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**26th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)** October 1st, 2023

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

 Saturday 6.00pm St. Patrick’s church

 Sunday 9.30am Christ the King church

 Sunday 11.00am St. Patrick’s church

**WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES**

 Tuesday 10.00am Christ the King church

 Wednesday 10.00am St. Patrick’s church

 Thursday 10.00am Christ the King church

 Friday 10.00am St. Patrick’s church

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Catherine Chesser, Dennis George (ill), Peter Flounders (Anni.), Lynda Tilley R.I.P. (South Africa)

**ANNIVERSARIES: October 1st - October 7th:**

James B. Ferguson, Edwin Jones, Annie Mary Lockwood, Sheila Ritchie, Harry M. Belbin, Gerald Booth, Michael Campbell, Michael Connor, William Mulqueen, Thomas Donegan, Bruce Crawford.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.

**The word this week**

Ezekiel 18:25–28 Turn away from sin and live!

Psalm 25 ***‘Remember your mercy, Lord.’***

Philippians 2:1–5 Christ became obedient even to accepting death.

Matthew 21:28–32 The one who obeys the Lord, even reluctantly, is the one who does the will of the Father.

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t is never too late to change, for the worse or for the better. Ezekiel contrasts the virtuous person who turns away from God and chooses to sin with the wicked person who turns away from sin to do what is right. Jesus asks the chief priests and elders to consider two sons, one who says no, but ends up obeying, and the other who promises to obey, but doesn’t follow through. Between these two readings, we hear Saint Paul – who changed his life dramatically after his encounter with Christ – exhort the Philippians to unify in Christ in thought and action. May we do the same.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 3 and Preface 5 for Sundays

Christ emptied himself for us that we might have life in him and through him eternally. Let us confess always and everywhere that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please remember in your prayers **Mr. Stephen Manuel,** aged 70, from Thornaby. who died recently. His Funeral Service will take place at Christ the King church on Wednesday, October 4th, at 12.30pm.

**ALSO, Mrs. Marie England,** aged 84, from Thornaby. Her Funeral Mass will take place at St. Patrick’s church on Wednesday, October 11th, at 10.00am. May they rest in peace.

**CAFOD FAST DAY:** This Friday, October 6th, is CAFOD’s Fast Day (Catholic Aid For Overseas Development). The CAFOD Envelopes are available today in the church porch for you to collect. If you are a tax payer you can also ‘Gift Aid’ your donation by adding your name and address and Cafod will get an extra 25%. Those CAFOD Envelopes will be collected next weekend, October 7th/8th, in a separate collection basket.

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP MEETING** this Wednesday, October 4th, at 7.00pm in Christ the King Hall. All welcome.

**ST. PATRICK’S CHRISTMAS FAIR** will be on Saturday, 11th November. If anyone has any gift sets, bottles of wine or spirits, chocolates, biscuits for our TOMBOLA, RAFFLE or GIFT stall it would be much appreciated.

You can leave them with Kath Hall in the church porch.

**ST. PATRICK’S COLLEGE NOTICE:** Family Fast Day “Hunger Lunch”, taking place in College Hall this Thursday, 5th October, 12pm - 1:30pm. Our Young CAFOD Leaders will once again be making the soup and serving it. All monies raised will be sent to CAFOD. Parishioners, Please contact the school either by telephoning 01642 613327 or emailing at fisk.a@stpatricks.npcat.org.uk if you will be attending so we know how many to cater for.

**AFTERNOON BINGO AND SCONES** at Christ the King Hall on Saturday, October 28th, 1.00pm – 4.00pm. Raffle too!

Tickets £5 each and are available from usual outlets. Come along and enjoy.

**Feast of the Holy Angels**

***“Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day (or night) be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.”***

**26th Sunday of The Year (A)**

**October 1st, 2023**

 **First reading** Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

 **Second reading**  Philippians 2:1-5

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word,

and my Father will love him,

and we shall come to him.

Alleluia!

 **Gospel Reading**  Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’