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25th June 2023

12th WEEK OF THE CHURCH YEAR

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 24 June	5.30 pm	St George's	Joseph Uranie RIP (Mauritius)
Sun 25 June	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Leslie Wright RIP and John McClelland RIP (anniversaries)
	6.00 pm	St George's	For local children with serious illness
Mon 26 June	9.30 am	St George's	Priest's own intention
Tue 27 June	9.30 am	St George's	O'Neill, Hamlet and Lilley; deceased of the family
Wed 28 June	9.30 am	St George's	In thanksgiving, St Anthony
Thu 29 June	9.30 am	St George's	Afzal Moghal RIP
	7.00 pm	Holy Spirit	Holy Souls and donor's intention, Sacred Heart of Jesus
<i>Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles. Holy Day and Day of Prayer for Pope Francis</i>			
Fri 30 June	9.30 am	St George's	For victims of recent war, disaster and violence
	2.00 pm	St George's	Funeral service: Anna Henschcliffe RIP
Sat 01 July	9.30 pm	St George's	Sp. Intention for Heather (A Eadie)
	5.30 pm	St George's	Marie & Margaret Doolan RIP
Sun 02 July	9.30 am	St George's	Kathleen and Tom Connolly RIP
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	In thanksgiving for Fr Peter Peterken, 70 years of Ministry
	6.00 pm	St George's	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Those given to excessive worry or anxiety often say, 'But I can't help it!' They protest that they're at the mercy of their fears and their overwhelming sense of impending doom. They complain that 'people just don't understand' and they largely resign themselves to fretting about all manner of things.

It's striking that, right in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount, we encounter a teaching on this most human of tendencies; the propensity to give way to anxiety and worry. Jesus' teaching echoes the Ten Commandments, where we're taught: do not murder, steal or commit adultery, etc (Exod. 20:3-17). In a similar way, in the Sermon on the Mount we're taught do not worry. The Lord commands us not to worry, except that it's not a command, but an invitation, an invitation grounded in reason.

When it comes to worrying, we're encouraged by the Lord to apply what we could call 'kingdom logic'. Kingdom Logic is an antidote to all kinds of anxiety and worry. Since God feeds the birds of the air and clothes the lilies of the field, how much more will he take care of his children, created in his image and likeness (Gen 1:26)? God is our Father and knows everything. He even knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows our past, our present and our future. He knows our every need (v.30). Excessive worriers, it could be said, often have too much time on their hands. Their focus is often self-centred and not God-centred. This is why Jesus encourages us to seek God's kingdom and righteousness first. Seeking God's kingdom gets our minds off ourselves and on to God and serving others. Winston Churchill wisely said this about worry: 'When I look back on all these worries, I remember the story of the old man who said on his deathbed that he had a lot of trouble in his life, most of which had never happened.'

Lord, preserve and protect me from being overly worried or anxious about my life. Teach me to trust in my heavenly Father, who knows all my needs and to cast all my cares and concerns on him.

PILGRIMAGES: Please pray for all our pilgrims as they journey to the following events: **To Rodsley**, the local Derbyshire pilgrimage in honour of St Ralph Sherwin on Sunday, 25 June at 3 pm. **To Padley** on Sunday 9th July in honour of our Derbyshire martyrs, Nicholas Garlick, Robert Ludlam and Richard Simpson. **To Lourdes** in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, from 16th-21st July.

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.

2ND COLLECTION for Peter's Pence is to be taken at all Masses next weekend.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Wed 28 June: Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

Thurs 29 June: Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Sat 1st July: Saint Oliver Plunket, Bishop & Martyr

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: The funeral service for Anna Henschcliffe will take place at St George's on Friday, 30th June at 2 pm.

An Aware God

Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge....So do not be afraid: you are worth more than many sparrows. Matthew 10:29,31

One of the toughest challenges of our lives of faith comes from the most difficult of human circumstances – death.

Especially when someone young dies, or when nations are torn by war, we often hear the question (perhaps from our own lips): What kind of God allows this?

There is no easy answer to pain and loss, and we shouldn't pretend there is. "God took them because it was their time" is not often a helpful response to a grieving person. But what we do know and have been promised is that God is aware of our pain. It does not go unnoticed. And what we know from experience and the testimony of others is that God will be with us in our pain. Our God of awareness and consolation is the rock to which we cling.

Be my rock, O Lord.

Steve Givens

LIVING FAITH: Copies of Living Faith, daily Catholic Devotions for July, August and September are available at church. Please take your copy and place your donation in the box. As always this little book is full of inspiring thoughts based on a Bible reading of the Mass of the day.

EXAMS, G.C.S.E. and A Level: We are asked to remember in our prayers all our young people who have been sitting these very important examinations. Let us pray that they will be successful in the outcome, the results which will very much influence their future careers. It is a stressful time and we pray that these young people will receive all the help and support they need both from families and teachers and universities.

CONFIRMATION, SUNDAY 2ND JULY 3pm: Because of the larger numbers than we expected our Bishop Patrick has agreed to celebrate Mass with Confirmation at St George's at 3 pm on Sunday, 2nd July. All our candidates and their families have been informed and we look forward to our Bishop being with us for a lovely celebration of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please continue to pray for our candidates that they will be strengthened and renewed in the Holy Spirit as they continue their Catholic/Christian journey in faith.