14th November 2021Divine Office: Week 1

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST CECILIA**

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**33rd WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B1**

**Please keep in your prayers:**

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

 **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 November 13**

 **NO EF MASS**

**5.30pm HOLY MASS of Sunday**

**Sunday 9 am November 14 HOLY MASS REMEMBRANCE DAY - ALL VICTIMS OF WAR**

**(WORLD DAY OF THE POOR)**

**Monday November 15 NO MASS St Albert the Great, Doctor of the Church, Patron of Scientists (Opt Mem)**

**Tuesday 6.30pm November 16 HOLY MASS St Edmund of Abingdon; St Margaret of Scotland; St Gertrude (Opt Mems)**

 **Wednesday 9.30am November 17 HOLY MASS St Hilda; St Hugh of Lincoln; St Elizabeth of Hungary (Opt Mems)**

                **Thursday 9.30am November 18 HOLY MASS The Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter and Paul Apostles (Opt Mem)**

 **Friday 9.30am November 19 HOLYMASS**

**Saturday November 20 9.30am HOLY MASS (EF)**

**5.30pm HOLY MASS of Sunday**

**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

**Sunday 9 am November 21 HOLY MASS**



We shall keep enhanced hygiene, cleaning, and safety measures in place.

**WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO WEAR MASKS IN CHURCH.**

**WEEKEND MASSES** Canon Chrystal will come up from Bournemouth to celebrate the Saturday Vigil and Remembrance Sunday Masses for us. Please welcome him.

**JACKLINE**

During a spate of second collections at Mass we have had a break from collecting for Jackline, the little Ugandan girl in Masaka whose boarding and education expenses we have been sponsoring. Soon we shall start again, and I thought it would be good to publish a letter she has written to all her kind benefactors. Written in beautifully clear and intelligent handwriting, this is what she says:

 *Dear members [of Empowering Vulnerable Children Uganda],*

 *I greet you in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. I hope you are fine, together with your family members and friends. I thank God for protecting you from covid 19, and I pray that he continues protecting you.*

 *My name is Namatovu Jackline. I am in Primary six at St. Matia Mulumba Primary School. I am so grateful to you for picking interest in me. Thank you so much. I am so happy and I thank God for that great opportunity. May the almighty God reward you richly.*

 *Here in Uganda the schools closed in June 2021 due to covid-19. Since then I have been at home with my grandparents in Nakaiba village, Masaka district. At home I stay with my grandparents and my brothers, sisters and cousins. We do house work together and we ensure our home is clean. I cook, dig, wash utensils and clothes as well.*

 *My mother lives in Kakuuto village. I never got a chance to see my father since he died when I was about to be born. I love studying so much and my best subject is English. I am a good dancer at school currently. I miss my school so much.*

 *I am so grateful to you for buying me study booklets and sending me teachers who teach me from home. I feel so lucky that I am able to continue studying even when schools were closed. Thank you members for paying my school fees and all the support. I hope schools will open at any time and I go back to school.*

 *I conclude by wishing you God’s blessing in everything you do. I love you so much and I keep you in my prayers.*

*Your loving daughter,*

*Namatovu Jackline*

Jackline is our benefactor, so do pray for her.

(A photo-copy of the letter is on the board in the hall.)

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** £184.20 Thanks to all who contributed. *Ruth, Parish Treasurer*

With blessings on every one of our parish family.

Father Francis

**St Albert the Great (Albertus Magnus)** (1206-1280) His friends at the universities of Paris and Cologne called him "the Great" and the "universal doctor", apt nicknames for this scholar-saint. Not only did he lay a foundation for scholasticism, the avant-garde philosophy of the Middle Ages that integrated faith and reason, driven by his irrepressible curiosity, Albert also mastered the natural sciences. Often compared to his contemporary, Roger Bacon, he wrote authoritatively about biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy and geography. Two centuries before Columbus, for example, he held that the earth was not flat but spherical.

 St Albert the Great was also a practical spiritual guide, as this passage from his treatise on union with God shows:

 "He who enters into the secret place of his own soul passes beyond himself and truly ascends to God.

 "Therefore, banish from your heart the distractions of earth. Turn your eyes to spiritual joys so that you may learn at last to rest in the light of the contemplation of God. Indeed, the soul's true life and repose are to abide in God, held fast by love and refreshed by divine consolations.

 "In your spiritual ascent and your search for a closer union with God, you must allow yourself no rest, no slipping back. You must go forward till you have obtained the object of your desires. Follow the example of mountain climbers. If you desire to turn aside after objects that pass below, you will lose yourself in byways and your mind will be drawn in all directions. Your progress will be uncertain. You will not reach your goal. And you will not find rest after your labours.

 "But if your heart and mind, led by love and desire, withdraw from the distractions of the world, you will grow strong. Your recollection will deepen the higher you rise on the wings of knowledge and desire. Little by little as you abandon baser things to rest in the one true and unchangeable Good, you will dwell there, held fast by the bonds of love."

 Against the wishes of his noble Swabian parents, Albert became a Dominican friar at age sixteen. The community recognized his ability and for twenty years assigned him to teach at various German universities and at Paris. In 1248, Albert organized the house of study atCologne. During four years there, he became the mentor and friend of St Thomas Aquinas, who later erected his philosophical system on his teacher's foundation.

 From 1254 to 1262, Albert held various church offices, serving as a Dominican provincial, theologian to the pope, and bishop of Regensburg. Temperamentally unsuited for flinty ecclesiastical politics or tough-minded pastoral leadership, he was not successful as a bishop and resigned his see in 1262. He spent the autumn of his life teaching at Cologne. In 1277 he went to Paris to defend the work of Thomas Aquinas, who had died in 1274, but was not able to prevent his friend's posthumous condemnation. Albert seems to have succumbed to Alzheimer's disease in 1278 and he died in 1280. Feast day 15th November. (*The Times Book of Saints*)

**FIVE BIBLE STUDIES ON THE ADVENT SUNDAY GOSPELS** Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Advent Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. As a result, you will experience Sunday Mass in a new way!

 Five Wednesdays: 24 Nov | 1 Dec | 8 Dec | 15 Dec | 22 Dec (7-8pm UK Time). Free of Charge | LIVE sessions on YouTube.

 Info & Registration: <https://comeandsee.org/advent> *Mel* and *Marie*

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**FRANCES** and all her family would like to say thank you to everyone who attended David’s Requiem Mass in thanksgiving for his life. I haves received so much love and kindness since I lost my lovely David. So on behalf of David and myself we say ‘God bless everyone’!

 **CATHOLIC DIARIES 2022** - If you ordered a Buckfast diary, they are at the back of the church with your individual name. The cost is £4.50 per diary. If you do not have the money with you, please take the diary and pay next time you are at church. If paying by cash please place the money in the wall box at the back of the church. If you wish to pay by cheque, please place the cheque in an envelope with 'Diary' written on the front and place it in the collection bucket. The cheque should be payable to ‘Blandford RC Church’. *Ruth*

**BLANDFORD YULETIDE FESTIVAL**  **FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER 2021**

This year we have a table at the Corn Exchange which will be attractively arranged to reflect the real reason for the great celebration of Christmas. We also have the opportunity to raise money for a local cause. This year it will be the Blandford Welcome Group and so we will have a Tombola.

Between now and then our whole parish is invited to help make this event a great success. Your action is needed:

1. Volunteers on the night to man the table, sell Tombola tickets, and with the aid of the Posada or Crib, share the real meaning of Christmas.

2. Prizes for the Tombola. Everyone please bring to church over the next 2 weeks any suitable unwanted items that can be used for prizes. Unwanted presents, boxes of biscuits, tins, bottles (alcohol and non alcohol), jars, sweets, hats, toys, in fact anything. All can be left in a box at the back of the church or in the hall. The more the better.

3. Volunteers to design and prepare one large poster and signage that can be used on the night. Thank you, *Marie*

 **THE FOOD BANK** collection has now restarted and the green box for it is at the back of church. Thank you, *Jan Smith*

 **KNIT AND NATTER** Next meeting **Tuesday** **16th November**, 2-4 pm in the hall. All welcome. *Christina*

****CHRISTMAS FAIRS** For 25 years there has been a Christmas Fair in Tarrant Keyneston to raise funds for medical supplies to South Sudan, one of the poorest countries in the world. This year there are two fairs - **Saturday 27th November and Saturday 4th December** - and you are warmly invited to either or both. Please support either or both of these Fairs, as the people of South Sudan need our help now more than efver. Doctors working for the charity will be there to answer any questions For details, see the poster attached to this newsletter or in the church porch. Thank you! *Madeleine*

**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....**

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 You are blind like us. Your hurt no man designed,

 And no man claimed the conquest of your land.

 But gropers both through fields of thought confined

 We stumble and we do not understand.

 You, only saw your future bigly planned,

 And we, the tapering paths of our own mind,

 And in each other's dearest ways we stand,

 And hiss and hate. And the blind fight the blind.

 When it is peace, then we may view again

 With new-won eyes each other's truer form

 And wonder. Grown more loving-kind and warm

 We'll grasp firm hands and laugh at the old pain,

 When it is peace. But until peace, the storm.

 The darkness and the thunder and the rain.

- Charles Hamilton Sorley, *To Germany* 1915

Charles Hamilton Sorley, killed in action during the Battle of Loos in 1915, aged just twenty years

(contributed by Avis)

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"The Blessed Virgin Mary has the power of delivering souls from purgatory by her prayers and by applying her merits for them. This is especially true for souls who were devoted to her on earth."

 - St Bernadine of Siena

(contributed by Hilary)

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**Novena to Blessed Carlo Acutis**(1991-2006) Feast day 12 October

*Each day's prayer is preceded by a quotation from Blessed Carlo.*



Opening Prayer

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I thank you for all the grace and favours with which you enriched the soul of Blessed Carlo Acutis during his 15 years on earth.  Through the merits of this Angel of Youth, grant me the grace which I earnestly seek. (Ask the grace which you seek.)

Day 1

"Not me, but God."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you made your life a continual renunciation and setting aside of unimportant things, give me the grace to seek heavenly things and despise that which is transient.  Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 2

"Always to be united to Jesus, that is my life's programme."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you who have lived in the heart of Jesus, give me the grace to apply Jesus' plan of love to everything.  Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 3

"Continuously ask your Guardian Angel for help.  Your Guardian Angel has to become your best friend."

Blessed Carlo Acutis,  you who saw the company of Holy Angels while you were already in this world, give me the grace to live righteously, as my Guardian Angel desires.  Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 4

"Our soul is like a hot-air balloon... If by chance there is a mortal sin, the soul falls to the ground.  Confession is like the fire beneath the balloon enabling the soul to rise again.  .. It is important to go to confession often."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you who have lived this sacrament of reconciliation so well, give me the grace constantly to seek confession and the grace of a deep contrition.  Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 5

"Sadness is looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you who have never looked away from your great love, Jesus, give me the grace also to live with this happiness in this world.  Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 6

"The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you who have always asked God for what is essential, give me the grace of a deep desire for Heaven. Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 7

"The Virgin Mary is the only Woman in my life."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you who loved the Virgin Mary above all women,  give me the grace to respond to her kind and good love. Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 8

"The Eucharist is my highway to Heaven."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, you who have always looked for your hidden Jesus in the Tabernacle, give me the grace of a deep fervour for the Eucharist. Amen.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Day 9

"I am happy to die because I have lived my life without wasting a minute on those things which do not please God." Amen.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, give me that grace of graces - perseverance to the end and a saintly death.

*Pray five "Our Fathers", five "Hail Marys", and five "Glory be to the Fathers" to give thanks to God for the grace granted to Carlo in his earthly life.*

Final Prayer

Almighty God, Father of Mercy, raise your Servant Carlo Acutis,  to the glory of the altars, so that through him you will be even more glorified.  Give us the honour of calling him"Saint", for he lived Your Will in all things.  And through his merit, give me the grace that I so ardently desire.

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[For Blessed Carlo’s website: miracolieucaristici.org where you can find a video about the Eucharistic Jesus; see also apparizionidellamadonna.org; and carloacutis.com]