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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

**Response to the Psalm:** In your goodness, O God, you prepared a house for the poor.

**Second reading:** Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

**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:** Luke 14:1, 7-14

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Dear Parishioners

There is an immediate tension in today's Gospel. On the surface invitations like the one Jesus received are typically given to equal, people of the same status or position in the community. The obvious meaning is that all whom the host has invited will certainly return the invitation. Jesus' presence then indicates that he is highly regarded in this circle of professionals.

As the Gospel begins though, there is a direct reference to the fact that all things are not as they appear. The host and guests were "watching" Jesus closely. The implication used in the text is one of hostility. They hoped to catch him in a shortcoming of some sort. After all Jesus did have a reputation of not following accepted practices while dining. What would he do to shock them today? Jesus challenges the host to invite those who cannot possibly repay his kindness.

Throw open the doors to your home...invite impartially and your feast will be wonderful. After all, who among us are worthy of the Father's invitation? We can do nothing to deserve or repay His invitation. Yet it is through God's love that we are always invited...always welcomed.

Jesus echoes the lesson in the first reading from Ecclesiasticus, "My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver."

Jesus challenges us in the same manner:

Do we judge those with whom we come into contact?

Do we place restrictions on who is welcome?

Do we act in calculating ways in order to gain some advantage later?

Let us all take some time to consider just how accepting we really are and then maybe we can look at our actions and joyfully witness the Gospel alive in our midst.

**God Bless
Fr. Benedict OSB**

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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Registered Charity Number 1063237

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and served by the

Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey

Parish Priest: Fr. Benedict Thompson O.S.B

Rev. Deacon Peter Griffiths



22nd Week of Year(C)

Week commencing Sunday 28th August 2022

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

Contact in confidence sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk

Masses

Sat 27 th Aug	5.00pm	22 nd Sunday Year (C)	Nancy Flynn RIP
Sun 28 th Aug	10.30am	22 nd Sunday Year (C)	Nickie Flynn RIP
Mon 29 th Aug			
Tues 30 th Aug			
Wed 31 st Aug			
Thur 1 st Sept			
Fri 2 nd Sept			
Sat 3 rd Sept	5.00pm	23 rd Sunday Year (C)	Richard Flynn RIP
Sun 4 th Sept	10.30am	23 rd Sunday Year (C)	Rose, Joe & John Yoxall RIP

Mass is celebrated privately daily except on Monday.

If you would like a mass offered for a particular intention, please email the parish or put a note through the door of the presbytery, *please do not place it in the collection bag*. Thank you.

Those Who Have Asked for Prayers:

Derek Sollis, , Georgette Cowell, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield. Alan Clatworthy, Anthony Woodhouse, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell,

Those who have recently died: .

Richard Flynn, Denis Charlton, Mary Gardner, Charles Maries, Sheila Hall, Donald Newell, Helen Meaney Bridget Clarke, Sylvia Flanagan, Robert McCarthy, Pamela Young, Norah O'Neill-Thomas, Susanna Westmeath, Nell Bridge.

Doleen Evans, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon, Judy Husband Graham Janes, Elizabeth Watton, Maurice Andrews, Max Stoddart. Tony Lyons, Michael Russell, Mary Cross, Agnes McIlravey, Helen McCarthy, Patricia O'Brien, Pauline Burton, Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli.

Information

Weekly Second Collection

The weekly second collection will normally be for help towards the payment of the diocesan levy and the upkeep of the house and church buildings. Both the church and the house are Grade II listed so any work done has to be to a high standard as set by the requisite authority. Here are a few of the expenses for the coming year:

- Diocesan Levy £5,500 p.a.
- Building's upkeep £36,000.00
- Insurance £3,744.77 p.a.

At times the second collection will be for other charities and the details of these will be placed in the bulletin.

Gift Aid

We are attempting to update our Gift Aid records. At the back of the church there is a form to sign up for Gift Aid if you wish to join. Also, could those who are already members sign the form. You can Gift Aid by Standing Order or weekly envelopes which we will be issuing to those who request them. To that end, please tick the relevant box on the form. Thank you.

Retreat

Fr. Benedict will be on retreat at Douai Abbey from Sunday 28th August until Friday 2nd September

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Douai Abbey Parishes Trust is responsible for our Parish and is committed to ensuring high standards of information security, privacy and transparency. Check our website, address above, for full details