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23rd July 2023

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

16TH WEEK OF THE CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 22 July	5.30 pm	St George's	People of the Parish
Sun 23 July	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	In thanksgiving for Blessings received For Angelica, Ben & Luciana.
	6.00 pm	St George's	Deceased clergy, intentions
Mon 24 July	9.30 am	St George's	Theresa Stevens, for good health
Tue 25 July	9.30 am	St George's	Donor's intentions, St Anthony
Wed 26 July	9.30 am	St George's	Joe O'Donoghue for good health
Thu 27 July	9.30 am	St George's	Eddie Ryan RIP and the Holy Souls
Fri 28 July	9.30 am	St George's	Alappatt Joseph RIP
Sat 29 July	9.30 pm	St George's	For the recent victims of violence and war.
	5.30 pm	St George's	Ron and Sheilagh Goodman RIP
Sun 30 July	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Tricia Litherland RIP
	6.00 pm	St George's	Sarah Fortune RIP

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Jesus' parables were composed to ignite and stimulate our imaginations. As we contemplate them, their imagery and composition speak deeply to both our conscious and subconscious minds. They reveal that the truths of the kingdom cannot be assimilated simply cerebrally but need to enter our consciousness at a deeper level. The Parable of the Weeds invites us to ponder what the kingdom of God is like: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat' (vv.24-25)

In his commentary on this parable, St Gregory Palamas explains, 'Now, as the Lord himself explains, the [weeds are] the offspring of the evil one...The reapers are the angels...the servants of the King of heaven...: "Just as the darnel is collected and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of the world. The Son of Man...will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all evildoers and every cause of sin" [see vv.40-41]. "...the Lord's servants, the angels of God, seeing the darnel in the field, that is, wicked and impious folk...said to the Lord. "Do you wish us to go and gather it up?" [see V.28]. In other words, "Shall we kill them, to remove them from the earth?" But the Lord's reply was, "No, for fear that in collecting the darnel you may also uproot the wheat" [see v.29] 'How then would the wheat, the good people, be uprooted as well if the angels gathered up...the wicked...to separate them from the just? The fact is that many godless sinners who live among people who are upright and devout repent in time and are converted, and by learning new habits of piety and virtue they cease to be darnel and become wheat. 'And so some wheat would be uprooted...if the angels snatched the wicked away before they repented...This is why he who sees everything before it comes into being would not permit the darnel to be uprooted until the appointed time.'

Father, bless me with a heart that does not judge but prays for all who are lost.

PARISHIONERS WHO ARE NOT WELL: We have a number of parishioners who are not well, either at home or in hospital. Please pray for them that they may recover and feel a lot better. Please pray especially for any cancer sufferers that their treatment will be effective.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Now that First Holy Communion classes are finished. We can commence Children's Liturgy at our Sunday morning Family Mass. If any adult wishes to support Tammie in these classes, please speak to Tammie or Fr Alan for more information. Thank you.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY ONLY: 10:15 – 10:45

ADORATION before the Blessed Sacrament daily before the 9.30 am Mass and then other times as announced.-

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Tues 25 July: St James, Apostle

Wed 26 July: Sts Joachim & Anne, parents of
Blessed Virgin Mary

Sat 29 July: Sts Martha & Mary and Lazarus

Rooted in Love

Let them grow together until harvest. Matthew 13:30

If we are true to our call, Jesus refers to us as the "children of the kingdom" (verse 38) being sown into the world to bear fruit. How are we to respond to the weeds around us? How do we keep from being choked off, or even becoming more like weeds ourselves?

In the mystery of free will, Jesus is not here to smite every weed with a retributive dose of divine weed killer. Nor will he rototill the field to plow under the invasive plants. Rather he chooses to let the entire field mature to harvest, watching in the end to see what fruit may have resulted. It's likely that we'll be stuck among weeds throughout the growing season so we will struggle with temptation, endure sickness or even face persecution. But Jesus, our Sower and Saviour, is also with us in this field of the world, nourishing us so we may bear fruit despite the weeds.

Let's put our trust in him, and in the Spirit who intercedes for us, relying on the promise of God's extravagant Divine Mercy.

Steve Pable

CLERGY MOVES:

Our assistant priest Fr Jude Eze is being moved by our Bishop Patrick McKinney to Divine Infant of Prague Parish in Syston near Leicester.

Fr Clement from Syston is moving out of that parish.

Syston parish is to be joined with St Patrick's Parish in Leics.

Fr Raphael will be Parish Priest of both parishes and Fr Jude will work with him in serving the needs of the two parishes combined.

The Bishop has asked that this news is announced the weekend of 22nd/23rd July.

Fr Jude will take up residence in Syston for the weekend of 9th/10th September 2023.

OUR SCHOOLS:

As the staff and pupils go for the summer holidays, I would like to thank all who work so hard to educate our young people. At our own St George's Primary Academy we have had a great year. Pupils have made excellent progress with first class teaching and hard work and the leavers are well prepared to go onto secondary school.

We pray that all staff and pupils will be safe during the summer holidays and return refreshed for another great school year. Our numbers are very good and we have full classes right across St George's School.