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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Isaiah 8:23-9:3

**Response to the Psalm:** The Lord is my light and my help.

**Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom and cured all kinds of sickness among the people. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 4:12-23

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Dear Parishioners

Many of us, at one time or another, dream of leaving everything behind. All the ties and responsibilities that nail us down, all the daily drudge, our half-heartedness about our work or our families, the weight of our past and our failures, all the things which define us. It would be so simple to dump all the baggage of life, disappear and start again in another place with a new passport and a Swiss bank account.

In the Gospel, four fishermen leave everything behind, all the ties and bonds of work and family, to follow Jesus. Jesus doesn't offer them a career, as carpenters, soldiers or tax collectors. He isn't offering them exciting new love affairs, or friendships unencumbered by the weight of failure and misunderstanding. That following of Jesus establishes a relationship between what the disciples are now and what they are to become. That which will define them now is not bypassed or ignored, but becomes the scene of an urgent call to a deeper self-understanding. The urge to escape who we are often weighs very heavily upon us. But there are no real clean slates in this life; who we are is intimately bound up with those we live with, those who have cared for us or hurt us. The call of God's grace doesn't offer us a new identity, the fantasy life we have always longed for. The call to be a disciple is a call to move to an even deeper understanding of who we are, who we are called to be, in the self-giving of God, in the cross of Jesus and in the glory which finally transformed simple fishermen into fishers of men.

**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



3rd Week of Year(A)

Week commencing Sunday 22nd January 2023

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

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

Masses

Sat 21 st Jan	5.00pm	3 rd Sunday Year A	Kathleen McLoughlin RIP
Sun 22 nd Jan	10.30am	3 rd Sunday Year A	People of the Parish
Mon 23 rd Jan			
Tues 24 th Jan		St. Francis de Sales (M)	
Wed 25 th Jan		Conversion of St. Paul (F)	
Thur 26 th Jan			Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 27 th Jan			
Sat 28 th Jan	5.00pm	4 th Sunday Year A	Fallon & Gartland Families
Sun 29 th January	10.30am	4 th Sunday Year A	People of the Parish Past & Present

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, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps.

Those who have recently died: ,

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, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse,
Kathleen McLoughlin.

Information

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.
- Three Church Windows £1775.00

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

Unwanted Christmas Gifts

We will be collecting any new, unopened Christmas gifts and gift sets after Christmas for future fundraising sales. Please keep anything that you think might be saleable and check the bulletin for details of when we will be collecting these items. Thank you!

Sunday Coffee Mornings

Initially coffee mornings will run on the last Sunday of each month. The first one will be next weekend on 29th January. Do please come along and join us for a drink, sweet things and a chat.

At the back of the church there is a Coffee Volunteers Rota. If you are able, please could you sign up to look after the coffee mornings. Details are on the Rota. Many thanks.

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