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There are those who think that Jesus's teaching about marriage has become out of date nowadays. It does not fit the facts or the experience of so many. Such people forget that Jesus's teaching not only differed from Jewish law and practice as mentioned in the gospel, but also from Roman law and culture. Divorce in ancient Rome was very easy, to the point that a famous inscription in praise of a wife who had died after more than forty years of marriage says that such marriages, ending in death and not in divorce, were rare. What Jesus We should not get used to sin and moral weakness, seeing them as our deepest and most natural condition. It is goodness and love

that are at the heart of creation, and marriages are built on them. On hearing today's gospel our minds may well start to focus on the issue of divorce and remarriage, but Jesus wants us to discover or rediscover how it was in the beginning, at creation, and to live and love accordingly. So, we are not to put asunder what God has joined. Starting from texts in the New

Testament itself, the Church has developed a nuanced understanding of what God has joined and what it might mean to divide. But discussion of annulments and dissolutions of marriage cannot be the starting point. The central and sustaining image is that the two spouses become one indivisible flesh. As Jesus says, we must go back to the beginning, to creation, and, to help fill our minds and imaginations before we hear the gospel, today's first reading is in fact from *Genesis*. You should be able to tell Christians by their realism and by their founded belief that God is greater than any weakness or sin. It is fashionable to say that we are all sinners. True enough, but this is only part of the truth. We are also *repentant* sinners, and we seek the grace of deeper conversion during the whole of our lives.

# St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

103 Ålcester Road Studley Warwickshire B80 7NW Telephone 01527 852524 Email: stmarysstudley@gmail.com WEBSITE: <u>stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk</u> 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



### 27<sup>th</sup> Week of Year B Week commencing Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024 <u>Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse</u>

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 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	5.00pm	27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (B)	People of the Parish
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10.30am	26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (B)	Maureen Walsh poorly
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct			
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct			Private Intention
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct		St. John Henry Newman (Feast)	Mary Phipps RIP
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct			
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct			
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	5.00pm	28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (B)	Robert & Sarah Lamb RIP
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10.30am	28th Sunday Year (B)	People of the Parish

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, Alma Finnerty, Bud Sollis.

### 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, Bernadette Mary Parker, Mary Phipps, Alan Clatworthy, Abbot Finbar Kealy OSB, Katherine McCallion Fr. Boniface Moran OSB and all those we have been asked to pray for.

# **INFORMATION**

### <u>Sunday Coffee</u> <u>Please come and join us for Coffee, biscuits and a chat</u> There will be coffee on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October, Thank you to Wendy and Barbara for volunteering.

# 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. THE SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK IS FOR WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

# Roof Repairs Update - We have reached our target of £5000! A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED TO

THE FUNDRAISING – IT HAS MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE!
The work to the roof, which is still ongoing outside, has so far cost
£12000. We are still in discussions with our insurers & hope that at least some payment towards the costs will be forthcoming.
We will be closing the GoFundMe online donation site at the end of
September. You can, of course, donate in the usual ways – by cash or cheque made payable to St Mary's RC Parish. Please place cash or
cheques in an envelope marked for the attention of Fr Benedict. It would be helpful if you would include your name & if you are able to Gift Aid.
Please take care when entering the church and do not park near the scaffolding.

We really do appreciate your support. Thank you!

## <u>Missio</u>

If you have one of the Missio red boxes please could you bring them back by the 13<sup>th</sup> October and leave them on the front bench of the church. Many thanks.