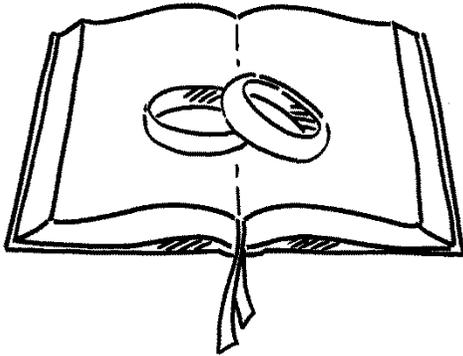


October Newsletter 2018
Our Lady of Lourdes Newent and
St Michael's Blaisdon

7th October 2018



Gospel Reflection for 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time To Love and To Cherish



It's easy to make promises in the first flush of romance. "I'll love you forever" and "I've only eyes for you," trip off the tongue easily. When we're young the idea of marriage is romantic and highly desirable. The vows we make when we marry don't seem too difficult. In sickness and in health? We don't imagine that our spouse might become an alcoholic or succumb to a disability. For richer or poorer? We don't think that our partner will lose his or her job or become

swallowed up in bad debt. For better or worse? We don't think for a moment that our loved ones will fall out of love with us and look elsewhere. So what happens when things go wrong? Does God really expect us to stay in abusive or loveless marriages?

This week's gospel text is one of the most heatedly debated passages in scriptures. "What God has joined together, no human being must separate." These are tough words for those who cannot make their marriage work. Yet the gospel is more about the hardness in man's heart than an instruction on marriage and divorce.

At the time Jesus spoke these words divorce was permitted. It was a man's prerogative to 'dismiss' his wife for little reason. The wife was very much a disposable possession. It was this attitude that Jesus abhors in his answer to the Pharisees. In a world where marriage was taken lightly because divorce was managed easily, Jesus condemned the hardness in men's hearts and called them to look at God's plan that from the beginning of creation male and female should become one.

Of course we don't hold the same attitudes today, or do we? Sadly the answer is yes. We are surrounded by quick fix relationships, couples that only stay together while the going is good; couples that promise nothing and make no commitment; couples that are in it only for what they can get.

Marriages fail for all sorts of reasons, not always anyone's fault - this is a reality. It is hard to imagine that God would want us to stay in a marriage where we were the subject of abuse or real misery, but what we know for sure is that we shouldn't enter into the sacrament of marriage with the attitude that it is simply a contract with a let out clause if things go wrong. We enter marriage believing it to be a relationship in which we can love and cherish.

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

We shouldn't grow possessive about the mission we are engaged in. We can fall into the trap of thinking that the proclamation of the kingdom, doing good, helping people and revealing love, belongs solely to those who confess Christ. But there are plenty who do good, and plenty of folk who love, who wouldn't profess to be Christian. Should we stop them from doing good? Are we to stop them from loving? No! Maybe we need to grow in an appreciation of where goodness is

to be found in so many people around us, for there the presence of God is also to be found. Let's open our eyes this week to see the Lord at work in the lives of so many around us. Let's find his goodness and his love at work in and through them.

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

It seems that loneliness is one of society's contemporary diseases. More and more people around us today are feeling lonely and alone. The blessing of creation was companionship and Eve was created to be a constant reminder to Adam of the presence of God who is always near to help, to love and to support. And the blessing of the Lord is given, in the gospel, to the little ones – there is no one excluded from God's nearness or his closeness; no one too insignificant to be touched by the Good News of God's love. To receive a blessing, though, is a challenge to become a blessing for others. Maybe this week sees us being that blessing, that sign of God's nearness to those who are in need. It is not good that we are alone. Others can know God is close to them... through us.

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Where are we grounded? Where are we anchored and rooted? Is it in things, possessions, treasures or are we rooted and anchored in God? Are we defined by what we have or by what we do... or are we defined by our relationship with the Lord. In today's Gospel there is a challenge to 'let go' of everything and to find security, strength, and an understanding of who we are in our relationship with the Lord. It is only when we let God dwell at the centre, when we are defined by his love for us, that we come to understand the freedom and the life he offers us; when we are weighed down by our possessions we find it is our possessions that possess us. In all we do to proclaim the Gospel this week, let us reveal what it is that dwells at the heart of our life because of the way we live and the way we love.

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Jesus, in Mark's Gospel, reveals himself as the one who serves, as the one who reaches out in tenderness, as the one who lowers himself and empties himself out of love for others. It's Jesus' words and his actions that reveal to the disciples the need, not so much to be the first or the greatest or the most powerful or the best or the most successful, but to encounter God in others and serve God, love God, in them. The disciples find that a hard lesson to learn but they have Jesus, not just to instruct them, but to show them. The cross reveals that service and that emptying in action. If we want to be considered great it's not because we have trampled on everyone to get where we feel we need to be; it's that we have loved and loved and loved...giving everything.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

One of the true signs that the Promised One was among God's people was that the blind would see again. Jeremiah looks forward to that time when God will comfort all those whose lives are broken and God will lead them, God will guide them, God will shepherd them back to him. We often think of those who have no direction in life, those who are lost, as being somewhat blind and we consider ourselves who have faith to have a certain sight living, as we do, in the light of

Christ. It is the truth that guides our path, truth that directs us, truth that opens before us a way to joy, to peace and to contentment of life. That truth is a person – the person of Jesus Christ living among us and offering us the same comfort of the Father. Our mission? Not to drag people to Jesus but to reveal the truth of who he is by the witness of our lives. Like the crowd in the midst of the Gospel, 'Courage, get up; he is calling you', we recognise that the Lord is calling and there are those who need a little help in finding the Lord and his love. That's us; that's our task and mission – to bring others to Jesus.

Bitesize

To be wronged is nothing unless you continue to remember it.

Confucius

Month of the Holy Rosary



The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is because the liturgical Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. Pray the Rosary this month for world peace.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for October 2018



We have lots of wonderful churches filled with faithful disciples who are doing their best to bring Jesus' teaching into a secular world. But there are also very many churches who have no vision outside their doors and no compassion for anyone knocking on those doors. It's the responsibility of all of us, to make sure that the Church is about making Jesus' mission a reality. Sometimes this is just about a shift in agenda. This month Pope Francis invites us to join in his prayer intention "... **That consecrated religious men and women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalized, and those who have no voice.**"

Peace Actions for October

- Pray the Rosary for peace especially during the 'Week of Prayer for World Peace' 14th-21st October.
- One of the themes for October is stewardship of the planet and respect for God's creation. This month, consider how your lifestyle impacts the planet.

- 17th October is 'International Day for the Eradication of Poverty'. Look to support the fight against poverty, especially child poverty.
- 'Disarmament Week' begins on October 24th. Consider campaigning for peace.
- Support Prisoners' Sunday on 14th October.

THIS MONTH

Monday October 1 st	14:30am 7.30pm	Bible Study – the Big Picture – Watery Lane Parish Pastoral Council	
Tuesday 2 nd October	10am	Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels Mass- Newent (Check Weekly Sheet)	
Wednesday 3 rd October	8.30- 9.00am 10am	United Church Prayers at St Mary's Mass with Coffee and Chat	
Thursday 4 th October	9:00am 7:30pm	Mass COME & SEE – Jenny Heseltine – 'Roots and Branches'	
Friday 5 th October	7.00pm	Mass – Blaisdon Cafod Family Fast Day Soup for Cafod	
Saturday 6 th October	6.00pm	Mass Lydney	
Sunday 7 th October	9.00am 11.00am	TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Collection CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Mass – Cinderford Mass – Newent	
Monday 8 th October	7.00pm	Prayer Group we are proposing a form of Lecto plus more	
Tuesday 9 th October		Mass (Check Weekly Sheet)	
Wednesday 10 th October	10am	Mass with Coffee and Chat	
Thursday 11 th October	10am	Mass (Check Weekly Sheet) Dowry of Mary – Belmont Abbey 11th – 13th October http://dowrytour.org.uk	

Friday 12 th October			
Saturday 13 th October	10am – 1pm 10am 6.00pm	Children’s Liturgy of the Word – Formation at Apostles Room Clifton Cathedral all welcome. Catch the Fire – Our Lady of Lourdes Mass Coleford with Teas & Coffees	Gail Holiday
Sunday 14 th October	9.00am 11.00am	TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2nd Collection Christian Blind Mission Mass – Cinderford Mass – Newent	Gail Holiday
Monday 15 th October	14:30am	Bible Study – the Big Picture – Watery Lane Youth Synod During October, Pope Francis is holding a Synod in Rome on Youth, Faith & Vocational Discernment. For the week of 15 th – 21 st October, our diocese is entering into a time of focus and prayer for young people. Prayers for each day are available along with many more resources for young people, catechists and parishes from your parish and from www.cliftondiocese.com . You can follow our Social media journey to the Synod each day using @cliftonyouth.	Gail holiday
Tuesday 16 th October	10am	SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF PARISH CHURCHES Mass (Check Weekly Sheet)	Gail Holiday
Wednesday 17 th October	10am	Mass with Coffee and Chat	Gail Holiday
Thursday 18 th October		FEAST OF SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST Mass (Check Weekly Sheet)	

Friday 19 th October	9.30am	Mother's Prayers contact Jen Mason for further details	Gail Holiday
Saturday 20 th October	6.00pm	Mass Lydney	Gail Holiday
Sunday 21 st October	9.00am 11.00am	TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Collection World Mission Society Mass – Cinderford Mass – Newent	Gail Holiday
Monday 22 nd October		DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 22ND TO 30TH	Gail Holiday
Tuesday 23 rd October		Mass (Check Weekly Sheet)	Gail Holiday
Wednesday 24 th October	10am	Mass with Coffee and Chat	Gail Holiday
Thursday 25 th October	10am 10.30am	Mass (Check Weekly Sheet) Aston Ingham – Bible Study	Gail Holiday
Friday 26 th October			Gail Holiday
Saturday 27 th October	6.00pm	Celebrate BRISTOL 27TH – 28TH OCTOBER 2018 Mass Coleford	Gail Holiday
Sunday 28 th October	9.00am 11.00am	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Mass – Cinderford Mass – Newent	Gail Holiday
Monday 29 th October	2.30pm	Faith and Poetry	
Tuesday 30 th October	10am	Mass (Check Weekly Sheet)	
Wednesday 31 st October	10am	Mass with Coffee and Chat	
Thursday 1 st November	7.30pm	SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS Mass (Check Weekly Sheet) COME AND SEE – Mary Francis	
Friday 2 nd November	7.00pm	COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED Mass - Blaisdon	
Saturday 3 rd November	6.00pm	Mass Lydney	

Next Week's (14th October) Readings:

Wis 7:7-11; Ps 89; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30

Ministers of the Word: Chris Roy, Mike Thomas

Ministers of Communion:

Jenny Heseltine – Mary Cameron – Maria Coleman

Pray Ministry: Silvana W & Mary F



We Remember our Dead this OCTOBER:

Ethelreda Edney	who died on Oct. 28 th 1982
Dominic Burgess	“ “ “ 3 rd 1988
Diana Burden	“ “ “ 18 th 1989
Molly Robertson	“ “ “ 25 th 2009
John Minihane	“ “ “ 1 st 2016
Monique Howell	“ “ “ 8 th 2017
Winifred Jarrett	“ “ “ 2017

CLEANING ROTA

6 th October	Una	13 th October	Ann S
20 th October	Una	27 th October	Marian & Wally

SACRISTAN ROTA

October 7 th	Ann F
October 14 th	Silvana
October 21 st	Jenny H
October 28 th	Mary F

WELCOMERS ROTA

First Sunday of the Month

Anne Forrester – Val Young- Agnes Tapsell

Second Sunday of the Month

Mary Francis – Chris Roy – Ann Hay

Third Sunday of the Month

Mo Blinman – Michael Blinman – Pat Milsom

Fourth Sunday of the Month

Tessa Dowle, Bridie Billington, Yvonne Slack

Fifth Sunday of the Month

Pauline & Kevin Gilligan, Maria Coleman

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

7 th October	Pat Milsom – Rosa Hockley – Silvana Whitton
14 th October	Jenny Heseltine – Mary Cameron – Maria Coleman
21 st October	Debbie Page – Kevin Gilligan – Tony Hickey
28 th October	Gail Ebsworth – Steve Ebsworth – Pat Milsom

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

7 th October	Sarah Rowe – Paul Rowe
14 th October	Chris Roy – Mike Thompson
21 st October	Julian Dowle – Tessa Dowle
28 th October	Una Inwood – Gillian Johnson

PRAYER MINISTERS

October 7 th 2018	Jen M	Gail E
October 14 th 2018	Silvana W	Mary F
October 21 st 2018	Jen M	Mo B
October 28 th 2018		

CENSUS AND DIRECTORY

October is your final chance to be included in the Directory. If you have not filled yours out you have till 31st October to do so. Please place filled in forms in the office letter box.



THURSDAY 1st November
AT 7.30PM
OUR LADY OF LOURDES
ROSS ROAD
NEWENT GL18 1BG

Come and SEE—(Spiritual Enlightenment and Encouragement.) Program for 2018/19 for the 1st Thursday of the Month at 7.30pm—this month meet Mary Francis

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

Our Lady of Lourdes, Ross Road, Newent 01531 821647

Fixed Term post for a Schools Project Officer

The Schools and Colleges Department are looking to appoint a suitable person to the above position. 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 - 2 years - and will be on a term time only basis.

Further details are available on the diocesan website www.cliftondiocese.com or by contacting the Director, Colleen Collett, on 0117 9025593 colleen.collett@cliftondiocese.com

Closing date: midday Wednesday, 17th October.

Interviews Wednesday, 14th November 2018.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

24TH July to 2ND August 2019 Age 18 – 35

Estimated cost £1000 put together with Downside Abbey and the Diocese of Clifton.

Contact Matt Anscombe for further information.



"Catch the Fire"

A special day of Enlightenment
and Encouragement
at
Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent on

Saturday 13th October from
10am - 6pm.

Come and be inspired and see how we and our church can grow, guided by the Holy Spirit

(There will be lunch provided, but we need to know numbers to advise the caterers, so please phone Gail on 01531821647; or Julian on 01989 721215.)"



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
NEWENT & ST MICHAEL'S BLAISDON

**Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes,
Newent and St Michael's, Blaisdon**

Drumlanrig, Ross Road, Newent, Glos. GL18 1BG

Phone: 01531 821647

Parish Priest: Fr Barnabas Page

Barnabas.page@cliftondiocese.com

www.newentcatholic.org.uk

Office: newent.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Times, Year B

Winthin your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven: you are the Lord of all.

Ministers of the Word: Sarah and Paul Rowe

Ministers of Communion: Pat Milsom; Rosa Hockley; Silvana Whitton

Prayer Ministry: Jen M and Gail E

Eucharistic Prayer II Preface VII Psalter 4

Second Collection: Cafod

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

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

OUR LADY OF LOURDES - PRAY FOR US

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