



The Parish of
**STONY
STRATFORD**
with
CALVERTON

St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford
with All Saints, Calverton

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Sexagesima)

19th February AD 2017

Rector: Fr Ross Northing SSC - Tel: 01908 562148
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Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms:
May be made by contacting Fr Ross on 01908 562148

Confessions: May be made after Masses or by appointment.

Parish Website: www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com

To Hire the Parish Hall: 'phone Nicola Crompton on 07979 653515

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)

INFORMATION

The Order of Mass is on the laminated card. The references to the Scripture Readings, which may be either listened to or followed in the Bibles provided, along with the Psalm and the Prayer of the Faithful are also included in this Sheet. Hymns are unannounced but are indicated on the boards towards the front of the Nave.

AA Large Print Orders of Service are available at St Mary & St Giles. Please ask a Sidesman for a copy.



A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles - please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles is via the path on the north side of the church. At All Saints it is via the South Porch.



Gluten-Free Hosts: if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



Collections: for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for every £1 donated.



We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.

Reception of Holy Communion: All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.

Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door, shortly after the end of Mass, should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

At St Mary & St Giles this week:

Sidesmen: Team 2
Serving Team: Team 4
Offertory bearers: Hazel Wallis
Church Gardeners: Team 2
Church Cleaners: Team 2

Worshipping Numbers Last Sunday: 180

Worshipping Numbers on the weekdays prior: 100

Prayer Thought

To each one of us God our creator has given a free will, the freedom to choose that which embraces the culture of life or that which embraces the culture of death. We can choose to open our hearts to God or to reject him and to ignore Christ's teaching. Today's readings from the Scriptures present us with ample opportunity to reflect on these basic truths, of such importance for our lives.

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity; give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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

Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) 15:15-20

Reader at SMSG: John Hickman
Reader at All Saints: Rita Oakley

(Old Testament Page 549 in the Bibles) A teacher of wisdom from the Old Testament tells us that we can have no excuse for not keeping God's commandments. God commands us to keep them and has given us the grace to do so.

The Responsorial Psalm (from Psalm 119)

R/. They are happy who follow God's law!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. ®

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Today:

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Septuagesima)

9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles

11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints

Intention: Our Parishes at the beginning of 2017

Monday: Feria

9:30am 'Squeals on Wheels' in the Parish Hall

8:00pm Bellringing Practice

Pray for: the Sick, Housebound & Handicapped

Tuesday: St Cyril & Methodius, Bishops

10:30am Mass + Elevenses at All Saints

Intention: The Unity of Eastern and Western Churches

Wednesday: Feria

7:30pm Mass at St Mary & St Giles

Intention: For the Homeless

Thursday: Feria

10:30am Mass at St Mary & St Giles

Intention: For the Unemployed

Friday: Feria

8:00am Mass at SMSG Sch (North Site)

7:30pm Parish Singers Rehearsal

Intention: For our Church School

Saturday: Feria

1:00pm North Bucks Organists' Meeting

Pray for: Visitors to our Parish Churches

Next Sunday:

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Sexagesima)

9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles

11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints

Intention: Our Parishes

Readings next Sunday

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18

Psalm: 103 (part)

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 3: 16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48

May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. ®

Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. ®

Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. ®

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Reader at SMSG: Shirley Scrutton

*(New Testament Page 139 in the Bibles)
Paul the apostle speaks of the deep wisdom of God revealed in Christ and his Church. Let us pray to God that we come to understand this wisdom even better.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; he who follows me will have the light of life. **Alleluia!**

The Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

*(New Testament Page 4 in the Bibles)
Christ tells us that he has not come to abolish the commandments. He has come, however, to give them a deeper meaning.*

The Prayer of the Faithful

(Intercessor at SMSG: Fr Joseph)

Priest: My brothers and sisters, God our Father wants all mankind to be saved and calls us to the knowledge of the truth. Let us pray to him with all our hearts.

Intercessor: Let us pray for the holy Church of God:.....that the Lord would guide and protect it.

V/. Lord, hear us.

R/. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray for all the peoples of the world:.....That the Lord would unite them in peace and harmony.

Let us pray for all our brothers and sis-

ters in need:... Fiddy Abraham, Anna Archer, Gerry Bonner, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Larry Francis, Jane Holman, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Isla Mullins, Pete, Tony Oakley, Wendy...that the Lord may assist them.

Let us pray for those who have died:... Henry Blake, Muriel Francis, Eileen Haseldine, Cyril Millward, and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**13th** Charles Redgrave, Thomas Bull, Ann Taylor, Dora Bull, Leslie Proctor; **14th** David Millar, Judith Heath; **15th** Harold Lane, Sylvia Clarke; **16th** Maud Richardson, Molly Foxley, Albert Orton, Reuben Underwood; **17th** Dorothy Blundell, Winifred Berrill; **18th** Noah Neal, Joseph Wilsher... that they may dwell for ever "in the shelter of the Most High".

✕ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Let us pray for ourselves and our community:.....that we may offer an acceptable sacrifice.

In silence we pray for our needs and concerns

Priest: God of love, our refuge and our strength, hear the prayers of your church, and grant us today what we ask of you in faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Reflection:

Lord Jesus, you yourself are our food from heaven, the living bread that has come down to give us life in its fullness. You are the wisdom of God and the power of God. You have told us that only through you is the saving plan of God advanced - through your life and teaching and through our lives of union with you. You preached the new covenant and you instituted it. But first of all you lived it in your own person - in your lowliness and meekness of heart, in your understanding and concern for others. May our communion with you in this Eucharist continue to transform us into your own image, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

2018 - Parish Celebration: Bishop Jonathan wants us to mark the important part our Parish played in the Oxford Movement with a major celebration for both Parish Churches. It seems fitting to do this next year when it will be 160 years since Rector Perceval died and when we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Re-Consecration of the now St Mary & St Giles Church.

As part of these celebrations it would be good to produce an historical record of the Parish. There have been small publications in the past, but these are now out of print. To that end, the Rector would be pleased to receive copies of historical documents, or the loan of former publications, and pointers as to what records are available online and still in print. *Thank you.*

Parish Weekend Pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham 2017: Thank you to all those who have booked places so far. Please could all completed booking forms along with deposits of £30 per person be given to Fr Ross as soon as possible, so that we can give the Shrine an early indication of numbers and secure rooms. If you have not been to Walsingham before this is an ideal introduction to the wonderful ministry of the Shrine. Fr Ross or any previous pilgrims will be only too pleased to tell you more.

DVD Presentation on Walsingham: a number have people have asked if more could be explained about Walsingham and the Pilgrimages that take place there. It is said that 'a picture paints a thousand words,' so perhaps a DVD presentation may paint millions! Fr Ross will be showing a DVD produced by the Shrine in the Parish Hall This will be of interest to those who have been on Pilgrimage and to those who might be con-

sidering doing so, but really would like to know more about what happens on a weekend Pilgrimage. So make a date in your diary for the 15th March after the 7:30pm Mass. See Fr Ross for more details.

Advent Boxes: Thank you to everyone who returned their Advent Boxes and/or participated in Carol Singing plus helped make the Christingle Service such a success. The final total of all monies raised for the MK Winter Night Shelter Project is £1582.12 - the largest amount we have collected.

Looking ahead: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday which, this year, is observed on 1st March. Easter Day is observed on 16th April. In the last few years trying to hold a Lent Course on a weekday evening has proved not to be a good time to get a sufficient number of people to attend; and yet there is a clear need for such a Course. Fr Ross would be grateful to hear from people as to what day/time of the week would be possible for a goodly number of people to participate.

Palm Crosses: Thank you to those who have returned their Palm Crosses so far. Those still to return them may hand them in to our Sacristan John in the Sacristy as soon as possible in order that he can burn them to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. Those returning them to All Saints should hand them to the Rector, who will then give them to John.

1st March - Ash Wednesday Masses: this year as well as the 9:30am Said Mass and the 7:30pm Sung Mass at St Mary & St Giles, I am proposing to celebrate an 11:30am Mass at All Saints to be followed by a Lent Lunch of Soup, Bread and Cheese. Offers of soup, bread & cheese and help would be appreciated. Donations will go towards our Lenten Charity: The Additional Curates Society.

Lent Boxes: Our Lenten Appeal this year will be for the Additional Curates Society and Lent Boxes have been ordered and are available in both our churches as from today.

Lent Lunches: as well as the Lent Lunch on Ash Wednesday, there will also be lunches held on the Saturdays of Lent. A list of the dates can be found on the free-standing notice board at St Mary & St Giles, and offers of groups of volunteers to 'host' each lunch and provide soup and/or bread & cheese would be very much appreciated.

A Journey to the Cross: On Wednesday evenings during Lent the Mass will begin in the Parish Hall with a DVD presentation of one of a series of images of Christ's journey to the Cross. Each one includes reflective words, scripture references, a short prayer and concludes with one verse of a hymn. Mass will then follow church. The same pattern will be followed with the evening Masses on the first three days of Holy Week.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers: It's that time of year again when our Church School is collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2017. If you, family members or friends shop in Sainsbury's and receive any vouchers, then please pass them to Kieran or Fr Ross We are collecting vouchers until 2nd May. Once all the vouchers are in and collated they will be used to get equipment for P.E. Thank you.