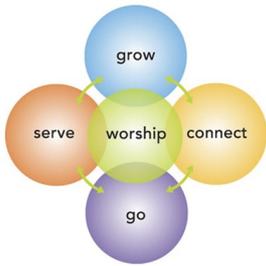


The Parish of
STONY STRATFORD
 with
CALVERTON



THE PARISH NEWSLETTER
17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 30th July AD 2017



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)



Heaven is within the reach of all, who follow the ordinary vocations of life and partake of this world's joys and pleasures within the framework of God's commandments, but never lose sight of the goal toward which they are moving.

Keeping within the framework of God's commandments is the difficulty. We need not have a vow of obedience, but we must obey all legitimate authority. We may possess the goods of this world, but only such goods as we lawfully and justly acquire. Nor may we withhold all of these from a fellow man who is in need. We do not have to take a vow of celibacy, but yet we must be chaste, as God asks us to use the gifts and the pleasure of sexual intimacy only within the limits set down by his wise laws.

All of this is not easy for human nature. But we are not relying on weak human nature, we have within our reach in the Church all the spiritual and supernatural aids we need. Our present age, it is true, is so engrossed in chasing after the earthly comforts and pleasures of the body, and so devoid of any spiritual or other-worldly outlook, that even those who know and believe that there is an eternity after death, find it hard to allow their faith and convictions to govern and direct their daily actions. Yet, the evil example of others will never justify our wrong-doing. The commandments of God are still binding, even though they are openly and flagrantly violated by individuals and whole nations today.

Remember this: we shall not be asked at the judgment, "What did your neighbour do?", but "what did you do?" If we lose the pearl of great price in the eternity of happiness God has offered to us-it will not be the fault of others. The fault will be ours and ours only. We refused to pay the price. We did not think it worth the "paltry all" which we possessed in this life

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

TODAY: 17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 8:30am Morning Prayer at *St Mary & St Giles*
 9:30am **PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**
 11:00am **FAMILY MASS at All Saints**
 2:00pm Holy Baptism at St Mary & St Giles:
 Jessica Munday
 Pray for: *Our Parish*

Monday: St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
 9:30am 'Squeals on Wheels' in Parish Hall
 8:00pm Bell Ringing Practice
 Pray for: *the Sick, Housebound and Disabled*

Tuesday: St Alfonso Maria de'Liguori, Bp & Dr
 10:30am **Mass at All Saints + 'Elevenses'**
 Pray for: *Conformity to the will of God*

Wednesday: St Eusebius, Priest
 6:30pm Handbell Ringing Practice at SMSG School
 7:15pm The Band - Practice at SMSG School
 7:30pm **Mass at St Mary & St Giles**
 Pray that: *the Church may bear faithful witness*

Thursday: Feria
 10:30am **Mass at St Mary & St Giles**
 Pray for: *Local Craftsmen and Tradesmen*

Friday: St John Mary Vianney, Priest
 11:15am **Mass at St Mary & St Giles Church**
 12:00noon Soup Lunch & Organ Recital at SMSG
 Pray for: *Parish Priests*

Saturday: St Oswald, King & Martyr
 Pray for: *Visitors to our Parish Churches*

Next Sunday: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
 8:30am Morning Prayer at *St Mary & St Giles*
 9:30am **PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**
 11:00am **FAMILY MASS at All Saints**
 2:00pm Holy Baptism: Jessica Munday
 Pray for: *Our Parish*

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY:
 1st Reading: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14
 Psalm: 97 (part)
 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1: 16-19
 Gospel: Matthew 17: 1b-9

Lych gate Works: Louise Brown needs the help of a few strong men or ladies on Saturday 12th August at 10:00am to help put up the new scaffold tower so that we can remove the moss from the lych gate roof and then put the scaffold tower away again into the churchyard shed. *Thank you.*

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <i>Sidesmen</i> | <i>Team 1</i> | <i>Altar Servers</i> | <i>Team 5</i> |
| <i>Offertory</i> | <i>Bellringers</i> | | |
| <i>Cleaning</i> | <i>Team -</i> | <i>Gardening</i> | <i>Team 2</i> |

Worshipping Numbers last Sunday: ?
Weekday Worshipping Numbers (w/e 22/7): 443

MASS TEXTS PROPER TO TODAY'S OBSERVANCE

Reflection prior to Mass: *Our quest for the Kingdom of God involves both a readiness to risk what we hold most dear and the wisdom to appreciate the deepest values of life itself. In our Mass today, Jesus our teacher invites us to ponder the word and to search for a way to live wisely and adventurously.*

The Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (SIT)

The First Reading

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
SMSG Reader: Sister Janet Old Testament Page 251
All Saints Reader: Sister Janet

The Responsorial Psalm

(from Psalm 119)

R/. Lord, how I love your law!

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. ®

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. ®

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. ®

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. ®

Second Reading

Romans 8:28-30
Reader: Lesley Salter New Testament Page 131

Gospel Acclamation

(STAND)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
that you have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

The Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52
New Testament Page 13

The Prayer of the Faithful

(Biddings: Fr Tunji)

Priest: My brothers and sisters, through this common prayer, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ not only for ourselves and our own needs, but for all mankind.

Intercessor: For all Christian people..... we pray to the giver of all good things, Christ the Lord:

V/. Christ, hear us.

R/. Christ, graciously hear us.

For those who do not yet believe..... we pray to the giver of spiritual gifts, Christ the Lord:

For those who hold public office..... we pray to the ruler of all mankind, Christ the Lord:

For fine weather and the fruits of the earth..... we pray to the king of the universe, Christ the Lord:

For those who cannot be present here, especially the sick...*Fiddy Abraham, Polly Barclay, Shirley Brown, Lesley C, Steve Cooper, Peter Fulcher, Russell Herbert, Jane Holman, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Sheila Redgrave, Pete, Susan, Eric, Wendy...* we pray to him who knows our hearts, Christ the Lord:

For all who have gone before us in faith...*Ted Atkinson, David Barker;* and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week, amongst them...**30th Iris Morgan; 1st Aug Alice Cowan; 3rd Fred Wright, Kathleen Andrews, Ronald Andrews; 4th Elsie Reynolds, Nancy Colborne; 5th William Smith... we pray to the judge of all mankind, Christ the Lord:**

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Let us implore the mercy of Christ the Lord and trust in his goodness to help us in our needs..... we pray to the Lord:

Priest: Father, we come before you with faith and love to praise your goodness and to acknowledge our need. We ask you to hear the prayers we make in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Reflection:

Lord my God, teach me where and how to seek you, where and how to find you. Let me seek you in desiring you, let me desire you as I seek for you. Let me find you in loving you, let me love you in finding you. *(Adapted from St Anselm)*

NOTICES

Friday Mass during the School Holidays: will normally be celebrated at 12:00noon, except when there is a Soup Lunch and Organ Recital on the first Friday when it will be at 11:15am

Soup Lunch and Organ Recital - THIS FRIDAY: at 12:00noon in St Mary & St Giles. The Mass will be at 11:15am.

Art Exhibition: will be held in St Mary & St Giles on Saturday 5th August. If you would like to know more or join Rita's Art Group, then please contact her on: MK 564702 or 07484772612

Calverton Fete: Is held this year on the 27th August from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. If you can help with setting up and clearing away, or with running stalls, or with donating home-made cakes and offers of books and/or bric-a-brac do please see Jill Barby, Jonathan Dunn or Eric & Diane West. Many thanks.

Thank you: to everyone who contributes to the coffee and teas served after Sunday and Tuesday Mass at All Saints. Part of this money has enabled the purchase of a larger Hot Water Urn which will be most useful at the August Open Day and future events. A further £305,50 was raised from the recent Coffee Morning + the Concert & Cream Teas for the Restoration Fund.

St Mary & St Giles School: is looking to appoint a handyman/woman from September. Please contact Kieran Salter for further details.

Rector: Fr Ross Northing SSC - Tel: 01908 562148
Email: rector@parishstonystratfordcalverton.com - Mobile: 07718 884779

Church Army Officer: Sister Janet Northing CA - Tel: 01908 562148
Email: jf.northing@btinternet.com

Parish Website: www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com

Associate Minister: Fr Tunji Adebiyi
Tel: 01525 790954

Honorary Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Loveday SSC
Tel: 01327 351511

Parish Hall Booking Secretary: Lesley Salter: 01908 567404