

Parish Finances Nobody likes to talk Finance, but we need to tell you honestly, that our finances are sadly damaged by the Virus Crisis. (income down and usual bills still needing to be paid) We are still unable to hire out the Parish halls and the collections at Sunday Mass haven't taken place since March (no public masses were possible until very recently). We incurred extra costs in order to open and to keep us safe [P.P.E.]. Our thanks to all who have continued to pay by standing order at this time. And to those who have sent donations in lieu of their normal offertory. If you would like to take out a Standing Order or make a Gift Aid Declaration, please contact the relevant Parish office.

Achieve Africa Draw in Swindon: You will, of course, remember that sometime before lockdown, we advertised a draw for a valuable bottle of whisky tickets are still available from Fr Isidore in Swindon. The winning ticket will be drawn at 1.30pm on Sunday 16th August in the Convent next door to the church.

Parish Office The Parish Offices will remain closed to the public; BUT any queries can be made by email, which will continue to be answered. There will be someone to answer the phone in person on a Friday morning only in St Peter's. Our contact details are below. *If you require a priest in an emergency, please phone St Peter's Church on 01285 652087*

Parking at St Peters: If you regularly park your car on St Peters drive; will you please ensure that there is enough room for someone to park next to your car and get out! There is enough room for at least three cars on each side; thank you.

Requirements for Opening WE ARE ONLY ABLE TO OPEN THE CHURCHES, IF WE HAVE AT LEAST 2 STEWARDS FOR EACH MASS. WE ALL NEED TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF OUR CHURCH; THEREFORE, IDEALLY, WE WOULD LIKE DIFFERENT VOLUNTEERS FOR EACH OCCASION, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. WE ALSO REQUIRE CLEANERS AFTER EACH MASS. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP. THANK YOU.

CAFOD: As an active part of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), CAFOD has launched a nationwide Coronavirus Appeal. We are asking the Catholic community to keep those worst affected in their prayers and, where possible, their alms giving. These are troubled times for all of us, but some suffer more than others. No one should feel obliged to give, but please help if you can with your money and your intercession. There is a basket at the back for your donation, if you wish.

CONTACT US

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ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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SUNDAY XVII 'through the Year' (YEAR A)

WORSHIP FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 25th Jul. 6.00pm Vigil Mass in St Peter's
Sun 26th Jul. 9.00am Mass in St Michael's (In thanksgiving)
11.00am Mass in St Peter's (Pro Populo)

Weekdays

Mon 27th Jul. Feria of Week XVII [Year 2 readings]
NO PUBLIC MASS
Tues 28th Jul. Feria
Mass 9.30am in St Peter's
Traditional Latin Mass 6.00pm in St Peter's
Wed 29th Jul. St Martha of Bethany
Mass 10.00am in St Michael's (RBH's intentions)
Thurs. 30th Jul. Feria
Mass 9.30am in St Peter's
Fri. 31st Jul. St Ignatius of Loyola
Mass 9.30am in St Peter's
Traditional Latin Mass Noon in St Peter's
Sat. 1st Aug. St Alphonsus
Mass 10.00am in St Michael's



CONFESSIONS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY AT PRESENT

NEXT XVIII SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – Year A

Sat 1st Aug. 6.00pm Vigil Mass in St Peter's
Sun 2nd Aug. 9.00am Mass in St Michael's
11.00am Mass in St Peter's (Pro Populo)

WE WELCOME EVERYONE, WHETHER RETURNING AFTER THE CLOSURE OR VISITING OUR PARISH FOR THE FIRST TIME. WE WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY AND HOLY WORSHIP WITH US

Due to advice from the Diocese the following has been put in place: -

- There will be baskets at the back of the church to put your offering and charity donations on leaving
- the church
- Hymn books, Mass cards etc. are not being used at present and everything you need is on this sheet. Please take your newsletter home with you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING

MASS TEXTS

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (*And, striking their breast, they say*) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore, I ask Blessed Mary Ever-Virgin all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most-High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading

1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12

Responsorial Psalm

Lord how I love your law

Second Reading

Romans 8:28-30

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is, seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come and judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Act of Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things, and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul, so that I may unite myself wholly to you, now and forever. Amen.



Father Philip writes Solomon is famous for his wisdom, the “discerning heart” of our first reading. Some who listened to the Lord’s parables had this discerning heart and faith in Christ came to them and they understood what He meant. Traditionally, the Church calls this practical wisdom “Prudence”. It is one of the 4 Cardinal Virtues, along with Temperance, Justice and Courage. When added to the 3 Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity, these 7 form a pattern for living on a daily basis. Prudence/Wisdom is a practical skill of telling

right from wrong, good from bad, the valuable from the worthless, the beautiful from the ugly and the true from the false. Thus in His parables this Sunday, the Saviour tells of a wise person who finds something in a field and realises it is treasure and to be prized. Likewise, the wise merchant recognises the pearl of great price. Discerning the value and importance of Jesus Christ (for He is our Treasure), they give up everything and follow Him. It takes prudence to see the truth of the Parable of the Drag Net, in which Christ once again speaks of the mixed nature of the people in the Church. He also warns of God’s judgement, His wise discernment of whether folk truly belong in His Kingdom or not. We need to develop and practice this skill of prudence. The Holy Spirit will help us in this endeavour, cleansing our sight of the pollution of sin and enlarging our love, so that we can see more clearly the right path, the loving action and the truth behind the appearances. This wisdom will help us live holy and upright lives day to day.

Please remember in your prayers:

- The College of Bishops worldwide: that they may lead us wisely in working for the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven.
- Nations afflicted by poverty, famine, injustice and disease, especially Covid 19: that they may be prudent in their use of resources, human and natural.
- Our local communities: that there may be a fairer distribution of food and the earth’s bounty.
- Ourselves: that our practical judgement may make us choose the hidden treasure of faith and prayer.
- The Salisbury parishes: that they may pursue prayer, communion and mission in equal measure.
- The needy of mind, body and soul, the isolated and their carers: that God’s loving kindness may be known to all
- The Dead in Christ: that they may be healed of sins wounds and live with God for ever.

