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**25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)** September 24th, 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, Stan Elsey (Anni.), Ernest, Mary and Kathleen Gibson, Bereavement Group Intentions,

**ANNIVERSARIES: September 24th – 30th:**

Bryan Barber, Jessie McCann, Jacky Johnson, Frederick Wilkinson, Odel Bennet, Barry Garside, Harry March, Ann O' Neill, Francis Corr, Patricia Joan Pearce, Patrick John Ritchie, Margaret White, Geoffrey Fletcher, Joseph Leonard Major, Stan J. Elsey, Mary Waters, Betty Wassell, Jean Thompson, Matthew Robinson.

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

**The word this week**

Isaiah 55:6–9 The ways and thoughts of God are above our own.

Psalm 144 ***‘The Lord is near to all who call him.’***

Philippians 1:20–24, 27. St. Paul rejoices that to live is Christ and to die is to gain.

Matthew 20:1–16 The last will be first, and the first will be last.

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he Lord may surprise us and even confound us, but that is because God’s ways are so far above our own. Nevertheless, Isaiah tells us, we can depend upon God for mercy. Paul trusts that Christ is with him, in life as well as in death. Jesus tells his disciples that God is more generous than what we would consider sensible. An example is forgiveness: those who have done the most wrong are those who receive the greatest forgiveness when they turn to God - perhaps at times we begrudge this gift. Today’s lesson is simply this: God's ways are not our ways, God's thought are not our thoughts.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 2 and Preface 5 for Sundays

As we prepare to raise our voices in this great prayer of thanksgiving, let us remember the generosity of God, whose mercy knows no limits.

**THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP** is celebrating its 20th anniversary this Sunday, September 24th, at 9-30 Mass. We hope parishioners will join us afterwards for coffee and cake – “Thank You” for all your generosity and support over the years. (There will also be an opportunity to submit names for the Memorial Book too next weekend or, indeed, any weekend).

**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.

May he rest in peace.

**DIOCESE WIDE CLIMATE-CHANGE EVENT**: What can we do to leave a better world for future generations?

Parishioners from around our Diocese are invited to this event, Saturday 30th September, 9.30am to 3.00pm, English Martyrs Parish Hall, Dalton Terrace, York. YO24 4DA. See poster in porch for more details. If you do wish to attend – you will be very welcome.

**MESSAGE FROM CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL**: The new Reception children at Christ the King Primary school, along with their Year 6 ‘buddies’, are leading a welcome **“stay and pray liturgy”** in their school hall for parents at 9:15am this Monday, 25th September. Parishioners of Christ the King Parish are 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.

**“THANK YOU”:** An enormous ‘Thank You’ to everyone who helps with the tea and coffee after 9.30am Mass on Sundays and also to everyone who joins us and makes a contribution. During the past year we have given £100 donations to the following groups: Christmas hampers, St Patrick’s College chaplaincy team, Christ the King primary school prayer garden, Teesside Hospice, Parish SVP, Mixed Ability Club (MAC) We have a number of people who help serve tea and coffee, but we are always keen to welcome anyone who would like to help. It would mean a commitment of roughly once every five or six weeks. Please speak to us if you’d like to help.

**ST. PATRICK’S COLLEGE NOTICE:** **“Coffee Morning” for Macmillan Cancer Care, taking place this Friday, 29th September, between 10.00am - 11:30am in the School Hall. Parishioners are warmly invited to come for a cuppa, a cake and a natter – all to raise money for this very worthy charity. ALSO, Family Fast Day “Hunger Lunch”, again taking place in College Hall on 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 as we know how many to cater for.**

**3 SEATER CREAM SETTEE** in very good condition available to a deserving and needy family. Free to collect.

Telephone 01642 308511 in Ingleby Barwick

**25th Sunday of The Year (A)**

**September 24th, 2023**

 **First reading** Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,

call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,

the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;

for my thoughts are not your thoughts,

my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth

as my ways are above your ways,

my thoughts above your thoughts.

 **Second reading**  Philippians 1:20-24,27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

 Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes,

in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven

and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia!

 **Gospel Reading**  Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’