



PARISH OF WOOLHAMPTON

Diocese of Portsmouth - West Berks Pastoral Area
Served by Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A – 16 JULY 2017

This Sunday: *Welcome to our Mass, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer!*
First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11
Psalm Response: Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.
Second Reading: Romans 8: 18 - 23
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life.
Gospel: Matthew 13: 1 - 23

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

To follow TODAY'S READINGS please take a missal as you enter the church see page 419

Please pray for all our many sick & housebound. Please also pray for those recently died especially Paul McGrory of Reading. Requiem at St Williams, Reading, Thursday 20 July, 13.30, and for all with anniversaries at this time. R.I.P.

WORD OF HOPE

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

The Lord will not always chide,
will not be angry forever.

God does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is God's love for the God-fearing;
as far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

As parents have compassion on their children,
the Lord has pity on those who are God-fearing
for he knows of what we are made,
and remembers that we are dust.

But the love of the Lord is everlasting
upon those who fear the Lord.

God's justice reaches out to children's children
when they keep his covenant in truth,
when they keep his will in their mind.

(Psalm {102} 103)

(If you have come across a Word of Hope, please let us have it)

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.
- **House Mass** - If you would like to host a Mass in your house, please invite the priests!

NOTICES

- The collection for **Apostleship of the Sea** raised £490.15. Thank you.
- The Haxton Family are having a house Mass on 21st of July at 7pm in Frilsham, RG18 9XB & you are invited to join them. Please confirm by 20th July if you are able to come. Teresa's Mobile 07882369703.
- **PARISH PILGRIMAGE to Stonor House**, near Henley, **Saturday 30 September** a visit to this Catholic home, refuge for priests and others in Reformation times. More information later. See www.stonor.com.
- **West Berks New Evangelisation Strategy Team** has launched a website www.wbnewest.wordpress.com for events & news in the Newbury, Thatcham & Woolhampton parishes, also blogs on new evangelisation. To join the team see the contact page. To date there have been networking events for catechists and a bowling night for Church teenagers; several events are in the pipeline including a film season, a UK pilgrimage and a Catholic Alpha course updates to follow.
- **Copies of Bishop Remi de Roo's book:** "Chronicles of a Vatican II Bishop" are available in our churches at £10.00 (proceeds to Parish Project RTU). Bishop Remi led an excellent discussion evening for us in May.
- **West Berks. Foodbank** The Foodbank urgently needs: Coffee, tinned chopped tomatoes, tinned rice pudding, tinned or packets of custard, 'mug shots', pot noodle, kitchen roll and dried onions.
- **Alton Day of Renewal** Saturday 22 July 11am - 4pm - a mini-retreat day of spiritual refreshment & renewal, at Alton Convent, Anstey Lane, Alton GU34 2NG. No charge (a collection will be taken to cover costs). Information and directions www.altonrenewal.com or call Deacon John Foley on 07769 251747.

Baptism Preparation in the Woolhampton Parish

Our parish welcomes parents presenting a child for Baptism at the next preparation which will take place in 2 sessions: on Saturdays 23 September and 7 October, 4pm at St Luke's Church, Theale. You will be welcome to come to these sessions even if you are still expecting your child.

As Baptism is initiation into our church community our parish will expect families following this course to take regular part in one of our parish Masses from now on, and also beyond their child's baptism.

Please contact the priests or the parish office, giving address and telephone number where you may be contacted.

First Holy Communion and Reconciliation in the Woolhampton Parish

Our parish welcomes children of the parish (over the age of 8 years & in Year 3 or above) to the First Holy Communion & Reconciliation preparation programme which will start in September and run through to May 2018.

It will consist of eleven one hour sessions, held at St Luke's Church in Theale – dates available in September. Each session will be on a Saturday afternoon 4.15 to 5.15pm. Mass, which will be integral to the session, will follow at 5.30pm. We do expect all the children & parents to stay to take part in this Mass please.

As admission to Holy Communion means participating in the Church, our parish expects that all families attending this course take part in one or other of our parish Masses regularly both from now on, and of course also beyond the celebration of First Holy Communion.

Please apply in writing to Father Peter. The closing date for applicants is Friday 15th September 2017.

To prepare NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Year A - 16th Sunday 23 July p.423

First Reading: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, your govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-43

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.' He told them another parable,

'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measured of flour till it was leavened all through.' In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

With Christ's help keep this little Rule for Monks we have written for beginners. After that you can set out for loftier summits of teaching & virtues, and under God's protection you will reach them.

(Rule of Benedict c.500AD, Ch.73, 8-9)

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY SUNDAY OF YEAR A – 16 JULY 2017

Mass Celebrants

NEXT WEEK (23 July 2017)

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

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; Saturdays 12noon-12.30pm
- and at any time by 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

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.

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