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**23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018**

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

**Ministers of the Word:** Gillian Johnson – Robin Notley

**Ministers of Communion:** Gail Ebsworth – Steve Ebsworth – Helen Hunt

**Prayer Ministry:** Jen M & Mo B

**Eucharistic Prayer Preface II Preface II**

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

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

**Ian King, Steve Ebsworth, Bridget Spencer, Marjorie  
Beard, Ruth Wolseley, Paddy Arnold, Peter Gibbons,  
Joan Lumb**

**Bitesize**

If you want to know what a man's like, take a good look at how he treats his inferiors, not his equals.

*J.K. Rowling*

## Gospel Reflection for the Twenty Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time Aspiring To Come Last



Who do we most admire? Who would we most like to be? Do we admire famous actors, talented singers, glamorous models or courageous athletes? Or do we admire people closer to home... parents, the nurse who cared for us the last time we were in hospital, or the neighbour who is always willing to mind the children in the school holidays.

Today the disciples are having a 'who's the greatest' conversation. When Jesus asks them what they are talking about, they fall silent. Instinctively they know Jesus will not approve of their appetite for greatness and of course, he doesn't. "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then Jesus places a small child in their midst and says, "Whoever welcomes one such child in

my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not me, but the one who sent me."

We are being given another tough lesson in discipleship. We spend most of our lives scrabbling our way to the top of life's heap. In whatever walk of life we are working, we strive to be looked up to and respected. We are addicted to greatness and we pass on our addiction to our children. We tell our children that to be high up on life's social ladder is to be applauded. The trouble is our ideas of greatness and God's ideas of greatness aren't the same thing. God doesn't measure success in terms of popularity, glamour, money and power. God measures success in getting the job done by example and servitude. That doesn't mean that we shouldn't aspire to positions of leadership or responsibility, but it does mean that we should use our position for the common good and not to lord it over others. If we want to be part of God's Kingdom we must have the humble and unassuming character of a small child.

## Twenty Fourth Sunday

It's easier to tell someone what others think of them rather than tell someone what *you* actually think of them. Peter, speaking for the Twelve, nails colours to the mast: 'You are the Christ!' Jesus then unfolds for the Twelve exactly what that means – he will suffer, he will die and he will rise again. That's not something Peter wants to hear. He's happy to 'believe' in the Christ who will save God's people, who will champion God's people, who will liberate God's people... but a Christ who will suffer? That's not on his radar, nor does it fit his image of the Christ. They are harsh words spoken to Peter in calling him *Satan* but they wake him up to the fact that we cannot make God in our image! Suffering, difficulty, rejection and abandonment are part of that image and they are part of the disciple's life, too. And even when they are – in some great or small way – we mustn't forget the 'rising from the dead'. God does not abandon us when we suffer, when we face rejection or difficulty. He is there and he walks with us, alongside of us, just as the psalmist has confidence in the presence of God in the midst of everything. Wherever we are, whatever we face this week, know God is there at our side.

## THIS WEEK

## Psalter 2

Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	6.00pm	Mass Lydney	
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	9.00am 11.00am	<b>TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Mass – Cinderford Mass – Newent	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	2.30pm	Faith in Poetry	Projector installation
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00am 7.00pm	Mass - Coleford Fr James Harvey Lectures at St John's Church, South Parade Bath	Projector installation
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	10am  7.00pm	<b>Mass with Coffee and Chat With Reconciliation available afterwards.</b> <b>Catechist Formation Course</b> those going to meet in the carpark 5.45pm	Intention: For all Holy Souls especially the deceased Members of FOSSE
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30am	Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul Funeral at Sedbury – Angela Ross Aston Ingham – Bible Study	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	9am 9.30am - 12.30am	Mass – Sedbury Mothers Prayer drop in – Spa treatments getting back together. Let Jen know who is coming and what treatment you would like. With a discussion on Mother's Prayer going into the future.	
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	6.00pm	<b>FEAST OF SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL ARCHANGELS</b> Mass Coleford	
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00am 11.00am	<b>TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Mass – Cinderford Mass – Newent	

**Next Weeks Readings:** Nm 11:25-29; Ps 18; Jas 5: 1-6; Mk 9:38-43; 45; 47-48

**Ministers of the Word:** Tony Hickey -- Kevin Gilligan- Debbie Page

**Ministers of Communion:** Ann Hickey- Mo Blinman

## Looking Forward

### Fr James Hanvey Lectures

25 September - 7.00pm – St John’s Church, South Parade, Bath. Fr James Hanvey SJ makes a return visit to St John’s in Bath for this [third lecture in our series](#) marking the first five years of Pope Francis’ pontificate. On Tuesday 25 September, Fr James – Master of Campion Hall, Oxford - helps us consider Francis’ vision for the Church of the twenty first (if not the twenty second) century. He will invite us to consider what challenges Pope Francis now faces in leading the Church but also Fr James allows us to reflect upon what challenges *us* as the Church in preaching the Gospel of Christ. How do we give credible, authentic witness today and how does the church Pope Francis shepherds continue to speak a *good news* through its word and example?

### BLAISDON MASS

Blaisdon, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 7pm and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov at 7pm MASS.

First Friday Mass at Blaisdon

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October, CAFOD Harvest Fast Day - Mass will be celebrated at Blaisdon village hall at 7pm, to be followed by a soup and bread supper.

**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.

### COMING SOON – “CATCH THE FIRE”

October 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

Book in your diary, for a weekend of Encouragement and Enlightenment with Dan Davison and his team. More information to come. See Julian or Jeannette for further details.

## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**13<sup>TH</sup> October 10am to 1pm at Apostle Room Clifton Cathedral.**

This formation morning welcomes all those who work to enable the children in our parishes to hear and reflect upon the word of God through Children's Liturgy. For catechists and children's workers. All welcome.



# CELEBRATE

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC EVENTS SERVING THE CHURCH

## **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, David Wells and Sue Whitehead 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)

## **Trust and Grant Applications Officer**

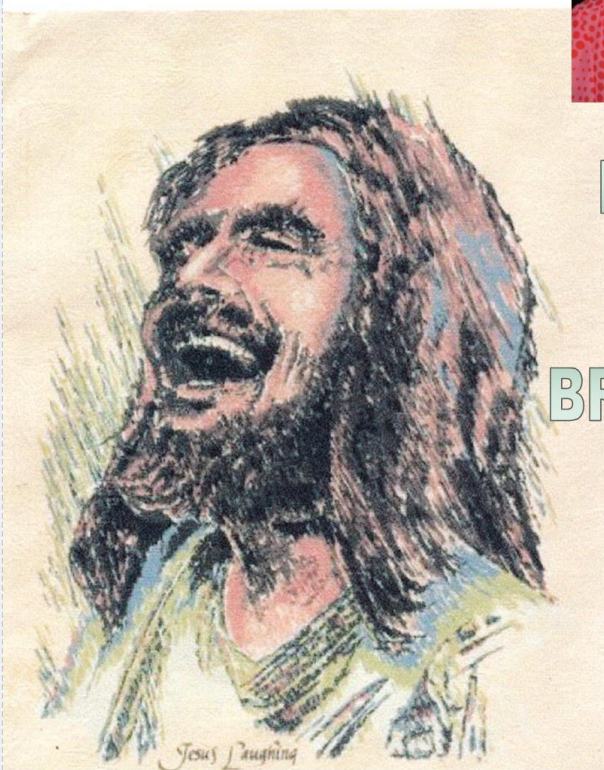
An exciting opportunity has arisen in the Diocesan Finance Team for a Trust and Grants Applications Officer. This role will involve working closely with parishes to identify fundraising opportunities and researching trust and grant funding organisations to find suitable funding for projects. The role requires experience of preparing and writing funding bids as well as excellent communication skills to deliver fundraising support throughout the Diocese.

The role is full-time and based at Alexander House, Bristol. Salary £27,000 per annum.

The deadline for applications is 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

An application form can be found on the Clifton Diocese Website under "Diocese/Working for Us" or speak to Gail in the office she has the details.

**THURSDAY 4th October**  
**AT 7.30PM**  
**OUR LADY OF LOURDES**  
**ROSS ROAD**  
**NEWENT GL18 1BG**



# ROOTS AND BRANCHES



Come and SEE—(Spiritual Enlightenment and Encouragement. Program for 2018/19 for the 1st Thursday of the Month at 7.30pm

A series of talks about peoples journeys with prayer and how it helps them in their vocations and life.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Ross Road, Newent 01531 821647