it was decided to have a Holy Hour for prayer to promote the dignity of the human person and the culture of life in our countries in the face of the assisted suicide legislation before the UK Parliament. This will at 5.30pm on Wednesday 13th November 2024 in the Chapel of the Holy Family in Hinsley Hall., Leeds. Cardinal Nichols has asked that this might become a national ‘hour’. I ask the parishes in the Diocese of Wrexham to facilitate a Holy Hour at the same time as we, the Bishops, will be at prayer thereby creating a powerful moment of prayer in our lands promoting the intrinsic dignity of every person.

MASS INTENTIONS

DATE	OFFERED BY	INTENTION
November 2, Saturday		For the Parishioners
November 3, Sunday	Hilrem	Career, Health and Spiritual growth Fernandes family
November 4, Monday	Maria Clara DaCosta	Alex Wiyaya for faith
November 5, Tuesday	Maria Clara Da Costa	Custodio Francisco Xavier Rodrigues
November 6, Wednesday	Kelvin Gomes	Hilda Fernandes, Maxie Gomes Joao

		Rosario RIP
November 7, Thursday	Isabela Rodrigues	Souls in Purgatory, family members
November 8, Friday	Isabela Rodrigues	Isabela Rodrigues Birthday

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS- OCTOBER 27, 2024

Loose cash	£ 231.50
Gift Aid	£ 90.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>£ 321.50</u>

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION at 11.30 am on Saturday
ON EMERGENCY please call 0741-749-4277

Let us Remember the Sick in Prayer
Philip McGreevy, Antony Parry, Janice Davies

ANNIVERSARIES

Sr. Bernadine, William Harrison, Kath Parry,
Thomas Ferguson, Sheila Brunton, E Toomey, John Cahill,
Marjorie Netta Kordal, Elizabeth Hill, Joseph Fleming, Janet
Jones, Br. Crispin Jones, Sr. Immaculata Coullaut, Arthur
Husion, Catherine Bellma, Paul Logue
May their souls rest in Peace

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,

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