

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop
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Sunday 24th January 2021

www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk

Sat 23 rd	<i>Our Lady</i>	11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Mass Vigil Mass	Phil Connolly and Pro Populo Jim and Ann Connolly
Sun 24 th	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 10.30am 12noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Ellen Longe (RIP) Jim and Anglo Connolly Maura Coughlan Margaret Murphy
Mon 25 th	<i>Conversion of St Paul</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Margaret Connolly
Tues 26 th	<i>Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops</i>	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	John Hamill James O'Connor and Brigid Foy
Wed 27 th	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Karin Carter
Thurs 28 th	<i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	7.00pm	Holy Mass	Angela Whitehouse (RIP)
Fri 29 th	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Christopher Stone (RIP) Joan Johnson (RIP)
Sat 30 th	<i>Our Lady</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Noreen and Pro Populo
		11.30am-1pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm 5.30pm	Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	Louise Sullivan RIP
Sun 31 st	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 10.30am 12 noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Winnie Sumner (RIP) Colette Hickey Frank McHenry (RIP) Theresa Gallagher (RIP Anni.)

This Sunday is “Word of God” Sunday. It’s a relatively new initiative, begun by Pope Francis 2019. We are all invited to deepen our knowledge of and love for God’s word in the scriptures, after all, as the noted Biblical translator St Jerome reminds us “Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”

When he wrote to the Church calling for this Sunday to be set aside as “Word of God Sunday,” the Holy Father noted that “The Bible cannot be just the heritage of some, much less a collection of books for the benefit of a privileged few. It belongs above all to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words.”

This is an old style of prayer pioneered by the Jesuits, the order to which the Holy Father belonged before he was made a Bishop. When reading a passage of scripture, particularly a chapter of the Gospels, why not try to imagine yourself as part of that scene? Observe and encounter Jesus from within that passage. Ask who you are in the scene and where you are? Perhaps you’re a bystander looking on. Perhaps someone asking for Jesus’s help. Maybe you’re a disciple or Apostle stood alongside Jesus. Keep the practice up for a little while and see what happens to your prayer life and your closeness to Jesus.

“May the Sunday of the Word of God help his people to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred Scriptures. For as the sacred author taught of old: “This word is very near to you: it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance”

A reminder of the guidelines for the celebration of Mass during this time of pandemic.

- Please use hand sanitizer when arriving and leaving.
- Wear face coverings in church unless age (younger children) or medical conditions preclude this.
- Keep social distance at all times – especially being mindful when moving about for Holy Communion or leaving church.
- Please follow the oneway system around church.
- If you will not be receiving holy communion or coming forward for a blessing mention this to a steward and they will find you a seat where you won’t block others in.
- Do not leave newsletters you have used in church, but always take them home with you.
- Remove face covering immediately before receiving Holy Communion in the hand, and replace after receiving the Sacred Host.
- Do not gather in groups outside church with those outside your ‘bubble’ for conversation without keeping a good distance.

Some of these – especially the way of receiving Holy Communion and wearing face coverings – a few have found onerous. Nevertheless it is a price worth paying for the continuation of public worship.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity In our prayers at Mass and individually we remember the other Christian communities in the parish. Many of the other brothers and sisters in churches of our area are not meeting at this time, and so its easy to forget this annual prayer with the intention that the prayer of Jesus for his disciples will be fulfilled: ‘May they be one.’

The Financial Year for the parish ended on the 31st December. The financial report is now being compiled for the diocese and will be presented to you in due course. As has been the case for a number of households and businesses, the parish has had to face a number of challenges we hadn’t foreseen! Thankyou for your generous support through the collections in our churches, thank you also to those unable to be at Mass but who sent offerings by direct debit or standing orders, through the mail or posting through the presbytery door - especially during periods of lockdown. Thanks also to those who, week by week, have been helping with the counting, recording and banking.

Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound. Once again it would regrettably seem sensible to pause with sick and home communions during this special national effort to get the infection rate down. Hopefully some of our more elderly or frail parishioners will soon be receiving the vaccine which will make this ministry easier and safer. The sacraments for the dying are, of course, available at need.

Queen Elizabeth and Birmingham Women’s Hospitals and St Mary’s Hospice. Following Fr Charles’ departure there is no fulltime chaplain at these places.

Therefore, with regard to the sacraments, if you know that you (or a family member or friend in the parish) will be going to hospital, it is important to have confession, the anointing of the sick and holy communion from one of the priests here before you/they go in to hospital as It will often not be available during your stay. Just have a word after Mass or ring or email the presbytery. This problem has been somewhat exasperated by the pandemic as no casual visits by family or clergy are permitted - and then only on very specific grounds – to try and reduce the danger of infection to patients. There is a cover rota provided by priests around the area. This is for emergency use only when there is danger of death. Such visits are arranged from the hospital so that the priest on call will be allowed admission.

For reference - it’s worth remembering that the sacraments should be received when a person is conscious and able to participate as much as possible. This is essential for holy communion - *and viaticum or ‘last holy communion’ (not anointing) is the sacrament of the dying* – along with confession.

Sadly a number of people think they need to wait to until it is often too late. So if we can remember – and

teach others – that such things should be done, when circumstances permit, with plenty of time.

Government restrictions for funerals stipulate a maximum of 30 attending.

We pray for those who have died recently:, Ena Cole (Requiem 4th Feb), Michael Butler (Requiem 9th Feb), Anita Ronca (Requiem 16th Feb), Fr Pat Joyce, Philip Green, Peter Bartram and Gladwyn

Sacrament of Baptism: The Government 'Task Force' which issues advice and instructions to places of worship during the pandemic has said that celebrations of baptism (*apart from those in periculo mortis*) are to be deferred to a later date. For parents who had booked a baptism we will announce in the newsletter when this restriction is lifted. As things change so fast, the wisest thing when this happens will be to jump in as soon as possible!

Confessions are at the normal advertised times. Social distancing means using the side chapel at St Dunstan's. **Please keep the time spent in the confessional to a minimum (5 minutes max) to both make it as safe as possible, and so that others have opportunity for the celebration of this sacrament.**

Church Cleaning will take place on Wednesday after Mass. If you can help you will be very welcome.

Please note that the toilets are presently closed due to COVID regulations, and the side chapel will be out of bounds apart from for Confession.

Weekly offerings can be placed in the baskets in church during Mass, or posted through the Presbytery letterbox. Please place offerings in either the usual Gift Aid envelopes or a plain envelope marked 'St Dunstan' or 'St Jude'. Standing orders are also a great way of giving.

Stories by SIFA Fireside is a short collection of treasured memories about sr Sabina has been recorded on a CD.

A special webpage has been dedicated to Sister Sabina with the audio from the CD available to listen to: website <https://www.sifafireside.co.uk/pages/266-in-loving-memory-of-sister-sabina>

Alternatively, there are a limited number of CD's available from the presbytery office.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Let it be done to me according to thy word.
Hail Mary....

And the Word was made flesh.
And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. **Pour forth, we beseech thee O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by his + Passion and Cross be brought into the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Parish Office will be open from 9.00am until 5.00pm on Wednesday and Friday each week. In order to minimise the number of people in the office and for the safety of those at work, until further notice we ask you to observe the following:

If you need to see the Parish Administrator or one of the Priests: we would ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. You will not be invited in the office unless you have a re-arranged appointment.

If you have an enquiry: please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way.

For those wishing to book Mass intentions: please bring a sealed envelope clearly labelled with the intention details (person's name, required date etc) and include the offering inside. This can then be handed in at the office and if requested a Mass card be signed and given.

COLLECTIONS

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£ 955.40	£ 203.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 624.74	£ 74.80

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5,10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R.**

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

Corinthians 7:29-31

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is close at hand:
repent, and believe the Good News.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.