

Refreshments are available after 9am Sunday Mass in the St Bernard's hall. Thank you to the volunteers who facilitate this.



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## Waterside Parish NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023: 15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Sunday Mass: 9am at St Bernard's and 11am at St Michael's**

**Weekday Masses: Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday - 9am at St Michael's  
Wednesday – 9am at St Bernard's followed by Adoration and  
Grandparents' Group**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July: Cooking with Fe at St Bernard's, 10am (£5 pp)**

**Change of date! Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July: Icons of Mary at St Bernard's, 10am**

**Confessions: Saturday after 9am Mass (St Michael's)** "When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy. Tell souls that from this fount of mercy souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is

### Can you help your parish?

We need someone to coordinate the Health & Safety requirements of keeping the parish running. A list of the requirements can be found at the back of both churches today, but in brief this involves:

- ❖ liaising with the Parish Priest, Deacon Ian and the service providers in arranging our annual and five-yearly inspections;
- ❖ coordinating works arising from the inspections;
- ❖ lodging certificates with the parish secretary and
- ❖ overseeing the requisite risk assessments for hall hire licences.

None of this is challenging in itself, it just takes time to organise and attend both sites when inspections or works are arranged and ensuring that the paperwork is up to date.

All of the hard work has already been done in establishing reliable and cost-effective contacts for the services required to ensure that the parish complies with all diocesan obligations.

Please feel free to speak with Deacon Ian or Louise Blacker if you have any questions or wish to register your interest in reducing the parish secretary's workload in person. Obviously the post is a voluntary one; our parish has no salaried staff which is testament to the wonderful community which we enjoy here.

Alternatively, you can send an email to [office@watersideparish.org.uk](mailto:office@watersideparish.org.uk), leave a telephone message on 02380 891866 or deliver a note to the parish office.

### Collections 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023:

St Michael's £48.10  
St Bernard's £69.50  
Envelopes £129.50  
Stella Maris £169.40

Direct payments to the parish bank account in June amounted to £1,340.

**YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**  
**May the Holy Spirit rouse up in all those being called to serve the Church as priests and deacons the generosity to answer that call.**



**We keep in our prayers the sick and housebound members of the parish:**

John Allen, Pauline Moore, Kathleen Ketley, Mike Slipper, Paola McCarthy and Brenda Ellison

*Please note that a GDPR issue has been drawn to our attention. We must now have express permission from the sick person to name him or her in this section of the parish newsletter. If we don't have a signed Parish Registration Form, it will be very difficult to include the sick in this section of the newsletter.*

**We pray for the dear departed of the parish and for those whose anniversaries occur this week:**

16<sup>th</sup>: Daniel Colman (1985) Shaun Grant (1997) Bridget Adams-Auger (2010) John Keane (2015)

17<sup>th</sup>: Lilian Snell (1965) Sidney Stubbington (2001) Margaret Prestage (2011)

18<sup>th</sup>: Kevin Potter (1981)

19<sup>th</sup>: Roger Honey (1967) Cyril Spain (1969) June Otworowski (1998)

20<sup>th</sup>: Andre Grodecki (1983)

21<sup>st</sup>: Lucy Graham (1983)

Pious tradition holds that Jesus promised St. Gertrude that a thousand souls would be released from purgatory each time the following prayer is said devoutly: "Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners

As the school summer holidays approach, the start of sacramental programmes in the Autumn seems a long way off but to assist with planning please will any parents of a child or children who they wish to register for the next First Holy Communion programme (school Year 3 or above) please collect a form from the back of either church or from the parish office and return this to the office for registration.

If any of our teenage parishioners wish to register for the Confirmation programme, please also collect a form from the back of either church or from the parish office and return this to the office for registration. We can then assess the current situation and determine whether a Confirmation programme can be run this year.

David Dethick has kindly offered to deliver any petitions which we wish to offer to Our Lady at Lourdes when he joins the pilgrimage, departing on 28<sup>th</sup> July. If you have any intentions for delivery, please leave these in a sealed envelope. Identified as petitions for Lourdes, at the back of either church.

**Synod Working Document Released**

Last week, the Vatican published the *Instrumentum Laboris*, the working document for the October Synod on Synodality. Sixty pages long, it incorporates the experiences of local churches in every region of the world and will form the basis for the work of the participants in the Synod, which begins this October and concludes with a second Assembly next year, 2024. Here is a link to the document: ["Instrumentum laboris" della XVI Assemblea Generale Ordinaria del Sinodo dei Vescovi \(vatican.va\)](https://www.vatican.va/press-releases/2023/07/2023-07-26-instrumentum-laboris-synodality-2023-2024-1_en.html)

On **Saturday, 29th July** St Patrick's, Soho, will be hosting their second summer Summit event, focused on growing in the spiritual life.

They will be exploring different ways of praying as well as being led through the day by renowned spiritual author Fr Jacques Philippe and other excellent speakers. You are warmly invited to join them for this event and please do spread the word, especially to those you may know who are looking to deepen their faith. For more information, see: <https://www.stpatricksoho.org/spirituality>



Don't forget the opportunity to join public recitation of the rosary at Hythe Promenade on Wednesdays at 1.30pm! This is part of the UK Prays organisation which says: "We pray the Rosary for cohesion and reconciliation in society, for peace, and true freedom. We pray for the people, for the rulers, and for the kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ in society. At the same time always for the freedom of the Church, for the clergy, for the bishops, for the Pope, and in reparation for the sins committed against God Almighty and His Holy Mother. In particular we pray for the Pope to consecrate Russia to Her Immaculate Heart as Our Lady requested in Fatima."

## The Liturgy Project Commentary by Fr Peter Codd

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah comforts the People with words of reassurance that God's Word will always triumph.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: St Paul gives a message of hope to those who suffer. He describes the longing in our hearts for fulfilment, which he likens to someone being unbound and set free – like Lazarus coming from the tomb. It is our worldly appetites and lack of trust in God, our failure to allow the Word of God to take root in our hearts, which keep us prisoner.

In the Gospel, Jesus contrasts the failure and success of his Word according to the disposition of those receiving that Word - that 'word' is the 'word of the kingdom'.

The parable, which Jesus uses to teach the people, challenges each of us.

Do I look without seeing? Listen without hearing and striving to understand?

What trials cause me to stumble? What cares and worries blank out my receiving God's Word?

That which is sown is the message of the kingdom of God – a message which is expressed in the words of the O.T. and the N.T. and in the very person of Jesus, who is the Word of God.

Jesus is the Sower as well as the Seed. The Word of God dwells with his People to form them into a new People, fit for the Kingdom of God – a People who will grow to be Christ-like – a People who are seeking God's will, who trust God's wisdom and strive to serve God in the building of his kingdom. Like Mary, we should bring the Word-made-flesh to the world, witnessing by the way we live our lives.

Finally, when the farmer harvests the wheat crop for the grain to be ground into flour to provide bread for the eating, some grain is retained and dried for sowing to provide next year's harvest. Might we see in this a symbol of how the Church must reflect, year by year, age by age, on what has been revealed, so as to deepen our understanding of God's Revelation and develop the Church's Teaching, as St John Henry Newman suggests?

### ***Bishop Philip directs us to explore the Liturgy Project website:***

*"This week's commentary comes from Fr Peter Codd [see above] and can be found with other liturgical resources on our Diocesan [Liturgy Project website](#)."*

### *Sr Lucy OP shares news of a training day for Children's Liturgy leaders in Winchester, on **Saturday 22nd July...***

Join us for a day of free training in planning and delivering Children's Liturgy ministry, covering both the principles and practice of breaking open the Word of God with children on **Saturday 22nd July, 9am - 3pm** at St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs parish, Winchester. You can register [here](#). The day begins with Mass and please bring a packed lunch.

It would be wonderful if Children's Liturgy could be re-started

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## MASS READINGS FOR THE 15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

### **Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.

### **Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23**

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'