

Our Parishes Newsletter

6th Sunday of Easter - 22nd May 2022 (C)



This Week's Readings

First Reading	Acts 15:1-2,22-29
Psalm	66(67):2-3,5-6,8
Second Reading	Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23
Gospel	John 14:23-29

Parish Priest: Father Ned Wall
Retired Priest Fr Bernard McDermott
The Presbytery, 164, Carrington Lane
Permanent Deacons: Anthony Caffrey and John Conway
The RC Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025

Website: <https://ourparishes.church>

CONTACT DETAILS

All Saints
164 Carrington Lane
Ashton-on-Mersey
M33 5WL

Telephone:
0161 962 4444

Our Lady of Lourdes
Chapel Lane
Partington
M31 4EZ

Telephone:
0161 775 2905

Email:
our3parishes@gmail.com

<https://ourparishes.church>

NEXT
WEEK'S
READINGS

First Reading
Acts 7:55-60

Psalm
96(97):1-2b,6-7,9

Second Reading
Apocalypse 22:12-
14,16-17,20

Gospel
John 17:20-26

REFLECTION

6th Sunday in Easter

Jesus said to his disciples, "if anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and My Father will love him (them,) and we shall come to him (them) and make our home with him. (them.)" What is this word that Jesus asks us to keep? It is the word of His Father, the one who sent him. To help us discover this word, Jesus says "he will send an advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name. He will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you."

In our first reading, we see this being enacted by the apostles- the beginnings of disagreements in the Church, concerning non- Jews! The apostles and elders had heard that some members of pagan birth, had been disturbed with the demands of Jewish members of the Church wanting everyone to live like Jews.

So, the community gathered together to examine and pray about this serious matter. Having shared their experiences and listen to others and prayed for guidance from the Spirit, a decision was made to send Judas and Silas; respected members of the community; with Paul and Barnabas, to Antioch to confirm the decision of the elders and community. This is what they said, "It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials."

So, the church began to move out of being simply a Jewish Church, to a realisation that the Spirit was leading them, not without difficulties, to a world -wide mission, that respected difference!

How do you respect other people's opinions, views, especially those of the household of the faith? How willing are you to listen to people's stories and beliefs. Do you invite the Holy Spirit into these encounters?

Today's Mass

Psalm

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.'
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord,
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia

All Parishes

UKRAINE /TEA & COFFEE

This week we have sent £230 away for the Ukraine Appeal. Thank you for donations at the Teas & Coffees on Sunday Mornings. Your support and solidarity so much appreciated.

CONTINUING LENTEN PROJECT

We have continued this project and will do so until the middle of July and all money raised will be given in the form of vouchers for our most needy families to help them once school breaks up for Summer with no school meals available it will be so usefil. Just give what you can , thank you.

FATHER SUTTON

Father Robin Sutton died on Sunday 24th April at Nazareth House, Birkenhead. The details of his funeral arrangements will follow shortly for a Vigil Mass on **Sunday evening 5th June and the Requiem Mass at 12.00 noon on Monday 6th June** at Saint Alban's Liscard.

Please remember Father David and Father Robin at Mass and in your prayers.

BIDDING PRAYERS

Its time again to get you all to sign up for the Bidding Prayers for one weekend. A case of submitting them by the Friday by email or dropping them through the door. Someone will be available at the back of church this weekend so you can sign up. Please do add your name to the list .Thank you

REFUGEE /SUPPORT

A thankyou for all who have been working behind the scenes getting the house ready. So much work has been done and a special BIG thanks to Dave J and his team for all the painting and house preparation. Dave thank you so much and we will offer a Mass for your intention. Thank you Dave J for all you and your team have done, so much appreciated

REFUGEE FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

Our refugee family will be arriving in June and part of our support will be to provide some language teaching. We have a programme to deliver this but need a laptop. If any member of the parish has a old or new laptop they could donate to the project, it would be a great help. Please let Cathy or Father Ned know if you can help us with this. Thank you!!

ALL SAINTS SITE MANGER VACANCY

Site Manager / Permanent from June 2022
36.25 hours per week

Split shifts, 5 days per week (Mon-Fri) 6.45am – 10.30am and 2.30pm-6pm (These times may be negotiable if needed)

5 weeks holidays per annum, increasing to 6 over time – holidays must be taken to coincide with school holidays

Scale 4, SCP 7 to 11 (£20,444 - £22,129) this will be reviewed after a 12-month period

Email admin@allsaints.trafford.sch.uk

Website: <https://www.allsaints.trafford.sch.uk/>

Headteacher: Mrs Anita Fagan

PARISH COUNCIL

Just a reminder to all members, the next meeting will take place on Thursday 26th May after evening Mass. We do ask for all members to please attend This is Ascension Thursday evening Mass

FIRST COMMUNION ALL SAINTS

This weekend our children from All Saints celebrate their First Communion. Let us remember the children and their families in our thoughts and prayers

HOME VISITS/COMMUNION

With Covid and so much more going on and not going on in the past 2 years. Some of our parishioners may have fallen off the radar. If you know of anyone now housebound and not returning to church, then please do let us know and we can a visit sorted. Not always easy to spot or identify. But please let us know.

LENTEN PROJECT

So far we have raised over £850 and we will keep this project going until the end of June. The plan is to liaise with the schools and give vouchers to families as they break up for the Summer. When no free meals will usually be available times are harder and so many families will struggle during the Summer weeks. Just give what you can. Thank you

IT IN HOUSE SUPPORT

The Diocese is seeking to employ a full time IT In House Support member at the Curial Office in Birkenhead. For more information, please see our website <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies> completed CV's to be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date Friday 17 June 2022.

PIETY SHOP

Please do take a look in the piety shop as you leave church, Communion Stock is still available and good collection of other related items. If there is something special you are looking for, ask one of the ladies and they try and order it for you.

let Linda know which mass you will be attending on lindadavison70@btinternet.com or 07951281484.

FACE MASKS COVID 19

it is now personal choice and hand sanitisers remain available for all to be used. So let us be aware of and respect each other's choices, and let our communities be places where people still feel safe and comfortable.

BIDDING PRAYERS

Thanks to all those who signed up, the prayers need to be dropped in to us or emailed to us by the Friday evening. Here is a reminder for next few weeks.

MAY 28th/29th Marion Lyons

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:

Now that all Covid restrictions have been eased, it is wonderful that once again we can return to Lourdes. Our Diocesan Pilgrimage will take place from 29 July - 4 August by air and 28 July - 5 August overland. Prices start from as little as £440 which includes travel, full board accommodation and full pilgrimage programme. Further details and booking forms are available to download from the Pilgrimage Website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or from the Pilgrimage Office, Curial Offices, 2 Park Rd South, Prenton, Wirral, CH43 4 UX.

SUNDAY COLLECTION 15th May 2022

All Saints

Our collection last weekend was £1021.21 thank you for your continued giving and this total doesn't include standing orders or giving online. Thank you all.

Our Lady of Lourdes

Our recent collections, Many thanks for your generosity

Offertory for 8/05/22 £301.55

Offertory for 15/05/22 £371.15

Both inc. SOs

NEW COMMITTEE FOR BOTH PARISHES

We now have stringent and stricter rules with Risk Assessment and Health and safety regulations and so much more is being asked of us as parishes. So our plan is to set up a health and Safety team ,concentrating on electric, fire and to complete Risk Assessments. We really do need a few volunteers who are willing to help us a couple of times a year to lighten the work load. We would plan to set up this group after the Summer and meet a couple of times a year. We do need your help in this whole area. So if you can join us, have a word with Fr Ned over the next few weeks.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

For various reasons our teams for flowers in Church have been sadly depleted so yet another rota has been prepared, Copies are available from the Sacristy.

If anyone feels able to commit to this service, you would be more than welcome. Experts are not essential just willingness and commitment, If you can help please leave contact details with Fr, Ned.

•

**Vocations to the Permanent Diaconate
in Shrewsbury Diocese**

Are you thinking about becoming a permanent deacon or do you know someone who might be thinking about a vocation to the diaconate?

The Church is the pilgrim people of God and the programme of diaconal formation should itself be seen as a journey in faith.

'The history of ...every Christian vocation is the history of an inexplicable dialogue between God and human beings, between the love of God who calls and the freedom of individuals who respond lovingly to him.' (Pope John Paul II, Pastores dabo vobis 36)

The diaconate formation team is holding a time of reflection for men who are thinking about the call to the ministry of service on Sunday 26th June 2022 at St Anne's Church, Nantwich at 2pm.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions, to reflect and to pray for vocations to the permanent diaconate.

For more information please contact:

Deacon John Penny
Tel: 07973375422
Email: johncpenny@gmail.com

Or

Deacon David Hill
[Tel:07407407606](tel:07407407606)
David2007hill@hotmail.co.uk

DONATIONS TO UKRAINE

Thrive Trafford has circulated the information below about drop off points in Trafford for supplies for Ukrainian refugees.

Trafford Veterans CIC are working with armed forces charities who will be delivering supplies to refugees in Poland.

For further details about how to donate/or get more involved please email info@traffordveterans.org



Items required: toiletries, baby talc, disposable nappies, hygiene/sanitary products, baby formula, warm blankets.

Drop off point: St Matthews Hall, Chapel Lane, Stretford is a collection point; 9am - 4pm then 6 - 9pm

<http://www.stmatthewscommunityhall.co.uk/contact-us.html>

Business drop off points: Max Spielmann in Sale – **0161 976 2103** or email sale@maxspielman.com

Opti Eye Care in Altrincham - <https://www.optiye.com/contact>

THE PARISH CENTRE

THE PARISH CENTRE WILL BE ABLE TO ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS IF ITS EASIER FOR YOU TO DROP THEM OFF AND THEY WILL BE PASSED ON

OPEN FOR THE ITEMS DROP OFF TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

2pm till 4pm ONLY

We have been told that most needed right now are backpacks and foil blankets (these can be bought on Amazon) These two items are now the most needy for Ukraine, see if you can help.

Firs Community Benefit Society was formed in 2021 by a group of residents, faith groups and businesses.

The community set up the society as a response to the opportunities and challenges faced by Sale West. It is an enterprise with the primary aim of serving the best interests of Sale, Trafford- both its businesses and residents.

The purpose of Firs Community benefit society is to secure, develop and hold on to community assets as a responsible investment vehicle for people and organisations to own an actual share of these investments.

Our Ambition

We have already begun work on our first community project, we are planning to create a new build community and sports centre at the junction of Manor Avenue and Firs Way.

The building will relocate services from the existing council owned Sale West Community centre and provide space for community events and activities, new enterprises, grassroots sports and a café.

If you think you can help us we need volunteers with a wide variety of skills and knowledge so please get in touch Samuel.cooper@oursalewest.co.uk

Or you can become a shareholder by investing £10 , register your details here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FirsCBS>

Read more about our project : www.facebook.com/firsCBS



News from Solihull – Fr Bernard – bernymcdermott@gmail.com
22nd May 2022



The news from Ukraine continues to be depressing and with the different reports emerging through the media as to who is winning and who is losing etc. The losers of course are the people of Ukraine and their continued suffering through constant shelling from Russian guns and missiles. The only good news I heard this morning is that, thanks to the Red Cross and the United Nations, many of the wounded soldiers defending Mariupol in the steel works have been evacuated and taken to hospital.

Here in Solihull the community continues to live in peace with one another ... at least most of the time!! With the corona virus apparently on the decline, Columbans are emerging from their lockdown slumbers and resuming other life-giving activities that were not possible because of the pandemic. Visits to Ireland by the Irish Columbans in Solihull are becoming more frequent with family visits, weddings, and funerals to attend which have not been possible in recent times.

Three Irish Columbans attended family weddings in recent months in Ireland which were held in hotels and not in a church which, for catholic families, has been the custom in Ireland for centuries. The only service celebrated was a 'humanist service' with no mention of God and quotes from Christian scripture suitably adapted not to include the word God. Only at one wedding was the priest invited to give a blessing to the couple and that was at the insistence of the bride's parents who were so disappointed with decision of the couple to be married 'outside' the Church ...physically and legally.

We wonder and 'worry' about the future of our Church and the disillusionment of our young people with mainstream Christianity.

Many of them are good young people who practice gospel values in their every-day lives. However, the Church (and that means all of us) has to reflect on why we have lost and continue to lose not just our young people but many older parishioners too, since the pandemic, who have not returned to Mass and the practice of their faith.

I pray that with the leadership of Pope Francis and the influence of the Holy Spirit the SYNOD of 2023 will act as a catalyst of revival and reform in much the same way that Vatican II and spirit of Pope John 23rd opened the windows of the Vatican to embrace the world.

As spiritual exercise for a time of division and upheaval



I don't know about you, but I find when things around me are getting crazy, it becomes difficult to connect to any deeper sense of self or God. I start to live almost entirely on the surface of things, usually running back and forth as wave after wave crashes down.

How do we get to that deep down part of ourselves when things are so volatile all around us? It is not easy.

One thing that has helped me over the years is the work of Anthony de Mello, S.J. Father de Mello was an Indian Jesuit who did a lot of writing around spirituality. His passion was inviting people into a deeper sense of self-awareness through simple techniques like breathing or engaging the senses.

I don't know about you, but I find when things around me are getting crazy, it becomes difficult to connect to any deeper sense of self or God.

I've adopted a couple of the techniques in his book *Sadhana: A Way to God* into the exercise below. Its goal is to help us become more present to ourselves, more aware of what we are thinking and feeling in this moment.

So here we go.

Pick a place that brings you pleasure. If you have a garden or a screened-in porch, I highly recommend that. But it should be somewhere that you feel safe, at home and connected to the broader world.

Sit yourself down there. Get comfortable.

Now close your eyes and take some long, deep breaths. Savour the sensations of breathing: the rise and fall of your chest; the experience of drinking in oxygen.

Give yourself a little time to enjoy that. If you find it really pleasant, you could spend the whole exercise just doing this.

Close your eyes and take some long, deep breaths. Savour the sensations of breathing: the rise and fall of your chest; the experience of drinking in oxygen.

After you have done that for a while—I suggest three to five minutes; you could even set a timer if you want—slowly start to pay attention to the sounds of the world around you. Drink them in, just like you did your breath.

Some of the sounds you pick up might be naturally attractive, like a bird singing or kids on a playground. Others might not: construction; a machine; someone’s voice. But whatever it is you pick up, try to just allow it a place in your life for the moment. It is all part of the world that you are savouring.

When you have done that for another three to five minutes, slowly open your eyes and take in the world around you. Again, drink it in. To be clear, you do not need to “find” anything. This is not *Where’s Waldo?* Think of what you see like a painting that you’re standing before. Just be present to it. See how it affects you.

As you do this exercise, you may find your mind wandering from time to time onto things that seem like distractions—chores you need to get done; people you care about or have beef with; matters about which you’re worried or upset. You might even think you should push those things away.

I want to suggest instead that anything that comes up is part of the gift you are being offered here, part of becoming more present to yourself. When we let ourselves grow still, it’s natural for all kinds of things, including some from deep within us, to come to the surface. It may be that the point of the whole exercise was just to enable you to become aware of a given feeling or issue.

In the crucible of our suffering, we so often learn what is truly important to us and where we are called to go.

You do not have to do anything with those thoughts or feelings right now. You do not have to figure out what they mean or how to solve them. Just see if you can let them be there with you. If it helps, think of them like a pet that has crawled in your lap while you are doing this exercise. You want to make a little space for them, and together you continue the exercise.

When you’ve done three to five minutes of looking at the world, slowly close your eyes and go back to just listening for a while, say, two minutes. Then, go back to just breathing. And really take your time with that. Enjoy the act of breathing.

As you do this exercise, you may find your mind wandering from time to time onto things that seem like distractions—chores you need to get done; people you care about or have beef with; matters about which you’re worried or upset. You might even think you should push those things away.

I want to suggest instead that anything that comes up is part of the gift you are being offered here, part of becoming more present to yourself. When we let ourselves grow still, it's natural for all kinds of things, including some from deep within us, to come to the surface. It may be that the point of the whole exercise was just to enable you to become aware of a given feeling or issue.

In the crucible of our suffering, we so often learn what is truly important to us and where we are called to go.

You do not have to do anything with those thoughts or feelings right now. You do not have to figure out what they mean or how to solve them. Just see if you can let them be there with you. If it helps, think of them like a pet that has crawled in your lap while you are doing this exercise. You want to make a little space for them, and together you continue the exercise.

When you've done three to five minutes of looking at the world, slowly close your eyes and go back to just listening for a while, say, two minutes. Then, go back to just breathing. And really take your time with that. Enjoy the act of breathing.

When you feel like you are done, slowly open your eyes. See how you feel.

Sometimes I do this, and it is just 10 minutes of being unplugged from the world, which can be a great gift in and of itself. Sometimes the exercise brings some insight—an awareness of something I want to do now or something within me that needs attention. A call or invitation.

And sometimes, I walk away simply more aware of the feelings within me, especially feelings that are more uncomfortable like anger or confusion. Generally, I would prefer not to feel those things. But over time I have learned that if I'm going to move past those feelings, I first have to truly allow myself to feel them. In order to heal, wounds first have to bleed. And allowing myself to feel outrage or sadness when I have been hurt is an act of self-acceptance and empowerment. In the crucible of our suffering, we so often learn what is truly important to us and where we are called to go.

Jim McDermott, S.J., is an associate editor at **America**.

Mass and Service Times this week

All Saints

Our Lady of Lourdes

6th Sunday of Easter

Sat	21st	5.00pm	Martin Tarpey		
Sun	22nd	9.30am	Brian Meakin	11.00 am	Huey Erskine
Sun	22nd	5.00pm	Frank Parker		
Mon	23rd		No Service		No Service
Tues	24th		No Service	7.30pm	Neil Riley
Wed	25th	1.00pm 7.30pm	Joe Mulroe Requiem Mass Theresa Griffith (Vigil Mass)		No Service
Thurs	26th	9.30am	The Ascension of the Lord Little Tyler	7.30pm	The Ascension of the Lord Margaret Cornwall (Int)
Frid	27th		No Service		No Service
Sat	28th	5.00pm	Pat Nash		
Sun	29th	9.30am	Leonora & Colin (Int)	11.00 am	Nicole Mgone
Sun	29th	5.00pm	Rene Healey		