

Our old Church is coming back to the parish

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, our old church, in its current incarnation of the Carpenter's Arms, has for a long time now been managed by a local Trust and run as a community centre.

Their work has provided excellent meeting spaces for a wide range of local groups and activities, and has been a real boon for the local community.

Now the Trust is handing the lease back to the parish, probably within the next couple of months.

There was a Zoom meeting during the week to provide more information, answer questions, and hear any suggestions as we begin to prepare for the future.

Here's a brief summary of what was said.

- Over recent years the Centre has been able to cover its running costs, including the salary of the Hall Manager. Apart from the immediate consequences and uncertainty produced by the Corona-virus situation there is no reason to think this will change. In addition, it is likely that with the hall returning to parish use great use might be made of the hall for parishioners' parties, and with more publicity, the hall bookings could increase helping produce a better financial return for the parish, as well as providing the parish itself with much easier access to additional social/meeting rooms.
- It is anticipated that the current Manager will remain in-post, and thought is being given to how best provide the additional support that will be required to set policy, monitor usage etc.
- It is thought that those groups currently using the Halls will wish to carry on doing so, and this is welcomed. The Halls will continue to be a community centre, albeit one now managed by the parish.
- A building inspection has been carried out to allow the legal processes to be completed and the lease returned to the parish. There is no date indicated yet as to when this will be completed, but it is hoped it will be in the next couple of months.

Pope Francis and three important words

In order to have a healthy family, three words need to be used.

And I want to repeat these three words: Please; Thank you; Sorry. Three essential words!

We say 'Please' so as not to be forceful in family life: 'May I please do this? Would you be happy if I did this?' We do this with a language that seeks agreement.

We say 'Thank you', thank you for love! Be honest with me, how many times do you say thank you to your wife, and you to your husband? How many days go by without uttering this word?

And the last word: 'Sorry'. We all make mistakes, and on occasion someone gets offended in the marriage, in the family and harsh words are spoken. But please listen to my advice: don't ever let the sun set without reconciling.

Peace is made each day in the family.

A meditation from Anthony de Mello

Two brothers, one a bachelor, the other married, owned a farm whose fertile soil yielded an abundance of grain. Half the grain went to one brother and half to the other.

All went well at first. Then every now and then, the married man began to walk with a start from his sleep at night and think: 'this isn't fair. My brother isn't married, and he gets half the produce of the farm. Here am I with a wife and five kids, so I have all the security I need for my old age. But who will care for my poor brother when he gets old? He needs to save much more for the future than he does at present, so his need is obviously greater than mine.

With that he would get out of bed, steal over to his brother's place, and pour a sackful of grain into his brother's granary.

The bachelor too began to get these nightly attacks. Every once in a while he would wake from his sleep and say to himself: 'This simply isn't fair. My brother has a wife and five kids and he gets half the produce of the land. Now I have no one except myself to support. So is it just that my poor brother, whose need is obviously greater than mine, should receive exactly as much as I do?' Then he would get out of bed and pour a sackful of grain into his brother's granary.

One day they got out of bed at the same time and ran into each other, each with a sack of grain on his back!

Many years later, after their death, the story leaked out. So when the townsfolk wanted to build a temple they chose the spot at which the two brothers met for they could not think of any place in the town that was holier than that one.

The important religious distinction is not between those who worship and those who do not worship but between those who love and those who don't.



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Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Mass for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Introductory Rites

The Introductory Rites help the faithful to come together as one, establish communion and prepare themselves properly to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.

The Penitential Act

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

By hearing the word proclaimed in worship, the faithful again enter into the unending dialogue between God and the people of the covenant shared in Christ, a dialogue sealed as we share the Eucharistic food and drink. The proclamation of the word is essential to the Mass

A brief time of quiet after the readings allows those present to take the word of God to heart and begin to prepare a prayerful response to what we have heard.

Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this:
Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;

he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.

Psalm 144(145):1-2,8-11,13b-14

I will give you glory, O God my king,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God.

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down.

Romans 8:9,11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. *Alleluia!*

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for July is that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

More information at www.popesprayer.va



Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

Homily

Prayer of the Faithful (omitted at the Bishop's request)

Apostles Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

For Catholics, the Eucharist is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. It is the vital centre of all that the Church is and does, because at its heart is the real presence of the crucified, risen and glorified Lord, continuing and making available his saving work among us.

There is no offertory collection or procession at this time.

Instead, you are invited to place your offerings in the basket at the entrance to the church as you arrive, or when you leave.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Eucharistic Prayer, the centre and summit of the entire celebration is a memorial proclamation of praise and thanksgiving for God's work of salvation, a proclamation in which the Body and Blood of Christ are made present by the power of the Holy Spirit and the people are joined to Christ in offering his Sacrifice to the Father

The Preface Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

The Priest continues with the Preface.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The eating and drinking together of the Lord's Body and Blood in a Paschal meal is the culmination of the Eucharist. The themes underlying these rites are the mutual love and reconciliation that are both the condition and the fruit of worthy communion and the unity of the many in the One.

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Invitation to Communion

*After the prayer and its response "Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy," the priest holds up the Host to the Congregation and says **The Body of Christ** to which the people respond **Amen.***

*In the same way, he elevates the chalice and says, **The Blood of Christ** and again the people respond **Amen.***

For the distribution of Holy Communion to the Faithful a small table has been placed before the Sanctuary to socially distance the priest distributing Holy Communion and communicants.

Communion will be given silently, and in the hand only.

Please wait in your pew until instructed by the Stewards to move forward to the priest for Holy

Communion, always aware of the regulations on social distancing in the orderly queue.

When you approach the priest, please do so with arms at "full stretch" so that there is a good distance between you and the priest.

Your hands, palms upwards, one of top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible.

Having received Holy Communion, communicants return to their pews in an orderly manner.

Prayer after Communion

The Concluding Rites

The brief Concluding Rite sends the people forth to put into effect in their daily lives the Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection and the unity in Christ which they have celebrated. Their mission is to witness to Christ in the world and to bring the Gospel to the poor.

Blessing

Dismissal

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On-line Support for Prayer

Over recent weeks there have been parish Zoom prayer meetings - on Sunday afternoons at 5pm for *Lectio Divina* and on Mondays at 7pm for Rosary.

These are planned to continue until we are able to return to using the church and its meeting rooms more freely.

The Zoom link for each is posted on the Parish Blog each weekend.

During the past days of more total lockdown a number of parishioners have worked at helping there to be a daily post of a scripture reading and brief reflection.

These have now come to an end, and the Blog will revert to carrying the Living Eucharist Blog designed to help us prepare for Sunday Mass.

Those looking for something particular for each day might like to try www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer/

Please observe social distance when lighting candles in the church

- Please do not approach a candle stand if someone else is already standing there.
- If queuing please keep social distance.
- When you have lit a candle please simply make a sign of the cross and move promptly away from the stand.



Financial support of the Church at this time

If you are in a position to help, you might like to consider the following.

- **DONATIONS AND OFFERTORY** can be made in the collection basket in church, or put through the door of the parish house.
- **GIFT AID** allows the Church reclaim tax paid on your offering, to raise a further 25% for the church at no further cost to you. **STANDING ORDERS** are a very helpful way of making your offering. *Forms for GA and SO are available from Fr Allen or the parish website.*
- **GIFT AID OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** Numbered envelopes are available from the Stewards for those in the Gift Aid scheme who still use the envelopes. Offertory.
- **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**, too, are available for other parishioners - who are not in the gift aid scheme. Again, please speak to a steward.

MASS DURING THE HEALTH CRISIS

On days when there is no public Mass Fr Allen celebrates Mass 'privately' in the church usually at 0830 .

Sa	4	6pm		Mass Int: : Chris Hickey RIP (Hickey)
Su	5	9am	14TH SUNDAY Psalter Week 2	Mass Int: Luciana Barratt RD (Drozd)
		11am		Mass Int: For the parish
M	6	10am		Mass Int: Helen Wynne RD
T	7	10am		Mass int: Peter and Olwyn Foster RIP
W	8			Mass Int: Peace in Syria
Th	9			
F	10	7pm	St Thomas	Mass Int: Iris Pinkstone RIP (Howlett))
Sa	11	6pm		Mass Int: : Bridget Quinlisk RIP (Gill)
Su	12	9am	15TH SUNDAY Psalter Week 3	Mass Int: For the parish
		11am		Mark Tomlinson RIP (O'Gorman)

Please pray for sick parishioners including Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke, Peggy Gallagher and all who are self-isolating at this time. **Please pray** for all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries of death are at this time, including Austin McTaff, David Finnegan, Tony Prescott, Teresa Astley **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**