

CATHOLIC WIGHT

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN THE ST. BONIFACE DEANERY ISLE OF WIGHT

As we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, our Lectionary skips a chapter that helps set the context for today's reading. If we were to read the sections skipped (chapter 11 and part of chapter 12), we would hear about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, his cleansing of the Temple, and the questioning of Jesus' authority by the chief priests, scribes, and elders. The context, therefore, for this Gospel is Jesus' growing exposure before the Jewish authorities. Jesus is being questioned and tested by the Jewish authorities, yet the scribe who addresses Jesus in today's Gospel seems to be an admirer; he is not testing Jesus.



The question posed in today's Gospel requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional commandments, numbering into the hundreds. For a devout Jew, adherence to the Mosaic Law is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of these commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus was not the only Jewish religious teacher to connect these two commandments, love of God and love of neighbour. Both of these commandments were central elements of the religious tradition that Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed, these commandments continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbour. Many believe, however, that this connection was heard in a new and fresh way when spoken by Jesus.

The scribe who questions Jesus in today's Gospel engages in a positive dialogue with Jesus. He agrees with Jesus' teaching that the commandments to love God and love neighbour stand above the commandment to offer worship and sacrifice in the Temple. With this dialogue, Jesus appears to close the debate with the Jewish authorities. Mark reports that no one dared to question Jesus further.

No one draws near to God's kingdom by simply quoting the commandments. Instead, the way into the kingdom is through love of God and neighbour. When we live these commandments rather than simply quote them, we, too, hear Jesus say to each of us, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

Father Steven

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READINGS FOR SUNDAYS in Year B

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time – Dt 6:2-6; Hb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28-34.

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 1Kgs 17:10-16; Hb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44.

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Dan 12:1-3; Hb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32.

BAMENDA SUNDAY This Sunday 3 November is Bamenda Sunday and this year we mark its Golden Jubilee. Fifty years ago, Bishop Worlock and Bishop Verdzekov, of the then newly established Diocese of Bamenda, initiated the twinning as a practical demonstration of St Pope Paul VI's Vatican II document "Gaudium et Spes". Since 1974, the relationship has grown and strengthened. In the early years, priests from our Diocese worked in Bamenda, teaching the Faith, establishing parishes, schools, youth ministries, etc. Their mission was hugely successfully and saw a fledgling Church grow and develop. Many were inspired by bringing the Gospel message directly to them. Today, we have the great privilege of welcoming priests from Bamenda into our own parishes and their mission to us is one of renewal at a time when our communities become daily more secular. We have much to thank God for from this twinning. A core aspect of the twinning is the practical projects that have been funded through the over £1,000,000 that has been raised by our parishes, largely through the annual Bamenda Sunday collection. This source of funding remains an important and tangible part of the relationship. Bamenda (Cameroon) is ranked 151st on the UN's Human Development Index covering 193 countries. The UK is ranked 15th.

SECOND COLLECTION – BAMENDA Please give as generously as possible to the Bamenda Sunday collection, every penny will go directly to an approved project aimed at cementing this twinning. Donations can also be made online <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/donate?cid=136990#amount> Thank you in advance for your generosity.

VOCATIONS "Take courage, stand up! He is calling for you." Will you share in Christ's saving mission? He may be calling you to a sacrificial life as a priest or religious brother or sister. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke email vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

ASSISTED SUICIDE Bishop Philip asks us to mobilise! Pray earnestly that our legislators will see sense. Correct those who use the double-speak of 'assisted dying'; call it what it is: 'assisted suicide.' Don't be seduced by the emotionalism of the media. Say a prayer for the terminally ill and for those who care for them. Speak out. Lobbying MPs works, send a letter to your MP using the provided template to ask him or her to vote against this sinister proposal. All you need do is to write your name and address on the top and put it in the post. Or you can download it from the diocesan website and send it by email.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION – NOVEMBER Pope Francis invites us to pray **For anyone who has lost a child.** We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

MASS FOR OUR DECEASED AND LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport 29 November 2024, 1800. This simple service, held after the homily, honors all those from our parish, as well as others from elsewhere, who have passed away since this time last year. Their names will be recalled, and family members will carry a lighted candle to the altar in their memory.

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS *“It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins,”* observes the writer of Maccabees in the Old Testament (2 Maccabees 12:45-46; quoted in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 958). Intercession on behalf of those who have died is a cherished tenet of our Catholic faith, springing from our belief in the resurrection of the body and the commemoration of the saints. ‘Though separated from the living, the dead are still at one with the community of believers on earth and benefit from their prayer and intercession’ (Order of Christian Funerals, 6). Trusting in God’s mercy, we continue to pray for them, knowing that this spiritual bond with our brothers and sisters who have died can never be broken. In the month of November, we pray in a special way for those who have died – those who are known to us, and those who are unknown.”

ST MARY’S COMMUNITY GROUP & SVP TEA PARTY The next tea party is on Monday 4 November 2024, 1400-1600, St Therese Hall, Presentation House, High Street, Ryde. Come for tea and a chat. Car parking available at the back of the church. If any homebound parishioner needs transport, contact the Parish Office 01983 812127

THE TEA AND CHAT CLUB will be meeting again in St Saviour's Holy Family Centre, Totland every Monday starting on the 4 November 1400-1600. Please come and join us, bring a friend if possible and enjoy a lovely cuppa with a biscuit, friendly chat and a game of bingo or HOY!, all for the bargain price of £1. For more information please contact Ita Malia 756017. We're looking forward to seeing you.

YEAR OF PRAYER - PILGRIMS OF HOPE - ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT An invitation to all to participate in a Novena as a response to Pope Francis call to dedicate this year to grow in different aspects of prayer and to our love for God. On the Isle of Wight, we prepared a Novena, 9 days spaced over 9 weeks, one day per week, and in a different church, which started on 16 September. We hope this has also been allowing and encouraging everyone to be exposed to the different churches on the IoW, on our journey towards becoming a single Parish of several Communities. Please see the church board for more details in a poster, or speak to your priest. The seventh station of the Novena is at Sacred Heart, Shanklin, on Wednesday 6 November 1800, on silence in prayer.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE Next meeting will be on Saturday 9th November at 1100 at the Sacred Heart Hall, Atherley Road, Shanklin, PO37 7AT. New members are most welcome. Feel free to bring lunch for after the meeting. Catholic women with a Catholic voice, Caring with love.

CHRIST THE KING ONE ISLAND CELEBRATION The solemn festival of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe this year will be marked with a one Island celebration at Christ the King College on Sunday 24 November 2024 with Mass at 1100. To facilitate this all the principal Sunday Masses across the Island parishes will be cancelled, so that everyone can come together for one joyful celebration.

Please note that there will be Saturday evening Mass in Ventnor 1700, Ryde 1800 and Totland 1800; and Sunday evening Mass in Newport 1700 and Cowes 1730.

PLEASE PRAY for everyone who is sick, for the protection of the elderly and the vulnerable, for all who are suffering anxiety and worry, for the NHS medical staff and all who care for the sick. Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish communities. For those who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Please remember to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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CONFESSION TIMES

Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 1100-1130 Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800 Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000-1030 Newport: Sunday 0900-0930 & 1600-1630 Totland & Cowes: during Eucharistic Adoration. Any by request

KEY TO CHURCHES ACROSS THE ISLAND FOR MASS TIMES

P: Perpetual **F:** Foundation

OLR St Mary's, Ryde PO33 2RE **OLW** Our Lady & St Wilfrid, Ventnor PO38 1NL
SDE St David's, East Cowes PO32 6DP **SMB** St Michael's, Bembridge PO35 5RA
SHS Sacred Heart, Shanklin PO37 7AT **SPS** St Patrick's, Sandown PO36 8NE
SST St Saviour's, Totland PO39 0HE **STC** St Thomas of Canterbury, Cowes PO31 7TJ
TCN St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport PO30 1UH

(*) Eucharistic Adoration starting one hour before Mass and opportunity for Confessions followed by Holy Rosary at SHS & OLW.

Saturday 2 November Commemoration of All Souls

1030 SDE Requiem
 1100(*) SHS Holy Souls
 1230 STC Requiem
 1600 TCN Holy Souls

Saturday 2 November Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

1700 OLW All Parishioners Living and Dead
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 3 November Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

0900 SMB Robert Lambert RIP
 0900 SPS Sophia Ward – Birthday Intention
 0900 STC David Aherne-Conroy RIP
 0945 TCN Ann Thorp RIP
 1100 OLR Holy Souls
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Ansel Trench RIP
 1200 SST Geraldine Grant RIP
 1700 TCN
 1730 STC (Not Ordinariate Liturgy)

Monday 4 November St Charles Borromeo, Bishop, memorial

1000 STC No Mass Today
 1200 OLR Jan Ven Simeran & Charlotte Lazuras GE
 1200(*) TCN The Barbe Family

Tuesday 5 November feria

1000 SMB James Ellis Gilliver RIP
 1200 STC No Mass Today
 1200(*) TCN Elizabeth Heneage & relations P
 1200 SPS Sr Eileen Morrissey LSU 70 years

Wednesday 6 November feria

0945(*) SDE No Mass Today
 1100(*) OLW Roofe Family P
 1200 OLR Charlotte Elliot P
 1800(*) STC No Mass Today

Thursday 7 November feria

1100(*) SST
 1200(*) STC No Mass Today

Friday 8 November feria

1200 STC No Mass Today
 1200 OLR John Webberley RIP
 1200(*) SHS Hussey Family P
 1500 TCN Funeral Mass for Ann Thorp RIP

Saturday 9 November Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

1700 OLW All Parishioners Living and Dead
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 10 November Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

0900 SMB Ann Lambert RIP
 0900 SPS James Simon Corkery RIP
 0900 STC Requiem for the Fallen in War
 0945 TCN Kearney Family P
 1100 OLR Dead of all Wars
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Blessing for Aniela's 7th Birthday
 1200 SST Massera & Del Ponte Family
 1700 STN
 1730 STC (Ordinariate Liturgy)

