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LITURGY

First reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Response to the Psalm: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Second reading: 2Corinthians 5:6-10

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34



Dear Parishioners

Most of us have probably felt in some way the sentiments expressed in a song like "Sunrise, Sunset" from the musical 'Fiddler on the Roof;' Parents wonder at how quickly the years have flown, how their children have grown. It seems only yesterday they were babies; suddenly it seems they are adults and living their lives of their own. The opposite also happens: the parents whom we always thought of as young and strong and vital are suddenly old or infirm. Or we discover our own mortality and the loss of youth and possibilities. Even in youth we have experienced the seemingly endless summer become an instant, and we wonder where it went so quickly when we face the new school year in September!

In whatever context we are all familiar with the sense of time flying: seeing something in its beginnings, and suddenly – so it seems – being confronted with a full-blown reality; the time in-between not noticed. Today's Gospel evokes just such experiences, but without the sense of melancholy and loss that so frequently accompanies them. On the contrary, Jesus' parables speak of fully joyous events: the surprising abundance of nature, the miracle of growth. We wonder: where did it come from? How such small beginnings produce such results? The kingdom of God, Jesus tells us, is like this: the unspectacular, seemingly insignificant beginnings produce marvels.

Of course, growth does not happen all at once; wisdom does not come at once, nor age, nor maturity, nor love. But we most frequently do not notice the small daily increments; we are too close to them; each single moment of growth is understandable and unsurprising – it is only at the end that we are amazed. The marvel actually happens in front of our eyes, but we do not see it as marvelous until we see the whole. It is not any particular moment, but the whole process, which is astonishing. Each stage produces and explains the next; but the fact of there being growth at all – the fact that things can produce what is beyond themselves – produces wonder and can only be seen as the gift of God.

.God Bless

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



11th Week of Year B

Week commencing Sunday 15th June 2024

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Woodhouse. She can be contacted at: sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern

Masses

Sat 15 th June	5.00pm	11 th Sunday Year (B)	Sollis Family RIP
Sun 16 th June	10.30am	11 th Sunday Year (B)	People of the Parish
Mon 17 th June			
Tues 18 th June			
Wed 19 th June		St. Romuald (mem)	
Thurs 20 th June	11.00am		Funeral Service of Mary Phipps
Fri 21 st June		St. Aloysius Gonzaga (mem)	
Sat 22 nd June	5.00pm	12 th Sunday Year (B)	Robert & Sarah Lamb RIP
Sun 23 rd June	10.30am	12 th Sunday Year (B)	Kathleen & John O'Brien 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, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Tim Harrison, Agnes Wilkins.

Those who have recently died:

Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse, Kathleen McLoughlin, Peter McGoldrick, Anthony Roache, Lionel Quigley. Keith John Francis Cotterell, Anna Rose McGoldrick, Mary Baker, Georgette Cowell, Anthony Mathew, John Knox, Bill McCarthy, Mary Phipps, Alan Clatworthy, Abbot Finbar Kealy and all those we have been asked to pray for.

INFORMATION

Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass near the end of each month. **The next coffee morning will be on Sunday 30th June, after the 10.30am Mass.**

Please come and enjoy a coffee, biscuits, cake and a chat.

Second Collection

THE SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK IS FOR PETER'S PENCE

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.