Catholic Church Communities of St. Anne & Blessed Dominic and St. Vincent de Paul







Newsletter

<u>Parish Priest:</u> Fr. Jean Paul ILUNGA

Telephone: 01744 342993

Parish Office: 40 Monastery Road, St. Helens WA9 3ZD Telephone: 01744 811935 Email: parish58@rcaol.org.uk

Parish Office Hours: Monday and Friday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

This Sunday:	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY	OF ORDINARY TIME
25th September 2022	Sunday Cycle: Year C	Weekday Cycle: Year 2

THIS WEEKEND							
Saturday	24 th Sept.	5:00 pm	M	St. A&B	Paddy Hurle 80 th B'day Anniversary		
Sunday	25 th Sept.	9:30 am	M M	St V St. A&B	Julie & Harry Edwards (A), Joan Haynes		
Tuocday	27 th Sept.	11:00 am	S		Mary Ginnelly (A) Funeral Service for Michael Bannister		
Tuesday	21 Sept.	1.30 pm	3	St V	runeral Service for Michael Bannister		
Wednesday	28 th Sept.	12noon	М	St A&B	Kay Hadikin (LD), Sue Keenan (LD)		
Thursday	29 th Sept.	9.15 am	М	St V	Class Mass Holy Spirit School Y4		
Friday	30 th Sept.	12noon	М	St A&B	Nora & Edmund Roughley		
		1.00 pm	S	St A&B	Funeral Service for John Moran		
NEXT WEEKEND							
Saturday	1 st Oct.	5:00 pm	М	St A&B	Deacon Dave Caldwell		
Sunday	2 nd Oct.	9:30 am	M	St V	Ruth Lawrenson (A)		
_		11:00 am	M	St A&B	People of the Parish		

Please remember in your Prayers:

Recently died: Tom Walker, Queen Elizabeth II, Marjorie, Anthony McCormack, Kay Hadikin,

Sue Keenan, Claire Smith, Joan Haynes, Michael Bannister, John Moran.

<u>Anniversaries:</u> Ruth Lawrenson, Harry Edwards, Julie Edwards, Mary Ginnelly, Nora & Edmund

Roughley, Paddy Hurle's Birthday Anniversary.

Lord, Your Friend Whom You love is Sick: Emily Felber, Keith Shuttleworth, Allan Jones, Bett Harris, Mandy Bennett, Rob, Helen Smith, Louise Kowolik, Barbara Burns, Irene Johnson, Annie Lee, Kathleen Valentine, Joe Delaney, Liam Carr, Alex Downey, Sam Glover, Alex McMillan, Alan McMillan, Anne Whitehouse, Linda McCarthy, Moyra Lyon, Christine Terry, Wioletta Brykalska, Margaret Edward, Isobelle McDonald, Teresa Edward, Julie Smith, Imelda McCabe.

Scripture readings are about when innocence becomes a crime.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a story of two men, a rich man and a poor man. The rich man is wealthy not only in clothes and food, but he is also rich in privilege and in the freedom he enjoys from the worry that besets the poor. His privilege conceals from him his responsibilities; it blinds him to the man who lies at his own gate.

In contrast to the rich man's clothing, the poor man Lazarus is covered in sores. Lying at the gate of the house, Lazarus can see the traffic that is heading for the rich man's table. He does not expect to be invited to the table, but he wishes only for the scraps that fall from the rich man's table. The scraps were regarded as dog-food. That is what Lazarus desires. Dog-food. Lazarus dies at the gate of the rich man. There is no mention of a funeral or a burial for Lazarus. Later, "the rich man died and was buried." No doubt with a rented crowd of mourners. So ends the first scene.

In the next scene, we are in the other world and there is a reversal of fortunes. Lazarus now reclines in the place of honour at the heavenly banquet, and in contrast, the rich man is in agony, and the flames which surround him represent the destruction of everything he valued. The new agony of the rich man educates him; it awakens in him a compassion for his brothers, and he hopes that Lazarus can return to earth and warn them. For the rich man, the flames have become a refining fire. His regret and his new compassion are not enough, and no warning can be given to his brothers. Unlike the clever steward in last week's parable, the rich man did not use his time and resourcefulness to ensure that he would be welcomed in the future.

We who are still on earth represent the rich man's brothers. Like them, we have the teachings of scripture and we have Lazarus at the gate. We also have someone who did rise from the dead, Jesus Christ. That is more than enough, and therefore no excuses for not to act with compassion.

The rich man did nothing to Lazarus, but he was not innocent. In the face of suffering, you are either with the victim or the executioner – there is no other option. The suffering destroys all innocence, all neutrality, every attempt to say, 'there was nothing I could do; I didn't know. There are times when our innocence is our crime.

First Holy Communion preparation sessions start in October. Parents of children in Y4, age 8/9 who attend other schools than Holy Spirit School or St Anne's School, and who would like to join the preparation sessions, can contact Joanne, the parish pastoral secretary for requirements.

Foodbank: the usual items needed: Noodles, Instant Marsh, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Rice Pudding/Custard, Pasta in Sauce, Toiletries, etc. Thank you for your continued support.

Jubilee Committee Meeting: Tuesday 4th October at 7 pm in parish rooms.

For your diary, please note:

Saturday 15th October 2 – 4 pm in the Parish Centre, tea/ coffee with light refreshments. Bring any photographs/memorabilia for both new and old churches which will be used during the celebrations. All are welcome to drop in for a chat and share your memories. This invitation is open to all parishioners both past and present. So spread the word. If you intend coming, please put your name on the list in the church porch.

Tuesday 6th December, Pilkington Choir in concert. Details to follow.

Next weekend, Fr Ben Lodge CP will celebrate masses in our both Church communities, St A&B and St V. in memory of Venerable Ignatius Spencer.