5 September 2021Divine Office: Week 3

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST CECILIA**

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**23rd WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B1**

**Please keep in your prayers:**

 **Keith Wareham; Brendan Hewson;**

**Father Tom and all at the Care Home where he is Chaplain;**

**David Walker; and all families of those suffering at this time.**

 **MASS INFORMATION CORRECT AT THE TIME OF PUBLISHING BUT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE**

**Saturday September 4**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS (EF)**

 **5.30pm HOLY MASS of Sunday**

**Sunday September 5**

**9am ONLY HOLY MASS**

**Monday September 6 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Tuesday September 7**

**Pilgrimage to the Shrine of St Candida, Whitchurch Canonicorum**

**6.30pm HOLY MASS**

 **Wednesday September 8 9.30am HOLY MASS**

 **THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (FEAST)**

                **Thursday September 9 9.30am HOLY MASS St Peter Claver (Opt Mem)**

**Friday September 10 9.30am HOLY MASS**

 **followed by Benediction**

**Saturday September 11**

**St Deiniol**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS (EF)**

 **5.30pm HOLY MASS of Sunday**

**Sunday September 12**

**9am ONLY HOLY MASS**

 **From this week-end of Sunday, September 5th, we shall return to our normal Sunday Masses, that is 5.30pm on Saturdays and 9am on Sundays.**

 We shall keep enhanced hygiene, cleaning, and safety measures in place, so, as before, you will find sanitiser instead of Holy Water, and “Track and Trace” forms at the church entrance.  **We should continue to wear masks in church and, although singing is now allowed, it might be best to restrict it to the Alleluia, which should always be sung anyway.**

**There will be no Masses during the week Monday starting September 13th.**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  The vast majority of Christians - Catholics and Eastern Orthodox, who have all brought us the very earliest Christian teaching, celebrate September 8th. as the birthday of Our Lady. We do not know the date of her birth, and so it may not be what today is regarded as a “fact”, but the fact that so many Christians have honoured this day from the 2nd. century is a very great fact indeed.

 In South India an eight-day abstinence from meat and from alcohol is celebrated from September 1st. The great feast that follows is kept as an octave, so 8 days of feasting. In another part of India, Mangalore, a novena of prayer prepares for the celebration of the feast, and, because, Our Lady was fruitful in bringing our Saviour to us, she is also the hostess, as it were, for the Harvest Festival. On September 8th. itself a special rice pudding is prepared, rice, of course, being an important part of the harvest. In Goa and Mangalore flowers are showered on the statues of the Blessed Virgin in procession. Everywhere in Goa you will find brass bands and fireworks, rather different from our own dull ways.

 In Malta, too, it is a great feast because the day is marked also by three great Maltese victories on this day of Mary. Again, there are brass bands and celebrations. In fact, all over the world wherever the Church is there, there are great celebrations on September 8th.

 Early Christian teachings are often echoed in the Koran, since Mohammed learned about Christianity from some Eastern monks. The Koran, in fact, speaks of Our Lady in the highest terms and with great veneration, and, indeed, Moslems hold that of all human beings only Jesus Christ and his Mother were born “without the touch of Satan”, a sign of how the Immaculate Conception of Mary was held by early Christians.

**IS THERE ANYONE** who would volunteer to be a **Safeguarding Representative**?  In a parish like ours the work is not onerous in any way, but the diocese requires us to have someone.  Our last representative, Francesca Nobis, has moved to Wimborne and so we have no one.   There really is not much to do (I have a list of requirements), and so I am appealing for a parishioner to volunteer as soon as possible.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ST. CANDIDA’S SHRINE** Everyone who has signed up should come to church at 10 o’clock, when we can say some prayers and then get on the way. I have prepared some short prayers, but of course each person’s intention in making the pilgrimage is personal. It is important, though, not to waste the opportunity this short visit to the shrine of St. Candida gives us.

 That is, we should be doing it for some good purpose - for someone who is ill, for example; or for any special need that we have for ourself or another; or for the intentions of the Holy Father and the mission of the Church. Praying for anything or anyone you want to will share God’s grace and the work Our Lord came among us to do because we are his co-workers. As you know, we should, of course offer up all our sufferings and frustrations as a sacrifice for God to bring good out of them, and although we hope the pilgrimage will not involve much suffering, the effort we make to go and the time we sacrifice can be given freely to God for his purposes.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** - £214.76. Thanks to all who contributed

**EVC UGANDA APPEAL** - ‘Boniface' has now been counted for August and £365.30 has been sent.  Thank you to all.

**CATHOLIC CHILDRENS’ SOCIETY** - The collection will be forwarded after this weekend to allow for further donations.  The total will be published next weekend. *Ruth, Parish Treasurer*

With blessings on every one of our parish family.

**Father Francis**

**THE MAIN ONLINE CHURCHES WE USE ARE:**

St. Bede's, Basingstoke [www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk](https://www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk/)

St. Mary of all Angels, Worthing [https://www.stmaryoftheangels.org.uk/](http://www.stmaryoftheangels.org.uk/)

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Weymouth. [https://www.ourlady-starofthesea.com/](http://www.ourlady-starofthesea.com/)

Also: [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv/) This website gives the times of all Church Services (Mass, Exposition, Holy Hour etc.) at many churches in UK and Ireland from 5.30am until 9.15pm. *Tom and Teresa*

**The following links are also to churches and chapels who are currently streaming live Masses and other services:**

**LIVE ADORATION FROM TYBURN CONVENT:** [https://adoration.tyburnconvent.org.uk](https://adoration.tyburnconvent.org.uk/)

There is a webcam in the **GROTTO IN LOURDES** (just google the words webcam, Lourdes and grotto) and Masses, the recitation of the Rosary and other prayers can be seen there throughout the day. There is a list on their website giving the details of which languages are used at which times. **WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL**  is now streaming live some Masses and services - please visit the Cathedral's website for further information and future schedules.

[www.cpg.church](https://www.cpg.church/) takes you to **GUILDFORD PARISH CHURCH** website, where there are links to live-streamed Masses and other devotions online (thanks to Ann, Michael and Lynette for this)

**BUCKFAST ABBEY** The Abbey (now reopened with some restrictions) is livestreaming Mass. You can view these services on YouTube and Facebook.

And here is a link useful to those who are Deaf or hearing-impaired:

**SIGNED MASS** The parish of Our Lady and St Vincent in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, is providing a Sign Interpreted Mass for its Sunday Vigil – 6pm every Saturday. [You can watch here](https://www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar/embed).

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Ride and Stride is next Saturday (11th). Apologies that the link in last week's newsletter didn't work. This is the correct link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cainandhayball> if you wish to sponsor us.

If you signed the sponsorship form but would rather give via justgiving, please just cross your name out or tick that you've paid. We promise not to chase you for 2 lots of money.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to welcome cyclists on the day. If there are any spaces left please consider if you can help out for an hour - it will be very much appreciated. I will put a table outside so we can maintain good social distancing with our visitors.

If you are able to bake biscuits or cakes, please leave them in the hall on Friday or Saturday morning. However you are helping,  thank you so much. Praying for good weather would also be most welcome!

 *Ali, Richard, Ethan, Bill and Anna*

**EARLY WARNING!** We are planning on starting Knit and Natter in the parish roomon **Tuesday 21st September** at 2 o’clock. All welcome. Looking forward to seeing you there. *Christina*

**We welcome contributions to this newsletter from parishioners; please send in links to websites, hard copy, email pictures, prose or poetry, whether to inform or to entertain....**

"You have no idea how much nastier I would be if I was not a Catholic. Without supernatural aid I would hardly be a human being."

-Evelyn Waugh

(contributed by Avis)

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"To love God as He ought to be loved, we must be detached from all temporal love. We must love nothing but Him, or if we love anything else, we must love it only for His sake."

- St. Peter Claver

(contributed by Hilary)

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… so radiant, so glorious a visitation of God to men needed some prelude of joy to introduce to us the great gift of salvation. The present feast is such: the prelude is the birth of the Mother of God, and the concluding act is the union which is destined between the Word and human nature. A virgin is now born and suckled and moulded, and is made ready to be mother of God, the king of all for ever. (from a sermon of St Andrew of Crete)

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