



PARISH OF WOOLHAMPTON

Diocese of Portsmouth - West Berks Pastoral Area

Served by Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B – 13 MAY 2018

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

First Reading: Acts 1: 15 - 17, 20 - 26.

Psalm Response: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

Second Reading: 1 John 4: 11 - 16

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave your orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 17: 11 - 19

Wednesday Mass this week at St Bernadette's, Pangbourne - 10am

To follow TODAY'S READINGS please take a missal as you enter the church p.563

Please pray for our sick & housebound, especially Sandra Jones, Julia Harrison, Marie Pierro, Roy Haslem and Ian Brownlie. Please also pray for Jill Vivian and Herbert Du Plessie (Yattendon) recently died. Also pray for those with anniversaries at this time. R.I.P.

WORD OF HOPE

Christian joy is usually accompanied by a sense of humour. We see this clearly, for example, in Saint Thomas More, Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Philip Neri. ... We receive so much from the Lord "for our enjoyment", that sadness can be a sign of ingratitude. We can get so caught up in ourselves that we are unable to recognize God's gifts.

With the love of a father, God tells us: "My son, treat yourself well... Do not deprive yourself of a happy day". He wants us to be positive, grateful and uncomplicated: "In the day of prosperity, be joyful... God created human beings straightforward, but they have devised many schemes". Whatever the case, we should remain resilient and imitate Saint Paul: "I have learned to be content with what I have"

This is not the joy held out by today's individualistic and consumerist culture. Consumerism only bloats the heart. It can offer occasional and passing pleasures, but not joy. Here I am speaking of a joy lived in communion, which shares and is shared, since "there is more happiness in giving than in receiving" and "God loves a cheerful giver". Fraternal love increases our capacity for joy, since it makes us capable of rejoicing in the good of others, but when we "focus primarily on our own needs, we condemn ourselves to a joyless existence".

Pope Francis: Rejoice & Be Glad! 126-128

"The brothers should serve one another. Consequently no one will be excused from kitchen service unless he is sick or engaged in some important business of the monastery. "

PRAYER & STUDY GROUPS IN THE PARISH

- **Joining Up the Old Testament** - Texts & Characters of the OT, at Douai Abbey, 2.15pm. Last session on Tuesday 15 May (call 0118 9715371).
- **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.
- **House Mass** - If you would like to host a Mass in your house, please invite the priests!

NOTICES

- **Second Collection today for 'World Communications'** - enabling the Church to continue the work of communication.

First Holy Communion *Congratulations to all who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday in the Abbey. It was a wonderful celebration of an important stage in their lives.*

- **Ministers of Holy Communion** At all parish Masses on 16-17 June there will be the annual renewal of commitment. Can you please come to one or other of our Masses, or let me know if you won't be able to be there. Many thanks - PB. In September we shall have training for all who have not had this in the last 12 months.
- **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION** See the information in the churches for preparation starting in September for Confirmation next May. Please apply by 29 June to Lucy Gallagher, 0118 624995.
- The new **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR) comes into force on the 25th May 2018. It will impact every organisation which holds or processes personal data. The Portsmouth diocese in conjunction with parishes is now revising processes to ensure compliance.

The diocese is committed to ensuring high standards of information security, privacy and transparency.

- **Parish Care Together (PCT)** is a new parish initiative. With your support our mission will become an inclusive way of caring for the senior citizens across the whole parish. The first event is a **Spring Tea Party** on Sunday 20 May, 3- 4.15pm in St. Bernadette's hall. To be a success, we need names of guests & volunteers to help. Please speak with a representative as you leave Mass.
- **APPEAL at St Bernadette's!** Please can you help to prepare the grounds of the church car park for line painting? Either an hour or two week nights or w/end 19/20 May, 10am-12noon to cut back hedges & clear moss. Your support is greatly appreciated - see notice board.
- **RTU: Dates for your diary.** The next two not-to-be-missed fundraising events for the Parish Social Project, Reaching The Unreached, will be a cake and plant sale at Douai on **Sunday morning 10 June** and a wine, cheese and quiz evening at Woolhampton Village Hall on **Friday 15 June**. More details very soon.

- **West Berkshire** Gifts of Tinned fruit, rice pudding, custard, Sponge puddings,

Coffee, Long life fruit juice.

Next Baptism Preparation ~ Saturday 6 October 2018 at 3pm in Pangbourne.

Our parish welcomes parents presenting a child for Baptism at the next course. Do come even if you are still expecting your child. A second session will be set at the course. Note that our parish expects families for baptism to take regular part in one of our parish Masses from now on. Please speak to the priests and give them address and telephone in writing.

To prepare NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS Year B: Pentecost Sunday, 20 May 2018

First Reading: Acts 2: 1 - 11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles has all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors

from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Second Reading: Galatians 5: 16-25

Gospel: John 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the outset. I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.'

OUR PARISH VISION

- ***Our Catholic parish of Woolhampton, including the churches of Theale & Pangbourne, aims to be a vibrant, welcoming community of the universal Church.***
- ***May we all, believers and doubters, be joyfully alive in the infinite love of God, awake to the call of Jesus Christ, eager to learn how better to follow his way and grow in faith.***
- ***As a local presence we seek to bear Christ's message to all, ready to offer those among us and beyond, support and a share in our own journey of discovery.***

The Parish Pastoral Council has written this *Vision of the Parish* and invites parishioners to reflect on it so that, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we may all work towards realising it in concrete ways.

Current PPC: Fr Peter, Sue Edwards (Chair), Kate Burke, Jo Harrison, Minnie Greayer, Claire Hicks.

Pope Francis' recent letter "Rejoice & be Glad!" on the call to holiness in today's world is available on the Vatican website: (w2.vatican.va/.../papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20180319_gaudete-et-exultate.html) and available in the Douai Abbey bookshop

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B – 13 MAY 2018

Mass Celebrants

NEXT WEEK (20 May)

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

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

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

6.20 Matins, 12.50 Midday, 18.00 Vespers

*A monk is normally available in the Abbey Church for Confession/Listening
Weekdays 7am-7.30am & 6.30-7.00pm; - and on request.*

For Confession in your own church please ask the priests at any time.

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

Tel: 0118 971 5350 email: parish@douaiabbey.org.uk

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

Office open Monday - Friday 9.00 - 1.00

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

parish@douaiabbey.org.uk - www.douaiparish.org.uk

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/>