

The Week Ahead

Mon 11th	Our Lady of Lourdes	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Tues 12th	feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Wed 13th	feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Thur 14h	Ss Cyril & Methodius	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Fri 15th	feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Sat 16th	Our Lady	10.00am 6.00pm (1st of Sun)
Sun 17th	SIXTH SUNDAY	8.30am
	IN ORDINARY	9.30am [Extraordinary Form]
	TIME	10.30am [Solemn Latin]

Missa Ave regina caelorum *Arcadelt*; Ave regina caelorum a5 *Victoria*
Ave vream Corpus *Guilmant*; Praeludium in G minor *Bruhns*
12.00, 4.00pm, 7.00pm

Lent is almost as late as it can be this year – Ash Wednesday is not until 6th March. On the Wednesday evenings of Lent (starting on 13th March) we shall be having a series of speakers to help us think about the social tradition of the Church - with particular reference to the possibilities which will open up for outreach into the local community once the crypt area has been refurbished.

Cardinal Nichols invites those celebrating their 5th, 10th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60!) to a **Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Marriage** in the Cathedral on Saturday 8th June. If you are keeping one of these significant marriage anniversaries this year and want to join the Cardinal please let the parish office have the full names of both spouses, the wedding date and church, and full postal address plus telephone number or email address.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) to meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicssingles.org.uk

For your diary Corpus Christi is Sunday 23rd June and we shall again have a **Procession of the Blessed Sacrament** from the Assumption Church in Warwick Street to Spanish Place. This has become an annual act of faith and witness on the streets of central London – please make sure you join us.

The **SVP** Society is still looking urgently for a **reliable driver** for the minibus to collect food from local shops and drive to and from Lincolns Inn Fields every Tues and Fri evening from 5.15pm to 9pm. Please contact WMetcalfemail@gmail.com or on **07768 315097**.

St James's Roman Catholic Church, Spanish Place
22 George Street, London W1U 3QY

Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary
Time
10th February
2019



Latin texts pages 77/78
in the Mass Book

TODAY'S LITURGY

[Parish Mass Book - page 135]

Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; St Luke 5:1-11

Psalm Response: **Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.**

10.30am Missa Ave regina caelorum *Victoria*
Ave regina caelorum *Palestrina*;
O sacrum convivium *Gabrieli*
Chorale No. 3 *Franck*

Refreshments are served in the Social Centre
after the 9.30am & 10.30am Masses.
Everyone is welcome to join us.

The Reverend Christopher G. Colven (Rector)

Collections
2nd/3rd Feb.
£ 3,417.00
(Includes Envelopes
but not Bankers'
Orders etc.)

The Reverend David J Irwin
The Reverend Hugh MacKenzie

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The Rector writes

At the beginning of this past week Pope Francis visited the United Arab Emirates (in the television coverage you may have recognised Monsignor Francis Jamieson, lately of this parish, who was included in the Papal entourage because of his long experience of Arabia). It was a short visit but one of great significance. The Pope was responding to an invitation to speak at a multi-faith conference in Abu Dhabi which also provided him with an opportunity to show his pastoral concern for the million plus Catholics who live and work in the UAE. At a time when tensions between many of the Islamic states and their neighbours are tense, and when the divisions within Islam are being played out on an international stage, it can only be hoped that the Papal visit will result in a fruitful dialogue. In his latest pilgrimage Pope Francis has been giving practical impetus to sentiments expressed by his saintly predecessor John Paul II when he prayed: *“renew for us the wonders of your mercy; send forth your Spirit that he may work in the intimacy of hearts, that enemies may begin to dialogue, that adversaries may shake hands and peoples may encounter one another in harmony”*.

Pope Francis will have needed to walk a difficult tightrope in responding positively to a ground-breaking invitation while retaining the right to express deep concerns about the humanitarian disaster in the Yemen, as well as the diminishing presence of Christians throughout the Middle East. From conservative voices in Islam, as indeed from some within the Catholic fold, reservations have been expressed as to how such radically different approaches to the means of salvation could ever be reconciled. As far back as the 3rd century Saint Cyprian coined the famous phrase: *“extra Ecclesiam nulla salus”* (*“outside the Church there can be no salvation”*) which appears to sum up the exclusive claim of Christianity to hold the keys to heaven and would seem to form an insuperable barrier to any meaningful multifaith encounter. But there is a fuller interpretation of Saint Cyprian’s words offered by the Catechism: *“all salvation comes from Christ the Head of the Church his Body”*. For the Christian, all that was achieved by Jesus in his incarnate life, and most particularly through the Paschal Mystery, is seen as the reconciliation of a damaged universe with its Creator – this great manifestation of the divine love can do nothing less than embrace the whole of humanity. *“There is not, never as been, and never will be a single human being for whom Christ did not die”* (Council of Quiercy in:853).

All this is why we are proud to call ourselves Catholics as those who believe in the unrestricted and universal love of the Father and his intention that all those he has created his own image and likeness should share his life into eternity. We understand the Church as being *“the vehicle of salvation”*: through its life in the midst of the world, it lifts up the whole creation, through Christ the universal Saviour, to the Godhead. Perhaps the most helpful of Jesus’ parables in the context of this mystery is that of the woman mixing yeast into the dough to make bread rise (Matthew 13:33): Christians living out the Gospel are *“yeast”* for the world – the added *“ingredient”* which allows the rest to become what it should be. The document *“Lumen Gentium”* of the Second Vatican Council is clear about the respect which is due to those not of Christian faith and goes on to offer a more profound and hopeful analysis: *“those who seek God with a sincere heart, and moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience – those too may achieve eternal salvation”*.

Through Baptism and Confirmation we become co-redeemers with Christ, having an individual share in his ongoing work: *“the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day”* (John 6:39). With Saint Paul we are privileged to say: *“for the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all people in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this for the sake of the Gospel, to have a share in its blessings”* (1 Corinthians 9:22). How humbling it is to realise that each of us has a part to play in the eternal happiness of our brothers and sisters: our faithfulness helps towards their heaven – there lies the challenge to holiness.

Christopher Colven

NOTICES

For those who missed the announcement last weekend, ***Father David Irwin*** will be leaving us when he reaches his 75th Birthday at the beginning of March. His final Sunday here will be on 3rd March and there will be a bring-and-share lunch in the crypt for everyone to have the chance to show their appreciation of Father Irwin’s ministry and to say a heartfelt *“salve et vale”*. We will be making a presentation to Father Irwin on that occasion and any contributions towards this should be handed in to the parish office.

A High Mass of Requiem will be sung here for the repose of the soul of ***Father Richard Dangerfield*** at 7pm this Friday 15th Feb.