2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  PSALTER WK 1 CYCLE A

Responsorial Psalm: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.
Gospel Acclamation: Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven!

NOTICE BOARD

Week of Prayer For Christian Unity continues this week. There is a service of prayer in each of the Churches Together group each day. In addition to our united service this Sunday, the following are being held: Prayers for Healing on Monday at 10am at St Nicholas', Thames Ditton; A time of Prayer on Tuesday at 4pm at Speer Road Church; Silent Prayer followed by soup lunch on Wednesday at 12.30pm at The Friends' Meeting House, Claremont Lane, Esher; Evening Prayer on Thursday at 8pm at St Mary's, Long Ditton; and Morning Prayer on Friday at 10am at St Christopher's, Hinchley Wood.

Modern Day Slavery exists in Surrey. Come and learn how to spot the signs and how to report it on Tuesday, January 21 at 7pm (for 7.30pm) at The Sacred Heart Church, Between Streets, Cobham. The event has been organised by the Elmbridge Multi Faith Forum

Mary: A Role Model For The 21st Century? On Wednesday, January 29 at 7.30pm at St Barnabas church hall, Molesey. St. Barnabas parishioner Barbara Hogan joins with her former professor, Rev. Dr. Kevin Alban, O. Carm., to present a talk which examines the life of our Lady and considers how her life experiences may resonate with ours in the 21st century.

Screening of 'The Visitor': On Sunday, February 2, at 7.30pm, Elmbridge CAN invites all volunteers, supporters and guests to the Riverhouse Barn in Walton, to watch this short film featuring Khaleel, who arrived here with his family as part of the resettlement scheme 18 months ago. Khaleel and Elmbridge CAN chairman, Steve Wells will be there for a Q&A after the film alongside the film's producers, Liam and Sam. Drinks will be available at the bar before and afterwards. Please contact Jeannie Tweedie to reserve a place: jeannie.tweedie@elmbridgecan.org.uk

Please pray for our sick: Including Marie Dubey and Liz Amos

Last Week’s Collection:

Offertry: £601.58; Cafod: £10.00; Standing order for December: £7485.00

Welcomers 25/26 Jan: 6pm Maria Fabb; 9am Anna Davidowski Family; 10.45 L. Perrera

A NEVER-ENDING JOURNEY OF HOPE

For the last 18 years I have written a large chunk of the annual Peace Sunday booklet used around the country, each including two homily outlines. But I can’t re-use old material, so then have to write a new one for the actual day. That’s over 50 homilies on the same subject using the same 3 sets of scripture readings!

It sounds like a ‘Groundhog Day’ experience – yet there is never a shortage of things to say, because work for peace remains so urgent. We stand on the brink of various potential nuclear catastrophes (Kashmir, Korea, the Middle East, etc.), yet we are conditioned to accept production of new generations of these Weapons of Mass Destruction (and the sale of British weapons to make war in Yemen and other failed states). Every penny spent on weapons is food robbed from the mouths of the poor; and war, as recent Popes have all insisted, is unworthy of human beings as a way of resolving conflict.

Peace, in contrast, is a journey of hope, as Pope Francis reminds us this year, a journey that demands that we return again and again to the question: how can we work together to bring peace in our broken world? - Fr. Rob

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 6pm Boniface Thomas Patcha & dec mem of Ofan family
Sun 9am People of the Parish 10.45am Kate Marrigan RIP
Mon 9.15am Alison Murrey (unwell)
Tue 9.30am Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
Wed 9.30am Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
Thu 9.30am Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
Fri 9.30am Failla & Jamila Rasson RIP
Sat 6pm Zofia Wloszyzn RIP
Sun 9am People of the Parish 10.45am Mr. Mullroy RIP

Deadline for submitting Newsletter items is Wednesday a.m. Email items to newsletter@olchurch.org.uk
Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust Registered charity: 252878.
This Weekend

This Sunday is celebrated in England & Wales as 'Peace Sunday', using the theme of World Peace Day: *Peace as a journey of hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation & Ecological Conversion*. (See Fr. Rob’s article in A&B News this month.) Pope Francis challenges us: "The world does not need empty words but convinced witnesses, peacemakers who are open to a dialogue that rejects exclusion or manipulation," and calls us also to repent of the ways in which we have abused our power over the planet. There will be a retiring collection for the work of the international Catholic Peace Movement, *Pax Christi*, founded (along with the United Nations) 75 years ago in the wake of World War Two.

Unusual Kindness: This Sunday at 4.30pm, we have the joy of welcoming our brothers and sisters from the *Churches Together In The Dittons* group for a United Service to mark the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*, this year with the theme, Unusual Kindness. Please do come along to welcome them and to pray for the healing of Christ’s broken Body, the Church. Please see the back of the newsletter for prayer services being held at other churches this week.

Confirmation Group meets also meet this Sunday at 6pm.

Next Week and Beyond:

Fr. Rob is away from Tuesday to Thursday, so there is a Liturgy of the Word at 9.30am on each of these days.

Monday

We welcome St. Matthew’s class from St. Paul’s to mass at 9.15am.

Take Time Guided Meditation in the St. Bernadette Room at 8pm.

Wednesday

Wall hanging lunch: Many of our Parishioners have helped with the production of a wall hanging to go in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The five panels are now in the church with a view to them being displayed in February. To help finance the hanging there will be a final fundraising lunch in the Parish Hall at 1pm with a suggested donation of £20 per head. Please sign up in the Narthex if you can come. Further details from Chris Mapleton at hotmail.com

Thursday

We continue our Journey In Faith group for adults interested in joining the Catholic Church (whether previously baptised into another Christian community or not) at 8pm in the St. Bernadette Room. If you might be interested in joining the group, please have a word with Fr. Rob or contact Diana (dianamildredhughes@gmail.com) or Anita (anitawillkins35@gmail.com). Please pray for God’s blessing on this important initiative and on those who are to share in the group. Unless the parish is leading new people to faith it is failing in its essential purpose.

The Live Simply working-party meets at 8pm in the hall.

Friday

We welcome St. Paul’s School as they celebrate (a day early!) the Conversion of St. Paul at 10.30am mass.

Next Saturday is the annual diocesan *Justice & Peace Assembly* at the St. Philip Howard Centre, Crawley RH10 6RP, from 9.30am-3.30pm, with a focus on Human Trafficking and workshops on environmental issues and volunteering. To book a place email rosie.read@ablodiocese.org.uk

Confirmation Group meets both this Sunday and next Sunday at 6pm.

Commissioning Our Readers: Pope Francis has declared next Sunday (the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time) the *Sunday of the Word of God* and invites us to reflect on the importance of Scripture in our life and worship. We are going to use the occasion to commission our readers for their ministry – with a blessing at each mass that weekend. What would help you to deepen your knowledge and love of God’s Word?


30 January: Friends & Faith: A group for women of all ages, meeting on the last Thursday of the month at 8pm. Come along, and bring a friend.

6 February: Catholic Grandparents’ Association: Meet on the first Thursday of each month for friendship, reflection and prayer after morning Mass.

February 10-11: Parish Feast Day. The feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, and also World Day of the Sick, will be celebrated in two ways. Firstly we’ll have a welcome and thank-you gathering in the hall on Monday, Feb 10 at 8pm – to which are invited all those who’ve arrived in the parish in the last year, all who want to find out more about our parish and all those who contribute to the life of the parish through liturgical ministries or other involvement ... and everyone else, too! Secondly, we’ll have a Festive Mass with Celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick at 10am on Tuesday, February 11. If you would like to receive this sacrament then (or at any other time), please contact Fr. Rob.

12 February: Parish Soups. Join us every second Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm for a selection of homemade soups served with bread and cheese.

13 February: Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Evening: at 7.30pm. Lasting an hour, this evening is for those who would like to know more about Lourdes and the annual diocesan pilgrimage on 24-31 July. The pilgrimage welcomes helpers (aged 17+ in August 2020), redshirts (years 10 & 11), nurses, assisted pilgrims (people who are sick or disabled), families with young children and pilgrims (anyone else who wants to join in). Applications for the pilgrimage can be done online at www.abLOURdes.org or by email the Lourdes office: office@ablourdes.org

The *Name Badge + Tea/Coffee After Mass* gatherings (usually on the first Sunday of the month) are always very popular and are a good opportunity to catch up with old friends and welcome & meet new people. At times, there is a real ‘cafe atmosphere’ and it would be lovely to develop this further. For the twelve 2020 events, we need teams of friends, families and couples who can sign up to serving the coffee, unwrapping biscuits, bringing in extra chairs and washing up afterwards, so that these mornings become even more of an inviting and welcoming monthly parish get-together.

Marriage Annulment is the procedure in Catholic Canon Law used (only after a divorce) to explore whether a marriage ever fully attained to the level of a marriage or was so flawed from the outset as to not be binding. Our diocese has produced a new leaflet on the subject, available in the narthex. Fr. Rob is always happy to meet to discuss personal situations to help you find a way forward in your life.