



## PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

Reg. Charity 242380

**Parish House : 01432 265177 Abbott Paul 01432 374718**

**Parish Website: [www.olqmhereford.org.uk](http://www.olqmhereford.org.uk) – Parish email dominion: [olqm@talktalk.net](mailto:olqm@talktalk.net)**

**Our Lady's Primary School: 01432 274814**

### **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time- year cycle B – 25 January 2015**

**Entrance:** *O Sing a new song to the Lord: sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.*

**Responsorial psalm:** *Lord Make me know your ways*

**Gospel:** *Alleluia, alleluia! The Kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News*

**Communion:** *Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed*



#### **PARISH PRAYER**

**God our Father, pour forth your spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service so that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Today is the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the last day in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the anniversary of the Monastic Profession of Fr Andrew, whom we congratulate. Here follows part of the homily preached by Pope Benedict XVI on this day in 2012. After the extraordinary event that occurred on the road to Damascus, Saul, who was zealous in his persecution of the nascent Church, was transformed into a tireless apostle of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is clear from what happened that his transformation was not the result of long inner reflection or even the fruit of personal effort. It was first and foremost a work of the grace of God who acted in his own inscrutable way. This explains why, in writing to the community of Corinth a few years after his conversion, St Paul affirms, "by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain" (1 Cor 15:10).

In considering what happened to St Paul, one understands that the transformation he experienced in his life is not limited to the ethical level – such as conversion from immorality to morality – nor to the intellectual level – such as a change in his way of understanding reality – but, rather, is a matter of the radical renewal of his being, similar in many aspects to a rebirth. This transformation is founded on participation in the mystery of the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and is described as a gradual process of conformation to him. In the light of this awareness, when St Paul was subsequently called to defend the legitimacy of his apostolic vocation and of the Gospel he proclaimed, he wrote: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20).

St Paul's personal experience enables him to expect with well-founded hope the fulfillment of this mystery of transformation that will concern all who have believed in Jesus Christ, as well as all humanity and the whole of creation. In First Corinthians he describes, employing the traditional imagery of the apocalyptic literature of his time, the great day of the Last Judgment in which humanity's destiny will be fulfilled: "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet... the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed" (1 Cor 15:52). On that day all believers will be brought into conformity with Christ and all that is perishable will be transformed by his glory. St Paul says: "For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality" (v. 53). Then the triumph of Christ will at last be complete, because, St Paul tells us further, death will be overcome once and for all and with it sin and the Law. "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law" (vv. 54-56).

St Paul tells us that every Christian, through baptism in the death and Resurrection of Christ, participates in the victory of the One who defeated death first, setting out on a journey of transformation that is manifested from this moment in a newness of life that will reach its fullness at the end of time. The passage ends with an expression of gratitude: "thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"

## Dates for Your Diary

Please come along and enjoy tea and coffee in the parish room after the Sunday morning Masses

**The numbers drawn week 19 were 4, 9, 15, 31, 37 & 49**

**No winner**

**Prize money for week 20 is £600.00, and six numbers to be drawn**

**Get your Tote Tickets on Sale after all masses**

Second Collection    Decoration of Hall and Church

Tuesday devotions: Divine Mercy chaplet and Novena before Mass and the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary afterward

### **Pilgrimage to France 25-29 May**

Pilgrimage plans are going well. There will be a meeting to sort out final details and have a social get together on Friday 17th April in the Annexe at SFX after the 6:30pm Mass. (Approx. 7:10). In the meantime could everyone please send a cheque for their outstanding balance, payable to St. Francis Xavier's Church, to the SFX office. Cheques should arrive no later than Friday 20th March. Please mark the envelope "France Pilgrimage." The final total cost is £300 pp for adults and £150pp for children. (less deposit if paid)

Thank you. John and Mary Cook 850231

### **The Welsh National Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

The National Pilgrimage will be from 25<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> August full details on the notice board at the back of church.

### **Marriage Encounter Weekend.**

Enrich your marriage with a weekend for married couples 27 February – 1<sup>st</sup> March

See notice at the back of church for further information.

### **Vacancy for Deputy Head**

St Helen's RC Primary School Caerphilly required from September 2015 (Salary Range L7-11)

For further details and application form contact Mrs Jayne McFarlane on 02920852532. Applications by noon 12 February

### **The Opening of the New room at Our Lady's School.**

Last Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> saw the Opening and Blessing of the completed extra room, from the old courtyard at the school. It was opened by Clive Richards and blessed by Archbishop George Stack, and attended by the Mayor and Mayoress. It was a wonderful afternoon for all, and will give the children much needed space.

The behaviour of the children was a credit to all the dedicated staff of Our Lady's.

### **Parish Council**

The PAC meeting takes place next Monday 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the parish rooms all are welcome to attend. Please let one of the council know of any issues for discussion

Dear Friends in Christ,

This coming week, the Belmont Community will be holding its Annual Conventual Chapter. It's the monastic equivalent of an AGM, when all the professed monks of the Abbey come together to review the past year and make decisions for the future. It's also an opportunity for the monks to get together informally to chat and reminisce. We ask for your prayers, that, as English Benedictine monks, we will always be faithful to our rich vocation that combines a life of contemplative prayer with pastoral work and service to the local Church and community. Our Lady's Parish and School, of course, owe their existence to Belmont, because it was Abbot Romuald Leonard who bought the land and property on which our church, hall, presbytery, school, fields and car park stand today. All this passed to the Archdiocese, when Belmont gave up the Hereford parish in 1955. Thank God, Belmont has taken back pastoral care of both St Francis Xavier and Our Lady's since our school closed in the mid 1990s, though the parishes are now diocesan. Let us pray for all the priests who have served at Our Lady's from the beginning until today.

With every blessing, Fr Paul

# Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Psalter week III

### Today:

9:30 am

Alfred & Catherine Cummings

11:30 am

6:30 pm

Monday 26 January  
Feria

9:30 am Mass – Thanksgiving for the safe  
birth of Sophie

Tuesday 27 January  
Feria

7:00 pm Mass –

Wednesday, 28 January  
St Thomas Aquinas

9:30 am Mass –  
Int

Thursday, 29 January  
Feria

9.30am Mass –Int

Friday 30 January

7..00pm Mass – Feria

Saturday, 31 January  
St John Bosco

9:30 am Confessions  
10.30am Mass –  
Int

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> February (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time)

9:30 am

11:30 am

6:30 pm

Fr Michael

### Rota Schedule for 26 January to 1 February 2015

**Flower Arrangers:** J Winter K Kinsella

**Cleaners:** Volunteers

**Ushers:** 9:30am J Sullivan M Whent

11:30am J McGowan J Kelly

6:30pm Mr & Mrs Seamarks

### Readers:

9:30am C Thompson

11:30am G Markham

6:30pm M Netting

### Eucharistic Ministers:

9:30am J Winter F Keogh H Fishlock

11:30pm E Cotterell M Davies C Balestra

6:30pm J Wagner

**Altar Linen:** A Hepworth

**Counting** P Bennett J Winter R Maloney

### Polish Information:

Następna Msza Św w języku polskim odbędzie się w niedzielę, 25 Stycznia godz 16:00

### Finance:

The collection on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> January raised **£389.52**  
thank you

### Please pray for:

The sick, especially Ann Morris, Brian Morris, Alice Jones, Sue Watkins, Shelaigh Fawcett, Dymphna and John O'Neil, Andrew Walker, Sylvia Jones, Sylvia Aiello, Chris Turville, Eva Zakrzewska, Pat Franklyn, Glyn Matthews, Anna Foggo, Catherine Rollings, Katie Richardson, Agnes McGowan, Michael Morris, , Chris Burns Rita O'Leary and all in our prayer book

The recently dead, especially, Monica Thompson Helena Grabowska, Prezmyslav Grzybowski, Sister Veronica, Ann Jenkins

Those whose anniversary falls in the month of January, including: Lillian Orchard, Walter Jennings, Kathleen Jones, Kathleen Shawcross, Marjorie Sullivan, Ellen Willis, Elizabeth Farley, Ernest Cooper, Patrick Taylor, Margaret Ryan, Jamie McGoran, Winifred Brennan, Catherine Ross, Syd Swann, Eileen Harris, Patrick Lynch, Denise McQuaid, Ronald, O'Connor, Joseph Kelly, Raymond Watkins, Leslie Foulkes, Celia Methven, Reginald Sly, Shirley Walters, Irene Brennan, Jean Chappell, Angelo Moruzzi, Raymond Breeze, Amelia Smith, Jerzy Schmidt, Michał Piwień, Baden Powell, Francis Seymour, Eileen Scott, William Graham, James Jones, Louise Champion and Margaret Dean, Simon Williams

A Scotsman living on one of the remote Western Isles was upbraided for his failure to come to confession on the mainland. "There's no excuse Jock" said the priest "you have a good air service now". "Ah well it's this way Father, travelling by air is too expensive for a venial sin and too dangerous for a mortal one

Old friends are gold, new friends are diamond, if you get a diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a diamond, you always need a base of gold.