



Marple Bridge



*I will make you
fishers of men.*

The Catholic Community Newsletter
for the parishes of
St Mary and **The Annunciation**
Marple Bridge and New Mills
with



New Mills

Ss. John Fisher & Thomas More
Chapel-en-le-Frith (serving Tideswell)

Clergy of the parishes

Fr. Kevin Gradwell (Tel 01298 813491)

Parochial Administrator

Deacon Don Lavery (Tel 07928 540884)

2 Horderns Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith, High Peak SK23 9ST

Email: chapelrc@hotmail.com  Twitter: @ChapelRC Emergency Contact: 07919374997

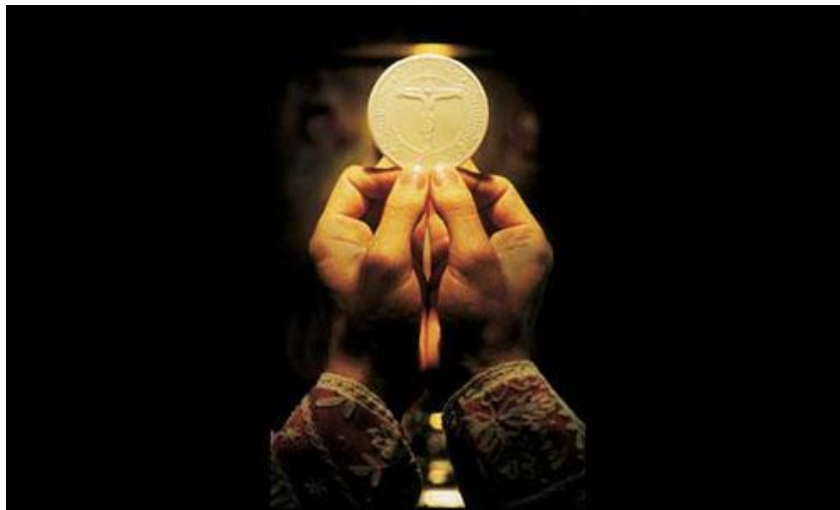


*God's Servant
first*

SUNDAY 12TH JULY 2020
15TH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

“The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.”

All Catholics respect and signify the importance and the epic role of the Holy Eucharist in creating and building a strong relationship between God and humankind.



Today, for the first time in many weeks, we can publicly celebrate this fact,
in the Church of the Annunciation at New Mills with Sunday Mass

Christ is with us.

Christ is at the heart of our Community.

Christ lives in us and is waiting for our return.

Visiting Christ in the Eucharist, whenever possible, should be part of our daily lives.

FIFTEENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Today we pray ...

O God, who show the light of your truth
to those who go astray,
so that they may return to the right path,
give all who for the faith they profess
are accounted Christians
the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ
and to strive after all that does it honour..

FIRST READING *ISAIAH 55:10-11*

The word that goes out from my mouth does not return to me empty

God's word is never lacking, never ineffective; the variable is our response. Human freedom is the only reality that can hamper God's word, but even then, the word is not outdone.

SECOND READING *ROMANS 8:18-23*

The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons

Paul mentions two types of suffering in this short reading: the sufferings that are an unavoidable part of normal life, and the 'groaning,' the restlessness and dissatisfaction that are the lot of the believer who knows that his or her heart will be restless until it rests in God.

GOSPEL *MATTHEW 13:1-23*

A sower went out to sow

The parable of the sower is the first full parable in Matthew's Gospel (and in Mk and Lk). It is the key to understanding all the others. Every parable is intended to elicit a response to God's word; in every instance, Christ the sower sows his word in the heart of the listener, who must choose whether or not to bear a harvest.

SEEING LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

1. Jesus uses parables to make people think about their own responses to his message. As you read this parable you may recognise that at different times you have been like each of the different types of soil. As you recall times when you presented fertile soil for the word of God, what helped you create that receptive atmosphere? What lessons for life do you get from that?
2. Parents with children, teachers with pupils, speakers with listeners, are all like sowers in a field where the preparation of the soil is up to another – the child, pupil or listener. They can sow the seed but cannot guarantee it will bear fruit. At times there may be a temptation not to try any more. The challenge is to sow in hope. When have you been surprised by the harvest you have reaped?
3. 'We are wasting our time here' may sometimes be the apparent wisdom in a group. Have there been times when you have gone against this apparent wisdom and seen your efforts bear fruit?

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

The repose of the soul of Catherine Cortvirend, late of Marple Bridge, who died this week; for Maureen Matthews of Marple Bridge and Dermot Carrol of Chapel, both of whom have recently been discharged from hospital; for Natalie, Jerome and Thomas Bell RIP of New Mills whose anniversaries occur this week; and, for Fr Daniel as he takes up his new role.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. DANIEL



BISHOP'S HOUSE
27 CAVENDISH ROAD EAST
THE PARK
NOTTINGHAM NG7 1BB

Telephone: 0115 947 4786
Fax No: 0115 947 5235
Email: bishop@nrcdt.org.uk

**TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST MARY'S AND THE ANNUNCIATION, MARPLE
BRIDGE AND ST MARY'S AND THE ANNUNCIATION, NEW MILLS**

**FOR INCLUSION IN THE PARISH BULLETIN AND WEBSITE THE WEEKEND
OF 11-12 JULY 2020**

7 July 2020

Dear Parishioners,

I have appointed Fr Daniel Palmer as Parochial Administrator of the parish of St Mary's and the Annunciation, Marple Bridge, and St Mary's and the Annunciation, New Mills. Fr Palmer will take up residence in the presbytery at Marple Bridge this weekend, 11-12 July.

Fr John Cairns has been informed, and he recognises the responsibility I have as Bishop to ensure stable pastoral care for the parishioners.

I know that you will make Fr Daniel very welcome and give him your full support. He has my full confidence. I know that he will look after you, pastorally, to the best of his abilities.

Finally, I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Fr Kevin Gradwell for all that he has done to serve you generously alongside his care for the parishioners in St John Fisher and St Thomas More, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

With prayer and good wishes,

Yours sincerely

Rt Rev Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham

FR. DANIEL PALMER

It is wonderful that the people of Marple Bridge and New Mills, once again, have a resident priest. It has concerned Bishop Patrick for some time and he hopes and trusts that you will not only make him welcome but, as he moves into a new house and a new job, wherever possible offer your assistance.

Many of you will know him from his time in the deanery and, more recently, as he (with Fr. Martin from Glossop) has taken the brunt of the work during the Covid lockdown.

It may seem obvious but say 'hello' and introduce yourself! Some priests may be blessed with an innate ability to remember faces and names after just one meeting (I certainly am not one and neither, I suspect, is Fr. Daniel, but most would appreciate if you say your name the first several times you meet them. Just remember, you are only meeting one new priest, he is meeting hundreds of new parishioners.

Fr. Daniel is now moving into St Mary's at Marple Bridge and should be contactable on **0161 427 2408**

Welcome, Fr. Daniel ... enjoy!

THE CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION AT NEW MILLS

Authority has now been granted to open The Annunciation New Mills for Public worship

Public Masses will take place,

Sundays 9-30 a.m.

Wednesday 4-30 p.m.

Fridays 11-30 a.m.

The church will be open 30 minutes before and after mass for quiet prayer and Because of limited capacity, and Government regulations, anyone wishing to attend Mass will have to pre-Book their place...

If people arrive without having pre-booked their place and the church is, or likely to be at capacity, unfortunately they will not be allowed in..

To book a place please ring 07561 699278, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, at least one day in advance of the service you wish to attend and one of our Parishioners will help.

Please be ready to give your name, contact details, and how many places needed -this is the only way places may be pre-booked

Services may only be booked 7 days in advance, and one service at a time. If the service you wish to attend is full (as is likely on Sundays), we will operate a priority list for following weeks

Please arrive at the service early, to allow time for the Stewards to show you to your allocated space. Social Distancing continues to operate in the Church, always keeping a distance of 2 Metres.

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION:

Please, if you are shielding, vulnerable or 'bubbling' with somebody in these categories, refrain from coming to church. It is important that you look after not only your own, but your family's health.

Our bishops have relaxed the rules of Sunday observance and have no intention of reintroducing the obligation to attend mass until such time as everybody can be safely accommodated in church.

OPENING FOR MASS AT MARPLE BRIDGE AND CHAPEL

Hopefully, as the rules for who may volunteer to be a steward have been relaxed a little, we shall be opening these churches in the very near future.

Thank you to all who have assisted in so many ways to bring about the opening of our churches.

KEEPING UP-TO-DATE

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have a magnificent and ever improving web site where you can keep up-to-date with what is going on in the church.

www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/news/

If you do nothing else this week and have access to the Internet, read and pray the articles on the first page. Only by reading articles like these will you truly come to know, love and live your faith.

A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO START THE DAY:

During the course of this week, a parishioner sent me a prayer card. The prayer itself makes a beautiful Morning Offering and, if said daily, should help us change our ways of life and become the type of people Christ wants us to be.

Prayer of St Benedict of Nursia

Bestow upon me,
 O gracious, O Holy Father
 intellect to understand You,
 perceptions to perceive You
 purely,
 reason to discern You,
 diligence to see You,

wisdom to find You,
 a spirit to know You,
 a heart to meditate upon You,
 ears to hear You,
 eyes to behold You,
 a tongue to proclaim You,
 a conversation pleasing to You,
 patience to wait for You

and perseverance to look for You.
 Grant me a perfect end –
 Your holy Presence.
 Grant me a blessed resurrection
 and Your recompense –
 everlasting life. Amen

If you are reading this on Saturday (11th July) you could not have a better day to start praying these wonderful words for this is the feast of St Benedict.

Benedict was born in Nursia, in Umbria, and studied in Rome; but he was unable to stomach the dissolute life of the city and became a solitary hermit at Subiaco. His reputation spread, and some monks asked him to be their abbot; but they did not like the discipline he imposed and tried to poison him.

Benedict organised various small communities of monks and nuns in various places, including the great monastery of Monte Cassino. He drew up a set of rules to guide the communal life of monasteries. Although this was not the first monastic rule ever, the Rule of St Benedict has proved so wise and balanced that it has served as the foundation of practically every attempt at communal living ever since – and not only in religious communities. The Rule of St Benedict recognises that people aim at perfection but often fall well short of it, and aims to be a “rule for beginners” in which even the least perfect and least able can grow in spiritual stature. To visit a Benedictine monastery of almost any kind is to find oneself spending time among a group of people who, by their strivings to live and grow together, have become more and more themselves, as God intended them, instead of being crushed into false uniformity by some idealistic and authoritarian regime.

For those of us in the world, too, the Rule of St Benedict has much to say: it drags our eyes up to the stars but keeps our feet firmly on the ground; it calls us to perfection but keeps us sane.

CHANGING OUR LIVES:

Should we take on board the prayer Of St. Benedict, we will certainly change internally and mentally grow closer to Christ but these mental changes must be put into practice and demonstrated in the way we actually live our lives and so become a lifelong personal mission.

This is easily achieved by joining one of the many Catholic social action groups and so work with like-minded people. You could subscribe to one of the following and receive their literature on a regular basis or get into the habit of visiting their web site(s) on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

ACN	Aid to the Church in Need www.acnuk.org
AoS	Apostleship of the Sea – Stella Maris Serving seafarers from across the world, www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk
CAFOD	Catholic Agency for Overseas Development www.cafod.org.uk
Justice & peace	Pax Christi: International Catholic Movement for Peace www.paxchriti.org.uk
MISSIO	Four Pontifical mission societies www.missio.org.uk
Pact	Prisoners-families-communities -a fresh start together www.prisonadvice.org.uk
SPUC	Society for the Protection of Unborn Children www.spuc.org.uk

These are but a few of the many charities that we could be taking an interest in and supporting; not just financially but, more importantly with our prayers. Here are a few lines where you can add the names of charities which focus on some aspect(s) of the Beatitudes:

PARISH FINANCES:

Despite the enforced lockdown and physical closure of our church buildings, we still have to keep the finances going in order to pay the bills. This is made more difficult because part of the weekly offertory (contributions via the plate, or by the envelope system) are struggling to reach us.

As the churches begin to open and services resume, those able to attend will notice that at Mass, there will be no Offertory Collection. Those attending will, however, be able to place their donation in a basket as they enter or leave church.

There is an alternative which makes things easier for all (including the Counters and those actually go to the bank): it allows parishioners who use digital/ online banking and which ensures that your offertory reaches us in due time.

It is quite easy for such parishioners to set up, through their own bank, a Standing Order in favour of the Church to ensure your offertory can still be received despite the lockdown or restricted access.

You can do this through your own phone or computer by you using the bank's own system to set up a Standing Order.

The details you need are:

1. **the Recipient** "Chapel en le Frith Catholic Church NRCDT"; or "St Mary & The Annunciation Parish NRCDT"
2. **the amount** which you can enter yourself; weekly or monthly; and
3. you need to put **your name** in the "reference" section so we can identify your payment.

The only other information you need is the parish **Sort Code** and **Account number**.

For data protection reasons those details cannot be printed here, but anyone wishing to proceed with this method is free to telephone:

For Chapel parish) - Peter Barnes on 01298 813102 or

For Marple Bridge and New Mills Jim Howell on 07775602258 or

email jim@bleakhouse.org.uk and they will be happy to supply this information.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and thank you to those who have found other ways of getting their weekly donation to me. Whatever else, please, do not worry about not being able to donate during the current circumstance: I, certainly, am not worrying

AND FINALLY:

Slowly, a new normal is emerging: a normal where clergy are working much closer together for the good of all. Hopefully, the new normal for the laity will be one where they/you will work much more closely with your Parish Priest; offering your talents, sharing the workload and helping to care for all around.

AND A FINAL FINALLY!

I've got the letter J stuck in my head ... I think it's his 60th Birthday next Saturday. Can you work it out?

Clues might be obtainable from Assunta, Veronica, Joe and many others around the parish.

Thank you for all, Fr. Kevin

Need a Priest in the High Peak?

Glossop	Fr. Martin Sylvester	01457 852113
Hadfield	Canon Don Bowdren	01457 852351
Marple Bridge & New Mills	Fr. Daniel Palmer	0161 427 2408
Chapel-en-le-Frith	Fr. Kevin Gradwell	01298 813491
Buxton	Fr. Gerry Murphy	01298 23777

Or during the Covid19 pandemic 01457 620272 Fr. Martin & Fr Daniel are on-call

COVID19 CAUTION

If you are in church and touch this Newsletter,

YOU MUST TAKE IT WITH YOU.

Please, if touched, do not leave it in church.