**St. Andrew’s Catholic Church, Tenterden**

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 7th/8th September 2019**

**Twenty-third Sunday of the Year (C)**

**First Reading: Wisdom 9: 13-18** The author affirms that we cannot learn the counsel of God or discern his will because our understanding is limited. But there is no need to despair because God gives us wisdom and the Holy Spirit.

**Psalm 89 Response:**  O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

**Second Reading: The Letter of St Paul to Philemon 9-10, 12-17** Writing to Philemon Paul acknowledges the master’s right to the slave, but adds that Onesimus has become a Christian and so should consider him as a brother.

**Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33** The parable of the man desiring to build a tower and the king going to war teach us the lesson that if we cannot finish, then better not to start. This applies also in the case of becoming a disciple of Jesus.

**10.30 Mass Offertory hymn no.308** - we have not sung this for quite a long time, but as it is simply repeated several times it is easy to pick up!  We will be singing it again next week to re-establish it in our repertoire.

The 8th September is the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady. It is not celebrated as such when it falls on a Sunday as it does this year, but we acknowledge it at the end of all the weekend Masses by singing Hymn 29 in honour of Our Lady.  Her birth is not mentioned in the modern canon of scripture, but is recorded in the 2nd Century "Protoevangelium of James"

**Father John writes:**

I’ve taken my sore ankles to Swanage! The doctor says it’s arthritis – something new for me!

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased:** Michele McKinnon.

**Those ill or infirm:** Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Eric Booth, Patricia Hook Elena Peck (senior), Marjorie Dumbleton (in hospital) and Josie Payne.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Matilda Hannah, Mary Nolan, Helena Gilkerson, Alan Catlow, Anne Holmes, ‘Bunny” Horton, Jocelyn Stevenson, Philomena Curtin, Doreen Richardson and John (Christian) Gray.

**This week’s events**

Canon Michael Bunce will be celebrating the Masses this weekend and next.

The **second collection this weekend** is for the Catholic Education Service.

**New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week.** The PREDA Foundation (People’s Recovery, Empowerment and Development Assistance Foundation) in the Philippines is a shining example of Christianity in action. Founded by Irish Columban priest and three times nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize, Fr Shay Cullen, PREDA tirelessly works to rescue children, girls and women held in prisons and brothels, starving children, abandoned children, children trapped by poverty, and give them new lives. In the face of constant harassment, including frequent death threats by mafia and international child-trafficking rings, Fr Shay and the PREDA team vigorously promote respect for human rights, and work to build peace and harmony through Fair Trade. Access the PREDA website via [www.NewPilgrimPath.ie](http://www.NewPilgrimPath.ie)

**A message from Jose Payne**: It is with sadness and regret that, owing to ill health, I am unable to continue running the monthly coffee morning. Many thanks to all those who have supported me.

**This week’s services**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Date** | **Feast** | **Time/Detail** |
| Saturday | 7th September | Feria | 6:00pm Vigil Mass of Sunday |
| Sunday | 8th September | Twenty-third Sunday (C) | 8:30am Mass  10:30am Mass |
| Monday | 9th September | St Peter Claver, Priest | 10:00am Liturgy of the Word |
| Tuesday | 10th September | Feria | No Mass today |
| Wednesday | 11th September | Feria | 10:00am Liturgy of the Word followed by Adoration |
| Thursday | 12th September | Feria | No Mass today |
| Friday | 13th September | St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church | 10:00am Liturgy of the Word followed by Adoration |
| Saturday | 14th September |  | 6:00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sunday | 15th September | Twenty-fourth Sunday (C) | 8:30am Mass  10:30am Mass |

**Next week’s responsibilities (14th/15th September)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **6:00pm Saturday** | **8:30am Sunday** | **10:30am Sunday** |
| **Reader** | Pat S | Suzanne V | Kathleen B |
| **Extra-ordinary Ministers** |  | Allan Shipton  Peter Lonergan | Lorraine Sharp  Liz Dumbleton |
| **Flowers** | TBA | **Cleaners** | Val Broad & Bea |

**Regular activities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Event | Where | When |
| Mothers’ Prayers | The Parish Room | Tuesdays at 4.30pm |
| Choir practice | St Andrew’s Church | Wednesdays at 7.00pm |

**Forthcoming events**

There will be a **second collection next weekend** for the support of the **Home Mission.**

The **next Christian Breakfast Meeting** will be on **September 21st**, 2019, 8.30-10.30am. Gehad Homsey will be talking about the Mercy Ships Charity and it will be held at the **Zion Baptist Church**. The cost is £10 and includes a full breakfast!

And finally, some inspirational thoughts…

There's never a year nor a season that prayer may not bless every hour, and never a soul need be helpless when linked with God's infinite power.   
Frances McKinnon Morton, The Meaning of Prayer

There’s no such thing as a small act of kindness.

Author unknown.

Before preparing to improve the world, first look around your own home three times.   
Chinese Proverb