

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

All are your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are: or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia.

*If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisses, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE PARISHES OF
**THE CATHEDRAL, BLACKPOOL,
THE GLEN, BALLYVOLANE
& SUNDAY'S WELL**

Newsletter



February 23 2020

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Leviticus.

You must love your neighbour as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

'You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.'

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: The Lord is compassion and love.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love
and compassion. **R.**

3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those
who fear him. **R.**

PARISHES OF THE CATHEDRAL, BLACKPOOL, THE GLEN, BALLYVOLANE & SUNDAY'S WELL

V.Rev. John O'Donovan PP ADM. Tel: 021 4304325 • Rev. Damian O'Mahony CC, Cathedral Tel: 021 4304325

Parish Offices: **Blackpool** 4300518 | **Email:** info@blackpoolparish.com | **Website:** www.blackpoolparish.com | **Parish Mobile:** 087 2381187

Parish Offices: **Cathedral** 021 4304325 | **Email:** cathedral@corkandross.org | **Website:** www.corkcathedral.ie

SACRISTY / OFFICE HOURS:

Blackpool: 021 4300518
 Tuesday 10am to 12 noon
 Wednesday 9am to 12 noon
 Thursday 11am to 12 noon
 Friday 9am to 10.30am
 Sunday 11am to 12 noon

Cathedral: 021 4304325
 Sacristy: 021 4210717

Cathedral Parish Office Hours:

Monday: 8.30am – 4pm
 Tuesday: 8.30am – 4.30pm
 Wednesday: 8.30am – 4.30pm
 Thursday: 8.30am – 4pm
 Friday: 8.30am to 4.30pm

Last weeks' Offertory Collection from the four churches of the parishes came to:

Cathedral: €1,360
 Blackpool: €926
 The Glen: €435
 Ballyvolane: €701

Last weeks' Maintenance/Renovation Fund Collection from the four churches of the parish came to:

Cathedral: €715
 Blackpool: €625
 The Glen: €337
 Ballyvolane: €540

Sincere thanks for your generous support.

WE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Heaphy
 Abraham (Abie) Duncliffe
 Peter O'Mahony
 Francis Kenneally
 Ansty (Anastasia) Walsh
 Patrick O'Sullivan

BLACKPOOL OVER 60'S CLUB

Next meeting *Tuesday 25th Feb 2-4.30pm* all welcome.

MASS IN THE NORTH CATHEDRAL

ON TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY WILL BE AT 9.30AM INSTEAD OF THE USUAL 10.15AM.

Getting Stung

The story is told of a holy old man who used to meditate every morning under a large tree on the banks of the river Ganges in northern India. The place he chose was near a site of pilgrimage where Hindus came to wash in the sacred river and cleanse themselves from sin. One morning, after he had finished his meditation, the old man noticed a large scorpion floating helplessly on the strong current of the river. The scorpion became caught in the tree's long roots that extended into the river bed. The more it struggled to free itself, the more entangled it became in the twining roots. The old man reached out to free the captive animal and, as soon as he touched it, the scorpion lifted its tail and stung him wildly. But the old man reached out again to free it.

RITE OF ELECTION FOR CATECHUMENS:

On *Saturday 29th February at the 5:00pm Mass* in the Cathedral Bishop Fintan Gavin will preside at the Rite of Election for catechumens from across the diocese. We welcome Yvette, Rahul and Christopher from here in the Cathedral parish; Remy from Ss Peter and Paul's; Ivana and Paulo from Bandon and Katerina from Bantry with their sponsors, family members and the parishioners who are accompanying them on the journey of Christian Initiation as they prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil in their parishes.

LENT & ASH WEDNESDAY

At Easter we will celebrate the resurrection, the most important feast in the Christian calendar. Now we begin Lent as a time to ready ourselves for that great feast. We are invited to let God find us where we are. He has the same question to ask each of us, "Where are you?" During this Lent, we can make time to look where we are in our lives and discover God's presence anew. We are challenged to make time to listen to his word. We are invited to let him get close to who we are and how we are. Traditionally Lent is a time when we give up some things or take up some things. Whatever we do, it would be a good idea to allow the word of God to get close. The word comes to question who we are; it comes to support the kind of people we could be. We could make a little time – five or ten minutes each day? – to let the word form us, as it formed Jesus. Let it influence what we do and say. Let the word of God find us so that we can emerge from our hiding places into the peace of his presence.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lent begins on Wednesday, 26th February 2020. There will be Mass and distribution of ashes in:

St Mary's and St Anne's Cathedral: 10.15am
Church of the Annunciation Blackpool: 9.45am

A young man was passing and saw what was happening. He shouted out: "Old man, what's wrong with you? You must be mad! Why bother risking your life to save such an ugly, useless creature?"

The old man turned to the onlooker, and in his pain there was a question: "Friend," he said, "because it is the nature of the scorpion to sting, why should I give up my own nature to save?"

The story of the old man and the scorpion raises a problem that we all face: do we take our cue for action from the treatment we receive from others, or do we continue in the way of graciousness even when we get stung ourselves?

Jesus argues that the love his disciples give people is not related to the love they receive from others: it is not a social contract or a fair bargain. The disciple loves because that is what the nature of discipleship involves. A disciple is the child of the Father – and look at the father's graciousness. He does not

withhold the sun and the rain from those who oppose him; likewise, disciples must not withhold their love from those who oppose them.

The love is offered not because Jesus thinks that it will change the enemy into something else: certainly, love might confuse the enemy! Love is offered because that is what disciples of the kingdom should do. Their script proceeds from who they are, not from what they receive from others.

Jesus does not believe that love transforms enemies into instant friends. Love didn't solve all Jesus' problems with his enemies. In the end he was the one who reached out to free others and was stung in the process. He was stung to death. But he stayed with his supreme value because that emerged from who he was as the Son of the Father. Love is his way and it stays his way no matter what appears on the agenda. Even the scorpions.

PASTORAL TEAM FOR FUNERALS

A number of parishes in the diocese have Pastoral Teams for Funerals in place. The role and work of the Pastoral Team is to be there with a family to guide and advise them as they plan the funeral of their loved one. Above all, they will be there to reassure the bereaved family, to help in making the funeral more personal, meaningful and prayerful as well as leading some of the prayers, beginning in the funeral home, like the Rosary and on occasions, the removal prayers. Pastoral Teams for Funerals will not replace the priest. He will continue his ministry with the bereaved, celebrate the funeral Mass and graveside prayers. The Pastoral Team will work alongside him as we all strive to minister the love, mercy, consolation and compassion of Christ to all who suffer such loss. It is our plan to have a Pastoral Team for Funerals in these parishes in the not too distant future. If you would like to be part of a Pastoral Team for Funerals, please make contact with any member of the Parish Assembly or with any of the priests.

Mothers Day Cards

on sale in all churches of the Parish from this weekend.

CATHEDRAL

Saturday 22nd February 5pm (Vigil)
 Eileen Walsh R.I.P.

Mary O'Gorman R.I.P. 4th Anniversary
 Bridget Moynihan R.I.P. Anniversary
 Ann McCarthy Months Mind

Sunday 23rd February 11.30am.
 Tom Twomey and Tom Browne R.I.P.
 Rita and Michael Spillane R.I.P.
 Maureen Noonan R.I.P.
 Fred O'Neill Months Mind.

Sunday 23rd February 5.30p.m.
 Rory O'Connor R.I.P. 5th Anniversary
 John O'Mahony R.I.P. 3rd Anniversary
 Gussie Deasy R.I.P. 3rd Anniversary

Monday 24th February 10.15a.m.
 Missa Pro Populo

Tuesday 25th February 9.30 a.m.
 Maura Collins R.I.P.

Wednesday 26th February 10.15a.m.
 Shared Mass

Thursday 27th February 10.15a.m.
 Coughlan and Scanlon Family R.I.P. Anniversary

Friday 28th February 10.15a.m.
 Golden Book of Remembrance Mass

NORTH PRESENTATION CONVENT

Sunday 23rd February 9a.m.
 Mrs Mary Mulcahy Hiscux R.I.P.

CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION
Saturday 22nd February 6pm (Vigil):
 William Deasy RIP
 Margaret Newman RIP
 Josephine Corkery RIP
 Hancy Fitzpatrick 7th Anniversary RIP

Sunday 23rd February 12 noon:
 Paddy Burke RIP
 Frank Wallace Recently Deceased RIP
 Eily O'Sullivan Recently Deceased RIP
 Patrick Morrissey Months Mind,
 Lucy Morrissey 5th Anniversary and Christy Morrissey RIP

Monday 24th February 9.45am
 Hilary Brennan Recently Deceased RIP

Wednesday 26th February 9.45am:
 Mae and John O'Keefe RIP

Friday 28th February 9am:
 Shared Mass

ST OLIVER'S, BALLYVOLANE

Saturday 22nd February 6pm:
 Susan Walsh RIP

Christine McSweeney 2nd Anniversary RIP
 Michael Archer RIP and Tom Archer Recently Deceased RIP

Sunday 23rd February 11am:
 James Cotter 3rd Anniversary RIP
 Maria Murphy Recently Deceased RIP

Tuesday 25th February 9am:
 Michael Higginston Recently Deceased RIP

Thursday 27th February 9am:
 No Intention

ST. BRENDAN'S CHURCH THE GLEN

Sunday 23rd February 10am:
 Mary and Michael Naughton RIP

Monday 24th February 10am:
 Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Friday 28th February 9.45am:
 No Intention

Saturday 29th February 9.45am:
 Special Intention

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God. Amen.

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.

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 Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.

The Mystery of faith

1. We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
2. When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.
3. Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
 I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from light True God from true God begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father.
 Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets.
 I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant's Introduction: Help us, O Lord, to love you above all things and our neighbours as ourselves. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Intercessions:

1. In the various challenges that face the Church in our day, let us ask the Lord to instil in his people a spirit of praise and thanksgiving, so that we may not succumb to anxiety.
Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.
2. We pray for those who are homeless, those who are sleeping rough, and those who seek justice for them. May God bless those who suffer and those who seek their good.
Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.
3. We pray for those who bear grudges in their hearts. May God heal them of the burden of unforgiveness; may they be open and charitable in how they speak of others.
Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.
4. May God, who sees all that is in our hearts, bless those whose goodness is hidden, strengthen those whose sufferings are hidden, and grant us all compassionate hearts.
Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant: Father, we ask that by your grace our response to the promptings of your Spirit may grow ever more generous. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.