

Catholic Louth and Mablethorpe

S. Mary's Church

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S. Joseph's Church

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Thirty-first Week of Ordinary Time

Year A, Psalter Week III (5th November – 11th November 2023)

MASS TIMINGS AND INTENTIONS

Sunday the 5 th	Thirty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time 18.15 <i>Those in financial difficulties</i> S. Mary's 9.30 <i>Elsie and Alfred Appleby, & family</i> (++) S. Mary's 11.30 <i>The People</i> S. Joseph's
Monday the 6 th	Ferial
Tuesday the 7 th	S. Willibrord, bishop 10.00 <i>Narciso Dominici</i> (+) S. Joseph's 18.00 Scripture/Bible Studies S. Mary's
Wednesday the 8 th	Ferial 10.00 <i>Harry Millican</i> (+) S. Mary's
Thursday the 9 th	DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA 10.00 <i>Intentions of T. D.</i> S. Joseph's
Friday the 10 th	S. Leo the Great, pope and doctor 7.00 <i>Peace in the Holy Land</i> S. Mary's 15.00 Divine Mercy Chaplet S. Mary's
Saturday the 11 th	S. Martin of Tours, bishop 10.00 <i>Christians of the Holy Land</i> S. Mary's 10.45 Holy Hour of Adoration S. Mary's w/ the Holy Rosary 18.15 <i>The People</i> S. Mary's
Sunday the 12 th	Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time 9.30 <i>In Remembrance</i> S. Mary's 11.30 <i>In Remembrance</i> S. Joseph's

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

S. Mary's Saturday, 10.45 – 11.45 and 17.45 – 18.10

S. Joseph's Sunday, 12.45; last Sunday of the month, 10.30-11.25

SECOND COLLECTION

- This Sunday: **NONE**
- Next Sunday: **NONE**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those who are ill:

S. Mary's: Lea Small, Elizabeth Melling, Shirley Kirkham, Paddy Shillington, Ann Selby, Margaret & Robert Gwynne, Kevin Keeley, Mary & Roger Norburn, Jim Ellison, Judith Brook, Sally Shillington, Catherine Keeley, Pam Stephens, Diane Benton, Patricia & Spencer Harvey.

S. Joseph's: Joseph Wilson, Laura Guest, Odessa Louise-Therese, John Thompson, Shaun Hewson, Bill Smith, Winnie Copp, Owen Jenkinson and Thecla Domici.

Those who have died recently:

Sr. Helena (Mary Nuala) O'keeffe (+), Alice Cahill (+), John Keane (+), James Byrnes (+).

S. Mary's: Fredrick Weir (+), Michael Leary (+), Roger Dygas(+).

S. Joseph's: Irene Bray (+), Joan Gowling (+), Patrick Geoghegan (+).

Those whose anniversaries are this week:

Harold McIntosh (+), Emma Naiomi Green (+), William Wellesley Colley (+), Bernard Rice (+), Emily Maria Owen (+), Colleen Gwyneth Rosa Rawlings (+), Rosa Ellen Harrison (+), Catherine Sharp (+), Joseph Curtis (+), Kathleen Gaumalely (+), Harry Millican (+), Fr. William McEnery (+), Harry Younger (+), Mary Ellen Wimsey (+), Luke Rice (+), James Vincent Halligan (+), Andrea Hagan (+), Annie Johannsen (+) Gertrude King (+), Rosamund Dora Chambers (+).

NOTICES

- ❖ There will be **teas and coffees** after the 10.00 Mass on **Wednesdays** at Louth, and on **Thursdays** at Mablethorpe, and after the 9.15 Sunday Mass at Louth.
- ❖ The Holy Father's **address** following the recent synod of bishops in Rome and the **Synod Synthesis** are available to read on the noticeboard in the narthex at S. Joseph's.
- ❖ **For those at S. Mary's who wish to sing the parts of the Mass**, you will find the notes for the Kyrie (M2), the Gloria (M3), the Sanctus (M4) and the Agnus Dei (M9) in the hymnbook between 967 & 968.
- ❖ S. Joseph's, Mablethorpe will be holding a **Christmas Raffle** in December and donations of chocolates, wine, etc. would be greatly appreciated.
- ❖ There will be a **Christmas gathering** on Sunday, 26th November at 12.00 at the Miller's Daughter, Louth. Cost per person is £ 11.95. Please give your names and deposit to Siobh  n ASAP on 077 199 95161.
- ❖ A **Christmas Fair** will take place in S. Mary's Parish Centre on Saturday, November 18th from 14.00 to 18.00 and on

Sunday, November 19th after the morning Mass. Donations for the raffle and stalls would be greatly appreciated.

- ❖ **"Talking Philosophy & Theology: a Carmelite perspective"** meetings on Zoom have been planned for November to January. Please call for more information.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

- ❖ **Handel's Messiah by Candlelight** will be performed by Nottingham Cathedral Choir, orchestra, and special guests on Saturday 16th December at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Woodthorpe NG5 4HT, as part of the church's diamond jubilee celebrations. Please send e-mail for more information.
- ❖ **Aid to the Church in Need** is organising a **pilgrimage** to Durham, Jarrow, and other places in the north east, between 23rd and 27th July. Please call for more information.
- ❖ The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst is organising a **pre-Advent retreat, 'Why God Became Man'** between Friday 24th and Sunday 26th November. Information and registration is available online at www.ChristianHeritageCentre.com/events/.

SUNDAY XXXI OF ORDINARY TIME

Human communities need leaders | leadership is easily corrupted | corrupt leadership must be restored

Knowledge and instruction

“...it is well to emphasize and insist that for a priest there is no duty more grave or obligation more binding than [instruction of the Faithful]. Who, indeed, will deny that knowledge should be joined to holiness of life in the priest? The Church demands this knowledge of those who are to be ordained to the priesthood. Why? Because the Christian people expect from them knowledge of the divine law, and it was for that end that they were sent by God.” – Holy Father S. Pius X, *Acerbo nimis*, on Christian teaching

The Lord restores us

“It is You, Lord, Who cleanses us, as You did first with Your chosen, Moses. It is You Who looked over the tribe of Jacob in their sin and lawlessness, as they became accustomed to the dark pagan ways of the land of Egypt. It is You Who, in the words of the Psalmist David, teaches the sinner to walk in the law of righteousness. It is You Who replaces the stubborn, hardness of stony hearts, with the obedient softness of flesh, receptive to the Word. It is You Who can guide hearts to a single way, respecting You with their full lives. It is You Who instil respect, fear and faith, to heed You, according to the voice of the Prophet.” – S. Gregory Narek



Malachi and the rotten priests

“Bad and corrupted leaders can cause any community great ruin, and damage the life work of the people, and today the Sunday readings allow us to talk about corruption among leaders of a religious community. The Hebrew priests the prophet Malachi is condemning were not only to offer sacrifices for the people, but also to teach and demonstrate a strong moral character, like our own Catholic priests. But they failed, and became a scandal to the people. We can see from the Gospel reading that the religious leader of our Lord’s time – the Pharisees and scribes – taught the Law as of old, but by their own lives had become a scandal to the people. Here Christ condemns them roundly for their hypocrisy, their selfishness, their self-seeking. He sounds like Malachi. Obey their teaching, Christ says, because they have the authority of Moses, but do not copy the way they live. We have ourselves seen massive corruption in the Church in the last sixty years or so, when a relative handful of priests have committed such hideous sin as to grievously harm the whole people, and to forever damage the moral authority of the Church. And the moral life of the Church has suffered, as the catechesis we used to have from priests, religious Sisters, and parents has simultaneously vanished in many places. It seems that the warning of the prophet Malachi is as much ours today, as it was Israel’s in the prophet’s own time, or Jerusalem’s in the time of our Lord. Why would anybody today trust the priests of the Church? Because we know that a few sinful men does not tarnish the ideal. And we shall find the ideal of the Christian priesthood in our second reading today, from S. Paul, one of our first priests, a man who took the place of God for his people and could be called Father, Teacher and Rabbi: he was like a mother feeding and caring for her children, willing to give his life for them, a hard worker, and an evangelist. May he inspire new generations of priests and leaders to restore and rebuild the Church.”