

**DEANERY OF ST EDMUND CAMPION**

**ENGLISH MARTYRS—**

**VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE PASTORAL AREA**

[www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

[www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk](http://www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk)

## **East Hendred Catholic Parish**

**16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022**



***St Luke the Evangelist (18<sup>th</sup> October)***

# WEEK 29 YEAR 2

**9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

All masses live-streamed [www.churchservices.tv/easthendred](http://www.churchservices.tv/easthendred)  
book for Sunday morning Mass: [hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
St Mary's is usually open each day from 9am until late afternoon.

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**SUNDAY 29C** [Green]  
**16<sup>th</sup> October**

<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Children's Church</b> (St Mary's Parish Rooms)
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b> [said]
<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass at St Patrick's</b>
<b>6pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>

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*WEEK 29 (Year 2)*  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup>** St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr [Red]  
9.15am Holy Mass  
*RIP Isabelle Langley (Annie Furlong)*

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>** St Luke, Evangelist [Red]  
9.15am Holy Mass  
*Daniel's Intention (Anne Johns)*

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>** *Feria (Of Week 29)* [Green]  
9.15am Holy Mass

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>** *Feria (Of Week 29)* [Green]  
9.15am School Mass

**Friday 21<sup>th</sup>** *Feria (Of Week 29)* [Green]  
8.30am Mass (Hendred House) Holy Souls

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>** *St John Paul II, Pope* [White]  
**No Mass**

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**SUNDAY 30C** [Green]  
**23<sup>rd</sup> October**

<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Children's Church</b> (St Mary's Parish Rooms)
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass at St Patrick's</b>
<b>6pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>

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## CONTACT DETAILS

Fr Andrew: 01235 835038 or 07976 437979

[aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

[office@hendredcatholicparish.org.uk](mailto:office@hendredcatholicparish.org.uk) is monitored by the Parish Secretary.

# FOR YOUR PRAYERS



## OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

### THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

### DIOCESAN PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Parish of St Margaret Mary, Park Gate
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Hospital Chaplains in the Diocese
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	All Doctors, Surgeons, Nurses & Healthcare Staff Community of St Luke, Theale
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	All engaged in medical research Community of St Philip Howard, Fareham
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	All artists, architects, craftsmen and designers working for the Church
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Parishes, Communities, & Schools of the Great Park Pastoral Area
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Journalists and Editors in the service of the Church

### THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

Martha, Diana France, Helen Lewis, Fr Robin Sanders, John Castle, Daniel Cuevas, John Stringer, Louise Woodhouse, Brenda Paddon, Karen Greig, Mary McNichol, Des McNichol

### THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

*Recently:* Sidney Wallace. *Week 16<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> October:* Andrew Livingstone Gunn, Dorothy Mary Eyston, Henry Justin D. Atkinson, Mgr O'Connor, Robert Brathy Ayles, Leslie Leonard Langley, David Durham, Kathleen Teakle.

# EAST Hendred Catholic Parish

## NOTICEBOARD

### CHARITABLE GIVING

#### **BAREFOOT FOR UGANDA**

Joseph Kershaw (Didcot Sixth Form Year 13 student) is visiting St Mary's on Sunday (16<sup>th</sup> October) to ask parishioners to donate to a mission trip to Uganda that he and some other young Catholic friends are planning for February 2023. They will be doing a sponsored barefoot day walk in late October to raise funds, and any surplus will go towards the Catholic charity who run the orphanage they will stay at, Mercy for Life. You can visit their gofundme page at <https://gofund.me/ebabd789> if you would like to donate. More information is available at [mercyforlifeafrica.org](http://mercyforlifeafrica.org). Many thanks.

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 194 people viewed, 52 machines looking only at St Mary's. 27 of these were in the UK, 25 elsewhere in the world. 114 probably stayed on-line long enough to take part in Mass.

#### **MISSIONARY COMMUNITIES**

The Bishop unveils a ten-year Mission Plan: *You Shall Be My Witnesses*: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

This plan will affect everyone in the diocese. Under the plan, between July 2023 and December 2027 parishes will be reorganised and estate rationalised. Our new 'Missionary Community' or 'Parish' would be an amalgamation of Abingdon, Buckland and Faringdon, Didcot and Wallingford; Hendred, Hinksey, Wantage and Lambourn (i.e. the current Pastoral Area). The Pastoral Area clergy met last Thursday and re-affirmed the value of the existing parish structure but think that there may be administrative and catechetical advantages in organising more on a Pastoral Area basis. There will be a meeting about this on 3<sup>rd</sup> November at which we shall be represented.



Welcome to the latest edition of the ***Closer to Christ*** Campaign Weekly Newsletter.

We are delighted to announce that the Campaign has now secured over £5 million in pledges! This is a truly remarkable achievement and our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who has supported this initiative to date!

You can read more about our progress over the last week [here](#).

Best wishes,

***Closer to Christ*** Campaign Team

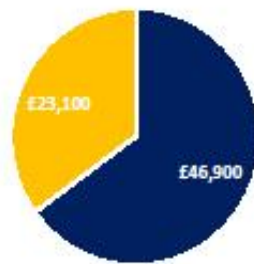
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## *Closer to Christ Campaign* Catholic Parish of East Hended



This weekend marks the half way point of the *Closer to Christ* Campaign in our parish. Thank you to those of you who have already made your decision and returned your pledge form. Here at the Catholic Parish of East Hended, we are aiming to raise £70,000 in pledges to fund the two priorities below. Already we have secured over £57,000 in pledges from 22 families.

### Our Parish Goal



■ Providing for our Clergy ■ Reviving our Parish

Our goal is to raise £70,000 by the end of October from gifts and pledges over three-five years.

Your decision today can help ensure our parish can thrive following the impact of Covid-19 and our clergy are provided with adequate support for years to come.

By completing the form overleaf your contribution will make a difference.

We are blessed to have a Diocese filled with caring, active, and committed parishioners. If you have not yet responded: will you please support the future of our parish and our priests?

Please note your payments can start at any time, this pledge simply acts as a promise. Make sure to tick the Gift Aid box if applicable to you so we can benefit from the additional 25%.

**Your participation matters - every gift counts, no matter how big or small!**

### Parish Stats

Raised to date - £57,900

Number of gifts - 22

Average pledge - £2,632

% of pledges Gift Aided - 86%

Number of households engaged - 70+

Campaign ends in East Hended - Oct 2022



Once you have completed your pledge form please return it to Fr. Andrew or post it to:

*Closer to Christ* Campaign Office  
St Edmund House  
Bishop Crispian Way  
Portsmouth  
PO1 3QA



Please complete this form in **BLOCK CAPITALS** using ballpoint pen

**MY/OUR GIFT TO DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH**

I/We would like to make an annual pledge of:

- £2,000 for 5 years for a total pledge of £10,000
- £1,200 for 5 years for a total pledge of £6,000
- £720 for 5 years for a total pledge of £3,600
- £480 for 5 years for a total pledge of £2,400
- £360 for 5 years for a total pledge of £1,800
- Other: A pledge of £ \_\_\_\_\_ a year for \_\_\_\_ years  
to be paid  annually  monthly  one-off

Parish Name:

Town:

Title:

First Name:

Surname:

Full Home Address:

Tel / mobile:

Email:

Signature:

Date:

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

My/Our gift will commence on \_\_\_\_\_ and be paid by: \_\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/year

**Direct Debit:** please complete the section below and return to the **Closer to Christ** Campaign Office. Direct debits can only be taken on the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month.

**Bank Transfer: (Account Details are as follows) -**  
Sort Code: 30-80-27 Account Number: 38095060  
Account Name: PRCDTR Closer to Christ Bank: Lloyds Bank  
Please use your full name as a narrative

**Cheque:** Payable to **Closer to Christ** Campaign and send to the **Closer to Christ** Campaign Office

**Other:** Please state \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Aid** (If your gift is eligible for gift aid, tick this box)

Please treat my donation to the **Closer to Christ** Campaign as a Gift Aid donation. I am a UK tax payer and would like the **Closer to Christ** Campaign to reclaim the tax on any qualifying donations made in the past 4 years and henceforth until further notice. I confirm that I have paid, or will be paying an amount of UK income tax or capital gains tax equal to any tax reclaimed.

Print Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....



**Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit**

Please fill in the whole form using a ballpoint pen and send to: **Closer to Christ** Campaign, Campaign Office, St. Edmund House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth, PO1 3QA (Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust, Charity No. 246871 and Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocese Priests Retirement Fund, Charity No. 1061194)

We will keep you regularly updated on the difference your support is making by post or email. If you wish to receive these communications, please tick your preferred method email  or post



Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

\_\_\_\_\_

Bank/Building Society Account Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Branch Sort Code

\_\_\_\_\_

Name and full postal address of your bank or building society

To: The Manager  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Post code

Banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of accounts

**Service User Number**

**2 9 3 3 1 5**

**Reference Number**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Instruction to your Bank or Building Society**

Please pay **Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered** Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with **Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered** and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer**



**The Direct Debit Guarantee**

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit, Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered will notify you 7 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society. If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered asks you to.

# CHILDREN.....

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Have a word with Veronica or Libby if you would like to help. Children's Church is at 9.15am on Sundays in St Mary's Parish Rooms.

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH TRAINING SESSION**

The Dominican Sisters are offering an online **Children's Liturgy Training session** on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October**, from 9am to 12noon. We will look at the fundamental principles, model sessions, and share resources. Register here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUscemrpzoiEtbsbgOsOqgVj-XCRhUE0sMo>

# .....YOUNG ADULTS

## **DAVE AND GEMMA**

I have asked Dave and Gemma, a couple at St Mary's who are marrying later this year, to head up and liaise our work with young adults. If you are interested in any of the things below – or other activities – have a word with them. They can be reached on [davegem2022@gmail.com](mailto:davegem2022@gmail.com)

## **FLAME**

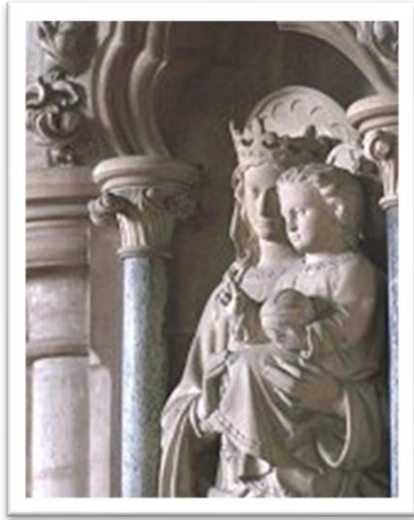
Flame, the largest youth gathering of Catholics, is taking place at the OVO Arena, Wembley on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023, with the theme 'Rise Up!' All young people, whether from the parish, at school (Year 9 or older), or at university are welcome. Loud music, bright lights, moments of stillness..... Any questions? Contact [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or phone 07780 221686.

## **WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023**

Those aged 16 or above by July 2023 are invited to join with like-minded young people from across the diocese to journey on pilgrimage to Lisbon for World Youth Day. This is a life-changing experience for all those who accept the invitation and this pilgrimage, led by Bishop Philip, is set to be the best one yet! But hurry, spaces are limited! Plans are in the early stages, but we will provide more information and details as soon as possible. For further information, see the posters in church, or please email [wyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



# East Hendred Catholic Parish



**Twenty-Ninth Sunday**

**in Ordinary Time (C)**

**16<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**Antiphons,**

**Prayers and Readings**

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## **Entrance Antiphon**

*Ego clamavi*

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

*cf Ps 17:6, 8*

## **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever

## **First Reading**

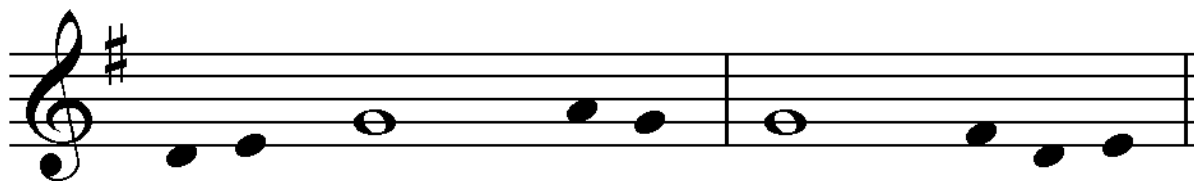
*Exodus 17:8-13 (RSV)*

Am'alek came and fought with Israel at Reph'idim. And Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose for us men, and go out, fight with Am'alek; tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.' So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Am'alek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Am'alek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat upon it, and Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were

steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua mowed down Am'alek and his people with the edge of the sword.

**Psalm 121** *R/cf 2*

*Tone II.1*



*R/* **Our help is in the name of the Lord** |  
**who made heav'n and earth.**

*I lift* up my eyes to the *moun-tains*;  
from where shall *come* my help?  
My help shall come from *the* Lord  
who made *heaven* and earth. **R/**

He will keep your foot from *stumb-ling*.  
Your guard will *ne-ver* slumber.  
No, he sleeps not nor *slum-bers*,  
Is-*ra-el's* guard. **R/**

The Lord is your guard, the Lord *your* shade  
at *your* right hand.  
By day the sun shall not *smite* you,  
nor the moon *in* the night. **R/**

### **Second Reading**

*2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:2 (RSV)*

As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching.

## Gospel Acclamation



*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind: so that we can see what hope his *call* holds for us.*

## Gospel

*Luke 18:1-8 (RSV)*

Jesus told them a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, ‘In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, “Vindicate me against my adversary.” For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, “Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual coming.”’ And the Lord said, ‘Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

## Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord.

## Preface

*(V De creatione)*

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For you laid the foundations of the world and have arranged the changing of times and seasons; and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder, to rule in your name over all you have made and for ever praise you in your mighty works. And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim: Holy, holy, holy &c.

## Communion Antiphon

*Ecce oculi Domini*

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

*cf Ps 33:18-19*

## Prayer after Communion

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord.

## *Salve Regina*

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy! Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

## Scripture Reading (Week 29 Year 2)

Monday	Ephesians 2:1-10	Luke 12:13-21
Tuesday	Ephesians 2:12-22	Luke 12:35-38
Wednesday	Ephesians 3:2-12	Luke 12:39-48
Thursday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Luke 12:49-53
Friday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Luke 12:54-59
Saturday	Ephesians 4:7-16	Luke 13:1-9
<b>Sunday 30C</b>	<b>Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19</b>	
	<b>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</b>	<b>Luke 18:9-14</b>

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# FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 Week 29[ii]

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Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October

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## Collect for Week 29

**ALMIGHTY** ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

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## Reading

*Ephesians 2:1-10 (RSV)*

*We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works*

**2** And you God made alive, when you were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience. <sup>3</sup> Among these we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind, and so we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not because of works, lest any man should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## Reflection

**TODAY'S** First Reading brings together some rather different clusters of ideas. We have some ancient cosmology 'following the prince of the power of the air'. We have some Jewish apocalyptic ideas 'dead' then 'made alive', then 'raised up .. to sit in the heavenly places' awaiting 'coming ages'. We have the prejudice that Gentile ways are sinful: 'Among these we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind, and so we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.' In these respects, the Letter is similar to the Qumran Literature, the work of a Jewish sect. But we also have clues that the passage is derived from a baptismal liturgy, either an actual liturgical text or built from the ideas in the liturgical text. 'We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works' is very much what might be said to those who are baptised also that we are saved through faith not by works. And yet, being saved by God, we are then equipped for good works in his name. As the prayer of thanksgiving in the Church of England Communion Service puts it – in words which are now part of the Order of Mass in the Ordinariates: 'And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in'.

# Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October

## St Luke. Evangelist

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**St Luke** was a Greek, possibly coming from Antioch, who trained as a doctor and is thought to have been an artist. As a convert, he became a disciple of St Paul and penned both the third Gospel and its sequel, the Acts of the Apostles. He gives us the infancy stories and is thought to have become close enough to Our Lady to discover that material. He is the patron saint of doctors and artists.

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### Collect for St Luke

**LORD** God, who chose Saint Luke to reveal by his preaching and writings the mystery of your love for the poor: grant that those who already glory in your name may persevere as one heart and one soul and that all nations may merit to see your salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

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### Reading

*Ephesians 2:12-22 (RSV)*

*Christ is our Peace*

<sup>12</sup> Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near in the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup> by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. <sup>17</sup> And he came and preached peace to you who

were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

## **Reflection**

**CHRIST** is the cornerstone of the new temple, the dwelling place of God in the Spirit. This is the new reality of the Church and those who are drawn into membership of the Church are no longer outsiders but 'fellow citizens'— 'aliens' is the word used where we heard 'sojourners'. Here we have a meeting place of both Jews and Gentiles. Gentiles are characterised as 'having no hope and without God in the world'. The barrier between Jews and Gentiles was a physical barrier in the Jerusalem Temple and this barrier has disappeared in the holy temple of the Lord. As we found yesterday, there are resonances in this passage of what might have been a liturgical hymn. 'Christ is our Peace' certainly has a poetic rhythm too it and the picture described, and the phrases used certainly conjure up a hymn or poem: 'peace to those far off and peace to those near', 'no longer strangers and sojourners but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God'. Nowhere is Scripture more eloquent or elegantly crafted.



# Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October

## Reading

*Ephesians 3:1-12 (RSV)*

*The Mystery of Christ has now been revealed*

**3** For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— **2** assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, **3** how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. **4** When you read this you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5** which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; **6** that is, how the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

**7** Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace which was given me by the working of his power. **8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, **9** and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; **10** that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. **11** This was according to the eternal purpose which he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, **12** in whom we have boldness and confidence of access through our faith in him.

## Reflection

**IN A** passage which has many similarities with verses from the Letter to the Colossians (Col 1:23-28), we hear St Paul proclaiming himself as a prophet, in a manner of speaking. He is one to whom the mystery pre-eminently has been made known – along with the apostles and other prophets. The mystery is that the Gentiles belong with the Jews in the Body of Christ. Like the Jews, they share in the promise. For his part, St Paul has the particular grace and calling to preach to the Gentiles so that what was first known only to the apostles and prophets, and in particular Paul, might reach the widest audience. This includes confronting 'the principalities and powers in the heavenly places'. We notice that 'heavenly places' includes both parties in the cosmic struggle between good and evil. The revelation of the mystery was the work of the Spirit

and we can infer from that that it is the Spirit who not only makes things known but who gives us boldness and confidence in Christ.

## Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

### Reading

*Ephesians 3:14-21(RSV)*

#### *Prayer for the Readers*

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Reflection

**A PRAYER** for the Ephesians, and for whoever reads the Letter, today's reading feels very much like the end of the Letter. It isn't: we are only halfway through. The various prayer requests are followed by a doxology, an ascription of praise to God. The requests themselves are three-fold: first, that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith; second, that, rooted and grounded in love, we may be strengthened to receive knowledge; third, that, with knowledge of the love of God, we may be filled with the fullness of God. These prayer requests are not distinct: they are cumulative. Faith leads through love to knowledge. Knowledge is the knowledge of Christ's love and leads thus to divine in-dwelling. Not emphasised but there to be seen is the reliance on the Holy Spirit which strengthens us in the inner man. It is this in-dwelling of the Spirit which generates the love which is the motor of our growth. The doxology acknowledges the power at work within us – the activity of the Spirit – enabling us to exceed our own expectations. Glory is given to God 'in the

Church and in Christ Jesus', the only time this formula is used in the Bible.

## Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

### Reading

*Ephesians 4:1-6 (RSV)*

*One Body, one Spirit, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism*

**4** I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, **2** with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, **3** eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **4** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **6** one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all.

### Reflection

**ST PAUL** describes himself as 'a prisoner for the Lord', a phrase he also used at the beginning of the last chapter. As far as we know, this is not a reference to him being under arrest but to his status in Christ, imprisoned, we might say, by love. He begs us to walk – 'walk' is the actual word used – in a way worthy of our calling. This is a way of love involving lowliness, meekness, patience, and forbearing one another. It is recognisable both as the way of Christ, the way Jesus conducted himself, and the way characterised by the fruits of the Spirit. We came across the list of these in Galatians chapter 5 a little while ago, but these qualities underlie much of what we read in St Paul's Letters. We must be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. As we do, we discover that the communion of love centres not only on the Holy Spirit, but life together in one Body. In Christ there is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism. This unity is a unity in and with the fullness of the one God and Father of us all.

# The Rosary

The Rosary has five sets of ten beads each preceded by a separate bead. The Our Father is said on the separate bead, a Hail Mary on each of the ten beads, and a Glory be... whilst holding the chain before proceeding to the next separate bead. It is customary to begin, on the short chain, with the Creed (holding the crucifix), an Our Father, three Hail Marys and a Glory be... At the end of the chaplet (set of five mysteries), hold the medal and say the Hail Holy Queen....

## The Five Joyful Mysteries (Monday and Saturday)

1	<b>The Annunciation</b>	<b><i>Luke 1:26-38</i></b>
2	<b>The Visitation</b>	<b><i>Luke 1:39-46</i></b>
3	<b>The Nativity</b>	<b><i>Luke 2:1-7</i></b>
4	<b>The Presentation</b>	<b><i>Luke 2:22-32</i></b>
5	<b>The Finding in the Temple</b>	<b><i>Luke 2:42-52</i></b>

## The Five Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesday and Friday)

1	<b>The Agony in the Garden</b>	<b><i>Mark 14:32-38</i></b>
2	<b>The Scourging at the Pillar</b>	<b><i>John 18:33 – 19:1</i></b>
3	<b>The Crowning with Thorns</b>	<b><i>Mark 15:16-20</i></b>
4	<b>The Carrying of the Cross</b>	<b><i>Matthew 27:31-34</i></b>
5	<b>The Crucifixion</b>	<b><i>Luke 23:33-48</i></b>

## The Five Luminous Mysteries (Thursday)

1	<b>The Baptism in the Jordan</b>	<b><i>Matthew 3:13-17</i></b>
2	<b>The Wedding at Cana</b>	<b><i>John 2:1-12</i></b>
3	<b>The Proclamation of the Kingdom</b>	<b><i>Luke 4:14-21</i></b>
4	<b>The Transfiguration</b>	<b><i>Mark 9:2-8</i></b>
5	<b>The Institution of the Eucharist</b>	<b><i>1 Corinthians 11:23-26</i></b>

## The Five Glorious Mysteries (Wednesday and Sunday)

1	<b>The Resurrection</b>	<b><i>Luke 24:1-6</i></b>
2	<b>The Ascension</b>	<b><i>Luke 24:50-53</i></b>
3	<b>The Gift of the Holy Spirit</b>	<b><i>Acts 2:1-4</i></b>
4	<b>The Assumption of Our Lady</b>	<b><i>1 Corinthians 15:20-26</i></b>
5	<b>The Coronation of Our Lady and the Glory of the Saints</b>	<b><i>Revelation 12:1-6</i></b>

**HAIL HOLY QUEEN**, Mother of mercy! Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we lift up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.