

# ST. LUKE'S PARISH

Diocese of Shrewsbury

FRODSHAM

PASTORAL AREA OF  
RUNCORN & FRODSHAM

SEVENTH SUNDAY in ordinary time  
23rd February 2014



Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you.

YEAR A

Parish Priest. Mgr. Peter O'Neill.  
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VISIT THE PARISH WEBSITE [stlukesparish.org.uk](http://stlukesparish.org.uk)  
Also SCHOOL WEBSITE [stlukesfrodsham.org.uk](http://stlukesfrodsham.org.uk)  
PASTORAL AREA WEBSITE [doslpa12.co.uk](http://doslpa12.co.uk)

Sat	22 February	6.00pm	Emelda Garland
Sun	23 February	9.00am	Alice & Joe McCann
		11.00am	Frances Harrison
Mon	24 February	9.30am	Int. Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Tues	25 February	6.15pm	St. Luke's Parish
Wed	26 February	9.30am	Frank Tobin. Snr.
Thu	27 February	9.30am	Graham Dennett
Fri	28 February	9.30am	Patsy Tittle
Sat	01 March	6.00pm	St. Luke's Parish
Sun	02 March	9.00am	Dave Bradshaw
		11.00am	Special Intention

COFFEE & TEA downstairs after 9am Mass today. All welcome

BLACK BOOK for LENT £1 if now available in the bookrack to help us on the way from ASH WEDNESDAY 5th March.

CONFESSIONS. Saturday before Mass 5.00-5.40pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK and for all our people in trouble especially in Ukraine and Syria. May they find help in the prayers and help of others.

IN MEMORIAM Let us pray for deceased family and friends and all who are in our Mass intentions this week.

SEE THE NOTE on assisted dying from Archbishop Smith. Copies in the porch clarifying what it means, and what the Church teaches.

COLLECTION last week £752 Many thanks to you all. A further £100 for the **PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND** brings the total to £780, plus the Gift-Aid. Thanks for your generous response.

UCM MEETING Monday 24th Feb. 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Non-members welcomed.

**Novena to St Joseph** 10th-18th March. Mill Hill Fathers each year celebrate their Patron and the work of the missions, and all who support it. You may link in with the Novena with a prayer or booklet from [novena@millhillmissionaries.com](mailto:novena@millhillmissionaries.com)

MUSIC MINISTRY for Parish musicians Sat. 8th March 10am-1pm St. Mary's Middlewich, CW10 9EB or Wed. 12th March Our Lady's, Ellesmere Port. CH65 8BY. Led by Fr Peter Dutton, & Chris McCurry. Notice in porch.

FRODSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY-MOZART REQUIEM and arias St. Laurence Parish Church Sat. 5th April 7.30pm. Tickets £10.

**Tuesday 25th Feb. 2014 7-9p.m St Luke's Parish Centre.**

**A Reflective Exploration of Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel) An Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis.**  
contact Pauline Stitt on 07749013320

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Mon 24th Feb.**

**If you can spend 30mins in contemplative prayer before the Blessed Sacrament please sign the form in the Church porch, or just pop in for a few minutes with the Lord.**

**Churches Together in Frodsham Anti-trafficking forum**  
Registration forms for this important event are available in Church. Saturday 29th March at Frodsham Methodist Church 10 am to 4.30pm and will include coffee/tea and lunch. Two Salvation Army Officers will speak on this disturbing issue. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EVENT. The next meeting at St. Laurence's March 3rd 10am

**Women's World Day of Prayer** Friday March 7th at Alvanley Parish Church at 2 pm, preceded by lunch at the White Lion (For more details, contact Aelison on 731235)

The Service is from Egypt and is entitled 'Streams in the Desert'. Speaker: the Rev. Joy Clarke

**Lent Bible Studies**

Ecumenical Bible Studies for Lent/Easter will take place at the home of Fr Colin and Aelison Wilson, 1 Elm Rise. Once again they will follow the York Course, entitled 'Build on the Rock'. Start at 10.30 am and will take place on Fridays 14th 28th March (in Lent) and 25th April and 2nd May (after East Day of Reflection led by Fr Nick Kern has been organised by A.C.T.S' (ADULT CATHOLICS TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY). If you are aged 18 – 35 you are more than welcome to join us. Fr Kern will help us to prayerfully reflect on Pope Francis' first teaching document on 'The Joy of the Gospel' ('Evangelii Gaudium').

At Wistaston Hall, Crewe. commence 9.30pm until approx 5pm (exact times to be confirmed nearer the date). Cost £20 (£15 for unemployed/students). If you would like to join us or wish to know more about it please contact Siobhan Cartwright



# OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

## Liturgy

### 7th Sunday of OT (A)

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Ps 12: 6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who has been  
bountiful with me.

#### FIRST READING: Leviticus 19:1-2.17-18

*You must love your neighbour as yourself.*

#### PSALM: Ps. 102:1-4.8.10.12-13. R.v8

**R) The Lord is compassion and love.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. **(R)**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and  
compassion. **(R)**

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R)**

As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R)**

#### SECOND READING: I Corinthians 3:16-23

*All are your servants, but you belong to Christ  
and Christ belongs to God.*

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

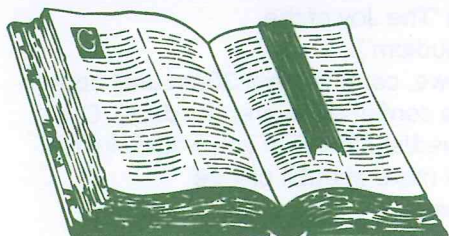
Alleluia, alleluia! Jn 14:23  
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.  
Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 5:38-48

*Love your enemies.*

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Ps 9: 2-3

I will recount all your wonders,  
I will rejoice in you and be glad,  
and sing psalms to your name,  
O Most High



## GOSPEL REFLECTION



However can we be “perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect”? It seems an impossible demand! Even if, with his grace, we fulfil the demands Christ makes: if we “offer the wicked man no resistance....give to anyone who asks...love (our) enemies,” even then, how can we claim to be perfect as God is perfect? There is a useful parallel with our created universe. Anything *made* reflects something of its *maker*. Each beautiful thing, impressive mountain, towering tree, even the beauties of man-made creations, each thing in its individual perfection, reflects in a small way the beauty and perfection of its Maker and the universe as a whole gives us a

still stronger glimpse of that Reality. Similarly, each and every “*image of God*,” namely each and every human being, insofar as he or she clings to God and lives according to God’s grace, is in their individual, personal perfection, “perfect” (in their own way) “as (our) Heavenly Father is perfect” (in His). Above all, the oneness of the ‘*images*’ of God in the Church, in the Body of Christ, reflects most gloriously the One-ness and perfection of God. “*I have given them the glory*,” Jesus prays, “*that they may be one as we are One*.”

### Celebrating the Christian Mystery

A new series drawing on themes from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (ccc).

As sacrifice, the Eucharist is also offered in reparation for the sins of the living and the dead and to obtain spiritual or temporal benefits from God.

Anyone who desires to receive Christ in Eucharistic communion must be in the state of grace. Anyone aware of having sinned mortally must not receive communion without having received absolution in the sacrament of penance. CCC 1414-15

## Monsignor Bruce Harbert – Thoughts on today's Mass

In today's prayers, the Mass is twice referred to by the word ‘mysteries’. In current speech, ‘mysteries’ often refers to a criminal investigation, like ‘The Ruth Rendell Mysteries’. In the Bible and the Liturgy it has a deeper meaning. When Saint Paul speaks of God’s ‘mystery’ he means the whole of God’s plan, from the beginning of creation. This was hidden from mankind, except when God partially revealed it. Then, when Christ came, it was revealed more fully - God plans to save all mankind and share his life with us. That process is ongoing through the presence of Christ in his Church and the work of God’s Spirit, particularly through the celebration of Mass. By calling the Mass ‘the mysteries’ we remember that it draws us into the mystery of God’s continuing activity.

