



PARISH OF WOOLHAMPTON

Diocese of Portsmouth - West Berks Pastoral Area

Served by Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C – 12 MAY 2019

This Sunday: *Welcome to our Mass, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer!*

First Reading: **Acts 13: 14, 43 - 52**

Psalm Response: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading: **Revelations 7: 9, 14- 17**

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

Gospel: **John 10: 27 - 30**

Wednesday Mass at St Luke's, Theale - 10am

To follow TODAY'S READINGS please take a missal as you enter the church p.757

Please pray for our sick & housebound especially Ian Brownlie and Sandra Jones, wife of Malcolm (St Mary's). Please pray for Anne Primavesi, lately deceased and for those with anniversaries at this time. R.I.P.

WORD OF HOPE

Message of Pope Francis for World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Let us reflect today on how the Lord's call of the first disciples by the Sea of Galilee (*Mk 1:16-20*) makes us *bearers of a promise* and, at the same time, asks of us the *courage to take a risk*, with him and for him. This happened when we met the person we wanted to marry, or when we first felt the attraction of a life of consecration: surprised by an encounter, we glimpsed the promise of joy capable of bringing fulfilment to our lives.

The Lord's call is the loving initiative whereby God meets us & invites us to be part of a great undertaking. He opens up the horizon of a greater sea, an abundant catch. Every vocation is a summons not to stand on the shore, nets in hand, but to follow Jesus on the path he has marked out for us.

I think of the call to the Christian life we all received at baptism, teaching us that our life is not a fluke but rather a gift - that of being God's beloved children gathered in the great family of the Church. I think of the decision to marry in Christ and found a family, and all the other vocations associated with work & professional life, with commitment to charity & solidarity, with social & political responsibilities etc. Then, meeting the Lord, some may feel a call to the consecrated life or the ordained priesthood, a call to become "fishers of men" in the barque of the Church by giving themselves in total commitment to faithful service of the Gospel.

There can be no greater joy than risking one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. To those who leave their nets and boat behind, and follow him, the Lord promises the joy of a new life that can fill our hearts and enliven the journey he has chosen for each of us. *(abbreviated)*

Due to storm damage, Douai Abbey Church will be closed until repairs are complete.

PRAYER & STUDY GROUPS IN THE PARISH

- **Christian Meditation Group – St Bernadette's, Pangbourne:** every Thursday 8-9pm in the Dorman Rooms. All welcome. Contact Mike Sarson 0118 9623332, mike@east-west.org.uk or wccm.org/. Children and Families Meditation sessions. Contact www.eastwestkidsconnect.org.uk.
- **Gospel Study Group – Douai Abbey:** every second Tues. of the month at 2.15pm in Conference Room 2 at the Abbey. To understand more about the scriptures, please come along. Contact Ron Laker on ronkalaker@gmail.com or tel. 01491 671186.
- **"What no eye has seen"** - praying with the **Christian Spiritual Masters** at Douai Abbey, 2.15pm - 1st Tuesday of the Month, October '18 to June '19, contact Fr Peter, 0118 9715371. **Next meeting 4 June 2019.** All welcome.
- **House Mass** - If you would like to host a Mass in your house, please invite the priests!

Our great thanks to the Woolhampton parish for its generous offer to help the Community to cover the costs of the major repair work to the abbey church windows which has just begun. The storm damage was entirely unexpected and without the valuable help offered by the abbey's parishioners we would have had to struggle to meet the cost of the repairs. The parish has agreed to contribute £10,000 to help the Community to cover necessary costs and I would like to thank you all on behalf of the Community for this valuable gift which will help us to have the repairs completed by June.

Abbot Geoffrey Scott

NOTICES

- **Today - Vocations Sunday** Please pray for young people to serve as priests and deacons in the church and in religious communities.
- **Second Collection** today for **Formation of Priests.**
- **St Luke's May** The Rosary will be prayed on Saturdays before Mass at 5.05pm.
- **Gift Aid** If you have registered with the parish for Gift Aid on your donations, but no longer pay sufficient tax to cover the amount reclaimed by the parish (and any other charities you may be supporting), you must advise us accordingly. If not you are liable to reimburse HMRC for any, difference.

- **Baptism Preparation** If you would like to prepare for Baptism for your child please speak to one of the Priests.

Preparation for FIRST COMMUNION

in 2020 will start this coming June.
Please apply to Fr Peter by 31st May
at the latest.

- **Life to the Full:** thought-provoking DVDs to unlock the Bible - St Joseph's, Newbury RG14 1JP. 7.30pm on five Mondays (29 April - 10 June, not Bank Holidays). Info: 01635 33023
- **Safeguarding Training** - Please see the notice re Refresher Safeguarding Training on the notice board.

CHOOSING A NEW PARISH CHARITY FOR 2020

Running now for over 2 years, there has been great success in raising funds for RTU India. Now we have to decide which shall be our **Parish Charity from January 2020**.

The PPC invites everyone to nominate a cause we can support.

NOMINATIONS ARE BEING RECEIVED IN MAY:

Each church will vote, the top two from each will come before the PPC for final selection. Church Committees will be in charge of the voting. Please consider also smaller Charities - where our money has greater impact. The PPC hopes that all will participate in this very important part of our outreach programme.

You will also have the opportunity to vote on the duration of our new commitment. All charities will be considered, including RTU. The final choice will be announced in early summer.

Week of Accompanied Prayer

19 - 25 May

Experienced prayer "companions" will come to help anyone desiring it to meet daily for a personal session to develop prayer & spiritual life.

Please contact Fr Peter 0118 715371

Syrian Refugee information evening.

In response to Pope Francis's call for every parish to house a refugee family, Bishop Philip has appointed 2 people in the Diocese to lead this initiative. 2 houses in our parish have been offered- one in Basingstoke and one in Tadley. There is a meeting 7 June, 7pm at St Bede's RC Church, Basingstoke RG24 9DX for anyone interested to learn more. A person from Manchester will be speaking at the meeting who has experience of housing refugees, also refugees who will offer input.

To prepare NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS Year C: Fifth Sunday of Easter, 19 May p.761

First Reading: Acts 14: 21 - 27

Second Reading: Revelations 21: 1 - 5

Gospel: John 13: 31-35

Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him,

God will in turn glorify him in himself,

And will glorify him very soon.

My little children,

I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:

Love one another;

Just as I have loved you,

You also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,

Everyone will know that you are my

disciples.

It is said in the Acts of the Apostles distribution was made to each one as he had need. The Abbot should take into account the weakness of the needy and not the evil will of the envious. In all his judgements he must bear in mind God's justice.

(Rule of Benedict: Ch.55, v.20-22)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C - 12 May 2019

Mass Celebrants

NEXT WEEK (19 May)

Saturday	5.30pm Theale	Fr Benjamin	(Fr Peter)
Sunday	9am Woolhampton	Fr Oliver	(Fr Benjamin)
	9.30am Pangbourne	Fr Benjamin	(Fr Peter)
	11am Abbey	Fr Oliver	(Fr Gabriel)

MASSES & SERVICES IN THE PARISH

17.30 Saturday Mass at Theale

9.00 Sunday Mass at St Mary's Woolhampton, at Pangbourne 9.30,

11.00 Sunday Mass at Douai Abbey

Weekdays: Mass at 10.00 on Wednesdays of month:

1st at Theale, 2nd at Pangbourne, 3rd at Theale, 4th at St Mary's

Daily at Douai Abbey 7.45am

ADORATION: 1st Saturday of the month, at St Luke's, Theale, 7.30 - 9am

All are welcome to join the daily Monastic Offices at Douai Abbey:

6.20 Matins, 12.50 Midday, 18.00 Vespers

Confession or listening

*A monk is normally available in **the Abbey Church** Weekdays 7am-7.30am & 6.30-7pm;
at St Luke's: first Saturday of month 9.30am, and **at Douai** anytime by request.*

Also in your own church anytime if you please ask the priest.

The Parish Office, Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, Reading RG7 5TQ

Tel: 0118 9715 350 email: douaiparish@gmail.com

WOOLHAMPTON - St Mary's Church RG7 5TQ

PANGBOURNE – St Bernadette's Church RG8 7JL

THEALE - St Luke's Church RG7 5AS

Priests: Frs Peter Bowe & Benjamin Standish OSB

Parish Administrator: Doreen Morrissey

Safeguarding: Kate Burke, 0118 984 2166

Parish Council (PPC): Sue Edwards, susanedwards27@icloud.com

Parish Office open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm

If you would like Fr Peter or Fr Benjamin to call & see you at home, please do tell us.

Further notices and information on the Parish website: www.douaiparish.org.uk.

Bishop Philip invites all the faithful of the diocese to subscribe to his free weekly e-Newsletter.

You can sign up to receive this direct to your inbox each week:

<http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews/>

Live streaming of Sunday Masses etc at 10am & 12noon from Dublin.

To be found on: www.ballalyparish.ie/ballaly-goes-live!

douaiparish@gmail.com - www.douaiparish.org.uk