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**16th Sunday of the Year (A) July 23rd, 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

 Wednesday 10.00am St. Patrick’s

 Thursday: 10.00am Christ the King

 Friday: 10.00am St. Patrick’s

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Betty McIntosh (28th Anni.), Mrs. Peggy Deasy R.I.P. (Acklam),

Bridie Hamilton, Bridget Rodgers, Ernest Gibson (Anni.),

**ANNIVERSARIES: July 23rd – 30th:**

Jane Barnard, Rebekah Speight, Ellen McBride, Amabile (Jim) Borg, Gordon Payne, May Jones, Mary Walmsley,

Desmond Corr, Donald Andrews, Victor Blamire, Jane Ann Kirkwood, Dan Spaight, Roselyn Ann Morgan, Judy Paterson, Alice Malcolm (nee McGrath), George Rowntree, Rev. Neil Petty.

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

**The word this week**

Wisdom 12:13, 16–19 God gives repentance for our sins.

Psalm 86 ***‘O Lord, you are good and forgiving.’***

Romans 8:26–27 The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness.

Matthew 13:24–43 Let the wheat and darnel grow together until harvest.

T

oday’s first reading reminds us that God is both just and merciful: judging with clemency, governing with lenience. The farmer in Jesus’ parable does the same, allowing weeds to grow alongside the wheat, waiting until harvesttime to separate the two. God’s justice is always tempered by mercy. Indeed, God sent the Son into the world, where he was put to death by unjust authorities, to bring mercy to all who seek forgiveness. Let us feel confident in placing our trust in our just and merciful God as we carry on in this imperfect world.’

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 3 and Preface 4 for Sundays

As we look forward to the great harvest that will come at the end of time, let us raise our voices in thanksgiving to God.

**MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND READERS AT MASS:** Study Day at Scarborough on Saturday,

September 16th, starting at 9.15am and finishing at 3.00pm. List for names in Parish Hall (Christ the King), and in church porch (St. Patrick’s). Next Sunday, July 30th, is the last day for putting down your name. Only put your name on the list if you definitely intend to travel. Coach will be available.

**ST. PATRICK’S GIFT AID** – Thanks to your ongoing generosity, a total of £4,523.94 has been repaid into the parish account this week. This is based on your donations to the parish throughout the 2022/23 tax year. If you pay tax, and want to increase your gift to the parish by 25%, then please see Dan Woodgate for more information.

**THORNABY FOOD BANK COLLECTION** this weekend, July 22nd/23rd. Items may be left in the church porch. All items will be delivered to the Food Bank.

**CHURCH CLEANING AT CHRIST THE KING CHURCH** this Friday, July 28th, at 9.00am. If you can help, please come along.

A GRANDPARENT’S PRAYER

***“Dear Lord, I thank You this day, for little feet that walk beside me, for the small hands that I hold along the way, and for letting me forget that I am growing old, even for these moments. Lord, help me to give my grandchildren the gifts of treasured dreams and memories that will give them both roots and wings. I pray that my words of wisdom, praise, and encouragement, stay with them long after my stay here is spent. Lord, with all one could pray for, to me there is nothing so dear as praying for the blessing of having my children and grandchildren near. Thank You, Dear Lord, and Saviour. Amen.”***

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

**July 23rd, 2023**

 **First reading** Wisdom 12:13,16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing,

to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength,

your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.

You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned

and you expose the insolence of those who know it;

but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,

you govern us with great lenience,

for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people

how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,

and you have given your sons the good hope

that after sin you will grant repentance.

 **Second reading**  Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

enlighten the eyes of our mind,

so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

Alleluia!

 **Gospel Reading**  Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner’s servants went to him and said, “Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?” “Some enemy has done this” he answered. And the servants said, “Do you want us to go and weed it out?” But he said, “No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.”’

 He put another parable before them: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.’

 He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.’

 In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables

and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, ‘Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.’ He said in reply, ‘The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!’