



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford

*Through the love of the Father, Son and Spirit,
our Parish will grow as the Body of Christ in Godalming
and as a sign lifted up for the peoples*

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time 18th October 2020

I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me.

The prophet Isaiah introduces us to the figure of Cyrus King of Persia, one of the great leaders of the ancient world (d. 529BC). The Greek historian Herodotus provides the best ancient source for his life, but our interest here is his place in God's plan. Israel has been deported to Babylon and the temple destroyed. Cyrus not only liberates the Israelites but also sends them back with what they need to rebuild the temple. He is called by God and does his work, even if he doesn't apparently know God.

This may come as quite a surprise if we think that God always and only works through his chosen people. But we will all know many people who do not know God and yet seem to be living the sort of love of neighbour which we associate with Christ's command. How can we make sense of this?

Firstly, Christians have always recognised civic authority. We are to pray for those who govern us. Human society is based on the social nature of the human person not on faith. For me, one of the best descriptions of the relationship between faith and civic society was in Pope Benedict's address in Westminster Hall during his visit 10 years ago.

Secondly, acknowledging the fullness of God's love in Jesus is often one step in a much longer journey which begins with seeds of the Word and a certain goodness and truth through the action of the Holy Spirit preparing the way. The Holy Spirit gets to work in people before they even know it.

In John's Gospel Jesus talks about those who are not of this flock that he must also lead to pasture. We are indeed God's chosen people and precious to him. But his will is that *everyone* comes to know and accept this covenant of love. So, let us rejoice in all the little workings of the Holy Spirit in those who don't yet see God at work in their hearts. And maybe by our patient witness and with the help of our prayer they will come to the fullness of life and love.

RESPONSES FOR MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON 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.

PSALM RESPONSE Give the Lord glory and power.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Your word is truth, O Lord: consecrate us in the truth.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON 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.

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St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.252878.

All Saints Childrens' Celebration

COVID restrictions permitting we will have a go at meeting in person rather than online. The celebration will take place socially distanced at St Edmund's Church on 31st October 4.00pm–5.00pm with some activities and an opportunity to dress up as your favourite saint. If you would like to take part please let the parish office know so that a place can be booked for you. (Children should be accompanied by their parents.)

Next Sunday is the 50th Anniversary of the Canonisation of the Forty Martyrs.

They have much to offer us in their example of courage and faith and desire for the Eucharist. The Masses that weekend will be of the English Martyrs. The texts can be found in some missals at the 4th May. Readings – Isaiah 53:3-11; Psalm 15; Hebrews 11:33-12:2; John 17:11-21.

October is the month of the Rosary. There will be an opportunity to pray the rosary 20 minutes before weekday Masses. There are some handy pocket cards available at the back of church with the mysteries of the rosary and its prayers. Please take one if it will help you pray the rosary this month.

Parish Annual Accounts and 2020

Forecast were due to be presented at a parish AGM which was cancelled in lockdown. They were issued last week and copies are available at the back of church.

Buildings? An update on buildings went out by email (mailchimp) last week and has been uploaded to the newsletter section of the website. Printed copies are available at the back of church.

Finance Committee Fr Jonathan would welcome suggestions from the parish of people who might serve on the Parish Finance Committee ("F&GP"). He would particularly welcome offers from anyone who might be prepared to assist the parish in helping us keep on top of our health and safety obligations.

New Diocesan Website The new diocesan website has just been launched. Do go and have a look. <https://abdiocese.org.uk>

Online Sunday Parish Angelus at noon.

Come together for half an hour for prayer and a bit of a catch up. We are using GoToMeeting at the moment but may move to Zoom as numbers grow so that we can chat in smaller groups. Bring a cup of coffee with you, or even a glass of prosecco!

Confirmation emails re places at weekend Mass

If you aren't receiving a mid-week email from the parish office to confirm if you have or haven't been offered a place at weekend Mass, please check your junk folder as some parishioners are finding this is where parish emails end up. To avoid this happening to parish emails, please add the address to your list of contacts: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Befriending and supporting the

bereaved Now more than ever there is the need for our communities to come together to offer pastoral and loving support to the bereaved, especially for those who are isolated, lonely and vulnerable. The diocese offers an excellent training programme which will run for the seven Tuesdays through January and February 2021. If you feel this is something you are called to, please speak to Fr Jonathan or contact the parish office.

CAFOD's Family Fast Day Your support will help ensure our global family can survive, rebuild and heal. Thank you for your generosity, and please keep the world's poorest communities in your prayers at this time. There will be another opportunity to contribute this weekend.

Supporting local charities in advent.

The *lives* simply group would like suggestions of local charities to promote during advent. Last year we supported Guildford Action and the Number 5 Project, both local homeless charities. Please send your suggestions to the parish office by 30th October.

School Admissions If you need a SIF signing for school admissions please email Fr Jonathan with your phone number and he will arrange to meet you at the Presbytery.

"Thoughts To Pray With" Deacon

Jeremy will be providing a Reflection or two every month, copies of which will be available on yellow paper in a blue file tray at the back of each church. Please feel free to take a copy. This week he has written a Postscript to last week's reflection on Prisons reminding us of some positives that can be gained from the prisons we find ourselves living in.

Celebrating our volunteering It would be good to celebrate the wide range of charities we have a connection with through parishioners, many of whom serve as Trustees or volunteers doing some really great work for the coming of the Kingdom. Perhaps you could let us know of any you actively support.

Fr Michael has now moved to St. Joseph's in Littlehampton and we are arranging a card for him. If you would like to include a greeting, please use one of the sticky labels available at the back of church before or after Sunday Mass and these will be added in.

November is the month of Holy Souls.

Blessing of graves at Eashing is planned for 3.00pm on Sunday 1st November. Blessing of graves in **Milford** is planned for after the 9.30am Mass on 2nd November. To manage social distancing please gather near the appropriate grave at the appointed time and Fr Jonathan will come close to bless it and pray. Please let Fr Jonathan know if there are graves elsewhere in the parish you would like blessed.

There will be an additional evening Mass at 7.30pm on All Souls which Fr Jonathan will celebrate in Latin.

Station Mass Bishop Richard will celebrate Mass at St Joseph's, Guildford at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th November for those of the deanery who have died this year, and especially those who have died during the pandemic.

Confirmation Preparation for students in Years 10+ will begin in the New Year.

Lectio Divina with Bishop Richard

Bishop Richard is leading a Zoom retreat on Saturday 31st October, 11am-1pm. He will explore the history and practice of *Lectio Divina* - a special way of praying with the scriptures that has been a part of the Church's life since the earliest times. You can find out more at <https://www.christian-retreat.org/our-programme/lectio-divina>

Second Collections? We are very grateful for the support that you give to the parish by standing order or through the collection basket at the back of church. There are a number of causes that are usually supported by second collections. Since we currently have a 'rolling' congregation we are grouping them this year. If you would like to give to any of the following (and we hope you might support one or two) please put your offering in an envelope, write the desired cause on it and place it in the collection basket between now and half term. Holy Places, Peter's Pence, Education of Future Priests, Home Mission, World Missions.

Please remember in your prayers

All those affected by the Coronavirus and its impact on our lives and on the economy.

The Holy Father's Intention for October:

The Laity's Mission in the Church: that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

The sick and those who care for them

including - Derek & Nancy Drapper, Betty Matthews, Cliff Hutchinson, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Gerry Newell, Ruth de Stefani, Josie Whittle, Barbara Brightman, Nuala Gallagher, Maria Chacaltana, Ann Lloyd, Anita van Rheenan, Jean Humphrey, Maura Goodfellow, George Gelder, Jean Tyrell, Pat Wilson and Rudolf Dorrepaal, and those in our hospitals and care homes.

The faithful departed, in particular for Marica Zulj & Sr Chiara FMDM who died recently and for Ann Hunt, Sam Townsend, Maisie Field, Pamela O'Driscoll, Eileen Martin, Derek Pinks, Norma Reid, Annabella Newman & Petrina whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Services for the Twenty-Ninth Week of Ordinary Time 18th October 2020

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| Saturday 17th October (St Ignatius of Antioch) | 10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Leslie Phillimore RIP</i> 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) |
| Sunday 18th October 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9.00am Mass (St John's) – <i>For the people of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Zofia Skalska RIP</i> Noon Angelus (GoToMeeting) 1.00pm Baptism (St Edmund's) |
| Monday 19th October ST PHILIP HOWARD | No Mass today (10.00am Mass in Guildford – please book at cpg.church) |
| Tuesday 20th October | 8.00am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>John McCorkell RIP</i> |
| Wednesday 21st October | 9.30am* Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Mary Hawkins RIP</i> 7.30pm – <i>Lectio Divina (GoToMeeting)</i> |
| Thursday 22nd October ST JOHN PAUL II | 9.30am* Mass (St Edmund's) |
| Friday 23rd October | 12.30pm* Mass (St Edmund's) |
| Saturday 24th October | 10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) |
| Sunday 25th October VOTIVE MASS OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS | 9.00am Mass (St John's) – <i>Charles McDonald RIP</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>For the people of the parish</i> Noon Angelus (GoToMeeting) |

*In the month of October the Rosary is prayed 20 minutes before most weekday Masses.

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GoToMeeting Virtual Parish 450-922-301
t: 020 3713 5028 – access code 450-922-301