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29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

## **Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**Ministers of the Word:** Craig & Una; Joan & Rosie; Jeremy & Paul

**Ministers of Communion:** Liam & Tony; Maria G, Jenny H, & Debbie Page; Ian & Nicky

Second Collection: Bishops Charitable Fund

**Eucharistic Prayer Preface II Preface IV**

### **Please Pray for the Welfare of our Sick People and those who care for them**

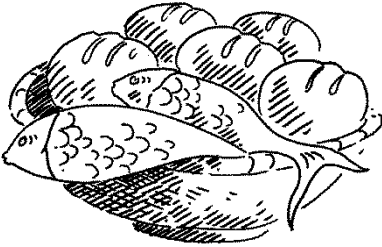
Ruth Wolseley, Moira McNulty, Marjorie Beard, Madeleine & Howard Goodman, Jeanne Wallace, Bridget Spencer, Catherine Blinman, Brian Harford, Steve Ebsworth,, Deborah Gilligan, Hazel Coleman, Michael Clark, Clare Duncanson, Peter Gibbons, Silvana and Lou Whitton

### **OUR LADY OF LOURDES - PRAY FOR US**

Please pray for Raydon Justas Aravinth and his family at the time of his baptism and welcome him into the church family

## ***Gospel Reflection for the Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time***

### **God Provides**



As children we were fascinated by the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. Like a circus audience trying to spot the mechanics behind a woman seemingly being sawn in half, we tried to spot the mechanics of Jesus' miracles. As we grow in faith and maturity we realise that the mechanics of Jesus' miracles are not in question; more important is the lesson they

aim to highlight.

The feeding of the five thousand is a lesson in trust and faith. If we hunger for what is right, Jesus tells us that God will provide what we need. This perhaps is hard to believe, especially when we have prayed hard and not had our prayer granted. If God promises to provide, why does he leave many of our prayers unanswered? We are well used to the reply to this question of course. "If our prayers aren't answered," we are told, "then it means God knows a better way for us." Whilst this answer might feel a little frustrating, the truth remains that when we look back at life, we realise what a mercy it was that some of our prayers were not answered. We think we know what is best for us, but we can only make our prayers from our own insular and human agenda and not from God's universal perspective.

God can often provide little miracles in our day-to-day lives that we tend not to appreciate, because they are not necessarily what we have prayed for. Start to notice how God provides in ways we wouldn't expect. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths (Proverbs 3: 5-6)

### **Bitesize**

Miracles: You do not have to look for them. They are there, 24-7, beaming like radio waves all around you. Put up the antenna, turn up the volume - snap... crackle... this just in, every person you talk to is a chance to change the world...

*Hugh Elliott*

## **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

A FUTURE  
FULL  
OF HOPE

This Sunday's Gospel of the feeding of the crowd begins a sequence of readings that could allow us to reflect upon the Eucharist and that's not a bad thing as we prepare for the Eucharistic Congress this coming September. There's much that we could focus on in this familiar narrative from St Mark.

But look at what Jesus uses: he takes what is offered to him and he transforms the little that is given into something that is enough for the crowd to have plenty. The Lord takes the little we give him, the simple things we offer him the – sometimes – meagre things we let him have and he uses them. Look at what we offer the Lord at Mass: simple bread and simple wine – symbols of sustenance and joy – and he gives them back to us changed and transformed into his very self. That's all we need! We are given him as our food and our sustenance so that we are strengthened to *become more like him* in the lives we lead. May we come to know Christ truly present among us. May our eyes recognise him in his greatest Gift so that we might come to recognise him in others.

### **Mary's Meals**

#### ***Summer Fundraising***

Mary's Meals provides one good meal to some of the world's poorest children every school day.

Mary's Meals reaches out to people of all faiths and of none.

It costs just £13.90 to feed a child for a whole school year, so even the smallest amounts can have a huge impact. Donate online at [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk) or better still start a summer holiday fundraising activity within your own family or workplace.

#### ***Light Summer Reading***

### **Father Brown and the Ten Commandments**

#### ***Selected Mystery Stories Paperback***

#### ***by G. K. Chesterton***

When Chesterton created the character of Father Brown, he brought a new dimension to mystery stories--the distinction between crime and sin. The criminal is not necessarily the worst sinner in the story, nor is his crime necessarily the worst offence. As Dorothy Sayers once wrote, G.K. Chesterton was "the first man of our time to introduce the great name of God into a detective story."

*Available from Pauline Books and Media and from Amazon.*

## Summer BBQ

There are now three Fairtrade charcoal products on the market. Look out for Fair Trade Large Instant BBQ

Fair Trade Instant BBQ

Fair Trade Instant Lighting Lumpwood Charcoal

Buying these for your summer BBQ will benefit charcoal producers and their communities in Namibia.

**Next Week's Readings:** Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps 77; Eph 4: 17,20-24; Jn 6:24-35

**Ministers of the Word:** Robin & Ann H; Mo & Julian; Clare & Mary

**Ministers of Communion:** Mary & Craig; Bea P, Jenny H, & Rosa; Mary & Kay.

## THIS WEEK

## Psalter 1

Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	5.00pm 5.30pm 6.00pm	Reconciliation Mass Newent Mass Coleford	
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00am 9.00am 11.00am 11.00am	<b>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <b>Collection Bishops Charitable Fund</b> Mass – Newent Baptism of Raydon Justas Aravinth Mass – Cinderford Mass – Blaisdon Mass – Ledbury	Intention Blaisdon: People of this parish
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00am 2.00pm	<b>Mass</b> Faith in Poetry- Poems about Our Lady	
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	10.00am 10.30am	<b>Mass</b> Adoration	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> August	8.30am- 9.00am 10am	<b>United Church Prayers at St Mary's</b> <b>Mass with Coffee and Chat</b>	
Thursday	9.00am	<b>Mass</b> Fr John's day off	

2 <sup>nd</sup> August	7.30pm	<b>Come and SEE – Rev Pat Phillips</b>	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	10.30am 5.30pm 6.30pm	Prayer Ministry Training Adoration and Reconciliation <b>Mass</b>	Office Printing
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> August	5.00pm 5.30pm 6.00pm	Reconciliation Mass Newent Mass Coleford	Intention : People of this parish
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> August		<b>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 9.00am Mass – Newent 9.00am Mass – Cinderford 11.00am Mass – Blaisdon 11.00am Mass – Sedbury	

## **ROTAS FOR PARISH VOCATIONS**

Are you a minister? Are you a sacristan? Are you a server? Are you a welcomer? The Rotas for August are published on the website; and we now have to think about September. Just because we have to change, our vocations do not necessarily change. Would you please advise whoever does the rota for your ministry whether you will or will not be able to help after September? If you feel that you can only join us once a month or every two months we would still like you to continue your ministry, if possible. If you are someone called to a particular ministry or know of someone else who is called to this ministry, please let Gail or a member of the Steering Committee know.

## **PRAYER MINISTERS**

If you believe that you have a calling for this ministry we are having a training day, where we can go through some safeguarding issues and learn to work as a team. This is a special gift where we witness the Holy Spirit in action. Please pray about this and see what God is saying to you. We will start the prayer ministry on Sundays in August and from there set up a rota so there will be prayer ministers after each mass from September.  
FRIDAY 10.30AM IN THE CHURCH.

## **Looking Forward PRAYER MEETING**

We are proposing to start a prayer group here at the church, which will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. Our first meeting will be on the 6th August 2018 probably at 7.00pm which is to allow for people to go to Noah's Camp. It is planned that we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us through the many and various forms of prayer that the church has to offer. This we hope will lead to smaller groups praying together in between the monthly session. Please come.

## **ONION FAYRE DONATIONS**

Please note that this year we are not collecting books or dvds as we are not holding a stall, due to the health and commitments of the people who have taken up the church's representation on this day over the past few years. We thank those that have helped in the past for their commitment and work.

## **RAF CENTENARY**

There will be a Centenary Celebration Service in conjunction with the United Reformed Church in Newent 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 11am. See Tom Heseltine for more information.



## **PUDDINGS AND PIMMS**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2-5pm at Avonhurst Brand Green GL19 3JD. Raising money on behalf of Women V Cancer. Donation of £6 per person. For more information please speak to Paddy.

## **CYMFed Flame 2019**

The biggest Catholic Youth event in England & Wales is back! Young people from across the Clifton Diocese aged 14-25 are invited to join Bishop Declan at Flame in Wembley Arena on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019. Clifton Diocese Youth Ministry are offering ticket, travel & Diocesan scarf all for just £50 per person. Places are filling up fast, so go to [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com) or contact your Parish Priest for more details and to book your place.

## **‘Come to me, all who are weary’**

The next COME AND S.E.E. is on 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 7.30pm and we will hear from Rev Pat Phillips whose ministry started in Newent to which she has returned to carry on her ministry in retirement; she is a hard person to keep up with but God does some amazing things in her wake.

## **WEEKEND RETREAT**

### **BELMONT ABBEY HEREFORD HR2 9RZ**

September 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

Holy Angels and Divine Mercy led by Fr Peter Prusakiewicz CSMA

Application forms available.



### **The Dowry of Mary Pilgrimage Triduum**

During the course of 2018 to 2020 the statue of Our Lady from the Slipper Chapel at the Catholic National Shrine in Walsingham will be taken to each Cathedral in England for a three-day triduum of prayer, as part of the preparation for the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary in 2020. Each visit will take place between a Thursday and Saturday. Clifton Cathedral dates TBC – for updates please see <http://dowrytour.org.uk/> It will come to Belmont Abbey 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October, with schools going on the Friday. See the website for further details.

## **CELEBRATE Bristol - 27th - 28th October 2018**

***"See, I am doing a new thing!" - Isaiah 43:19(NIV)***

A Conference for the whole family! A non-residential weekend including tailored 'streams' for all ages of children and young adults. This year keynote speakers, Michelle Moran, and David Wells, will be 'unpacking' an exciting theme. In addition there will be workshops, seminars, praise and worship, prayer ministry, Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession. The event is hosted by Catholic Charismatic Renewal at St Bede's Catholic College, BS11 0SU.

Further details to be found at [www.celebrateconference.org](http://www.celebrateconference.org)

## **Fixed Term post for a Schools Project Officer**

The Schools and Colleges Department are looking to appoint a suitable person to the above position, ideally from September. The appointed person will be required to support the Director and current officers in shaping the ever - changing educational landscape of Catholic education within Clifton diocese. They will be required to work directly with designated partnerships and schools and other appropriate educational bodies as needed.

The position will initially be for a fixed term period of 2 years and will be on a term time only basis.

Further details are available on the diocesan website [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com) or by contacting the Director, Colleen Collett, on 0117 9025593 [colleen.collett@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:colleen.collett@cliftondiocese.com)

Closing date: midday Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August. Applicants should indicate their availability for interview during August.

## **INVITATION**

Fr John's last Mass will be at Blaisdon at 11am on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2018. He will be travelling to Ireland the following day. Blaisdon are inviting us all to join them for a bring and share lunch to say a special good bye to Father. For further information watch this space or contact Clare Viner.



## **CATECHIST FORUM**

1. 21<sup>ST</sup> July 2018 A retreat and renewal day for Readers is needed. Chris Roy willing to feed back on the Diocesan Training. Readers also need to be commissioned. Over to Liturgy Group for follow-up.
2. Data collection needed to keep informed of new people. Census due in October.
3. Catechesis to be arranged in coming year for 1 Candidate, 1 Catechumen, (RCIA) and 2 or three children to prepare to receive First Holy Communion. Suggestion: An 'Early Bird Club' to meet before Mass, at which children will be taught, and parents be engaged with their own programme. Sue Felton to be asked to co-ordinate this. Mary Francis to liaise with Father Barnabas concerning RCIA
4. Preparation for Prayer Ministry: Gail and Jenny to convene and lead a session on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 10.30am. Content: Safeguarding, Working as a team; Practising in the presence of the Holy Spirit; Praying together.
5. Opportunities for Community Growth after September; Tessa Dowle and Chris Roy to get together to work on a programme to rejuvenate the Welcome Team
6. Catechists feel strongly that what the Parish is asking for now, are opportunities to come together socially, in order to build community. We will work closely with other groups to put together a co-ordinated programme of events. (Action:Steering Group.) Mary Francis to seek Br Loarne Ferguson's advice and possible involvement. A 'starter' suggestion was a 'Bring and Share Picnic' early in September -9th September. (Action:Steering Group for immediate attention.)

Ongoing events: 'Come and SEE' Next Meeting: Thursday 2 Aug. Faith in Poetry: Monday 30 July(Good News Cafe 2pm) Two Bible Studies reconvening in September.

**WEBSITE: WATCH OUT FOR THE NEW WEBSITE.**