

# *St Teresa & St John Southworth Churches, Cleveleys*

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## **Sunday : 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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### **Gospel:**

#### **Matthew: 13:24-33**

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" 'Some enemy has done this' he answered. And the servants said, 'Do you want us to go and weed it out?' but he said, 'No, because when you weed it out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest, and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.' "

#### **Reflection :**

Does anything grow in your garden, besides washing?

There is a bit of bad in the best of us, and a lot of good in the worst of us.

People's strengths have their own weaknesses. A generous person is sometimes hot-tempered, and a placid person may seem cold and unfeeling.

Weeds and wheat, weeds and flowers, all grow in the farmer's field, and God sees more of the colour and the growth than the weeds - as He does with us. In fact, with God's love and grace, and our cooperation, the good can overcome the bad. For when God looks at life, He sees the life totally, and the bad is lost and forgiven in the good.

"Let them both grow till harvest time," God says, otherwise if you cut everything, you will do violence to the field. So, even if my dirty washing and not much else is out in the open field - "O God of patience, help me to be more patient with myself."

## Notices

\* **A very big thank you** for all your church collection money you gave at Mass last weekend in both our parishes, for all that was handed in the weeks previous to that, and for those who took out bank mandates during the lock-down Your generosity and thoughtfulness really does help.

\* **Congratulations to those who are winners in St. Teresa's 100 Club draw, for the past four months :**

March : John Dover £15, Sue Cowell £10, Eileen O'Connor £5  
April : Charlotte Benson £15, Veronica Brady £10, Frances O'Mara £5  
May : Helen Meehan £15, Gerard Harring £10, Phil Gooden £5  
June : Brian Tickle £15, Pat Bonnar £10, Gerard Brimelow £5

**Please note :**

- **Tracking and Tracing** : Each time you enter church for Mass you will be asked for your name and telephone number. Apologies for any inconvenience, but this is now asked of us for the purposes of Tracking and Tracing.

**Saturday Mass** : Please note that there is now no Saturday 9.30 am morning Mass at St.Teresa's.

### **The Lancaster Diocese Pilgrimage To Lourdes**

Because of the Corona Virus this annual event has had to be cancelled. However, the Lancaster Diocese Pilgrimage Committee are going to present a 'virtual pilgrimage' during the week of 24th July - 1st August 2020, when the Lourdes pilgrimage should have taken place. The attached itinerary (below) shows the Masses and Services planned for the week.

The 'virtual pilgrimage' will primarily be accessed through the pilgrimage facebook page, with prompts and reminders being posted before the events

: [www.facebook.com/Lancaster Lourdes Pilgrimage](https://www.facebook.com/LancasterLourdesPilgrimage). Links will be posted on the pilgrimage website at [www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk](http://www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk), and the Diocesan website [lancasterdiocese.org.uk](http://lancasterdiocese.org.uk).

The following are the Masses and Services for the week.

### **DIocese OF LANCASTER LOURDES VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE 2020**

#### **'I AM THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION'**

Friday 24th July	Welcome and Introduction (video) – Bishop Paul	18.00
Saturday 25th July	Opening Mass – Remembrance of deceased pilgrims	15.00
	Bishop Paul. (Live stream from Lancaster Cathedral)	
	<b>Way of the Cross (video) 17.00</b>	
	<b>Philip Wrigley - Seminarian</b>	
Sunday 26th July	Testimonies & Messages (video) - Pilgrimage Team/Pilgrims	15.00
	Mass (Live stream from Grotto in Lourdes)	16.00
Monday 27th July	Grotto Mass	11.00
Fr Peter Sayer.	(Live stream from St Thomas More Grotto)	
	Rosary (Live stream from the Sanctuaries, Lourdes)	14.00
Tuesday 28th July	Mass for the Sick	10.00
	Fr Philip Connor. (Live stream from St Josephs, Lancaster)	

	Holy Hour - 2020 Theme, 'I am the Immaculate Conception' Fr John Paul Evans. (Live stream from Lancaster Cathedral)	19:00
Wednesday 29th July	Mass for Vocations Fr John Moriarty. (Live stream from Castlerigg Manor)	12.00 noon
	Youth (video) 'Looking forward to Lourdes 2021' Jack Regan - Director of Youth	15.00
	Marian Procession & Rosary (video) 21.00 Please light a candle in your home during this event	
Thursday 30th July	Mass of Farewell Bishop Paul. (Live stream from Lancaster Cathedral)	11.00
	Thank you & looking forward to Lourdes 2021 (video) Linda Wisdom – Director of Operations	13.00
Saturday 1st August	<b>We end our week with 'Photo Memories of Lancaster Diocese In Lourdes' (video)</b>	<b>13.00</b>

**Please note the reflections for the week start on the next page**

## **Daily Reflections for this week**

### **Monday (The Talmud)**

An aged man, whom Abraham hospitably invited into his tent, refused to join him in prayer to the one spiritual God. Learning that he was a fire-worshipper, Abraham drove him from his door. That night God appeared to Abraham in a vision and said "I have borne with that ignorant man for seventy years; could you not have patiently suffered him one night?"

### **Scripture (Wisdom 12:13,16-19)**

*There is no God, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, and your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you confound any insolence in those who do not know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people, how the virtuous must be kindly to others, and you have given your children the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.*

### **Tuesday (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)**

Above all we should avoid getting absorbed in the present moment, and foster that peace of mind that springs from noble thoughts, measuring all things by them. Alas, there are so few who are capable of it, and that is what makes it so hard to put up with our fellow human-beings. It is weakness rather than wickedness that degrades a person, and it needs profound sympathy to put up with that. But all the time God still reigns in heaven.

### **Scripture (Romans 2:1-4)**

*So no matter who you are, if you pass judgement you have no excuse. It is yourself that you condemn when you judge others, since you behave in the same way as those you are condemning. When you judge those who behave like this while you are doing the same yourself – do you think you will escape God's condemnation? Or are you not disregarding his abundant goodness, tolerance and patience, failing to realise that this generosity of God is meant to bring you to repentance?*

### **Wednesday (St. Teresa of Avila)**

Before prayer, endeavour to realise whose presence you are approaching and to whom you are about to speak, keeping in mind whom you are addressing. If our lives were a thousand times as long as they are we should never fully understand how we ought to behave towards God, before whom the angels tremble, who *can* do all he wills, and with whom to wish is to accomplish. Ought we not to rejoice in these perfections and to learn to know him and what our lives should be? Why should I be prevented from knowing who this man is, who is his Father, what are the riches he promises to endow me with?

### **Scripture (Psalm 86:5-10,15-16,18)**

*Lord, you are kind and forgiving, rich in faithful love for all who call upon you. Among the gods there is none to compare with you, no great deeds to compare with yours. All nations will come and adore you, Lord, and give glory to your name. For you are great and do marvellous deeds, you, God, and none other. You, Lord, God of tenderness and mercy, slow to anger, rich in faithful love and loyalty, turn to me and pity me. My enemies will see to their shame that you, Lord, help and console me.*

### **Thursday (John Main, OSB)**

Reality stretches far beyond the frontiers of our limited experience and in time we come humbly to realise that a greater whole actually contains our experience. Dogmatism, fundamentalism, rigidity, the closed mind or heart, are signs of an attempt to avoid the challenge to be continually sensitive to the unfolding of our destiny and to co-operate with it. Whatever befalls us, the divine perspective is a redeeming reality because all possible human experience, every kind of reality, has been shot through with Christ's redeeming love.

### **Scripture (John 3:11-12,14-17)**

*Jesus said, 'In truth I tell you, we only speak about what we know and witness only to what we have seen and yet you people reject our evidence. If you do not believe me when I speak about earthly things, how will you believe me when I speak about heavenly things? The Son of man must be lifted up so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For this is how God loved the world: he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but so that through him the world may be saved.*

### **Friday (Thomas a Kempis)**

*Christ speaks to the disciple:* St. Paul did whatever lay within his power to bring instruction and salvation to others, but even he could not escape being misjudged and despised by others. Accordingly he trusted himself wholly to God, who knows all things, and used the shield of patience and humility against the unjust accusations, empty lies and vain boasts of his detractors. Why should you fear mortals? Today they

are here; tomorrow they are gone for ever. Keep God always before you, and do not engage in bitter controversies. Even if for the present you seem to suffer defeat and undeserved disgrace, raise your eyes to me in heaven, for I have power to deliver you from all shame and wrong.

**Scripture (Isaiah 55:7-9)**

*Let the wicked man abandon his way, and the evil one his thoughts. Let him turn back to Yahweh who will take pity on him, to our God, for he is rich in forgiveness. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways, declares the Lord. For the heavens are as high above the earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.*

**Martin Bennett**