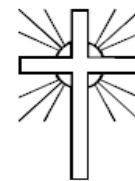


ALL SAINTS, OLD GLOSSOP, AND ST MARY CROWNED, GLOSSOP

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM

REGISTERED OFFICE: WILLSON HOUSE, 25 DERBY ROAD, NOTTINGHAM. NG1 5AW

COMPANY NUMBER 7151646 CHARITY NUMBER 1134449



# TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF 2019

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019

## **Thoughts from today's Readings:**

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 12 : 5-7, 11-13**

Chapter 11 has detailed the faith of Old Testament figures - Abraham, Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, Moses, Rahab - and mentioned others, such as Samuel and the prophets.

In chapter 12 the author writes of Jesus who leads us in faith. He is the final messenger and in him we find courage to face the evils of our world.

*Today's reading changes direction.*

Courage becomes encouragement, love becomes correction - and we are children of God who need correction. The unpleasant verses 8-10 are omitted but the argument remains: you must be prepared to suffer at the hands of God, but to see such suffering as loving correction.

It is an unpleasant reading, though its intention is good: God loves us, wants us to grow in love and faith, but the God reflected is a disciplinarian. This is not the Father spoken so lovingly of by Jesus, but someone pictured by a lesser mind. "God is love" says St. John.

It would be hard to summarise Hebrews' vision of God in the same way.

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 13 : 22-30**

There are several themes in today's Gospel.

The narrow door is for everyone to try, the people have not been true to the faith of the patriarchs and the prophets, the world is now to hear what Israel heard first.

Matthew (7:13-14) speaks of a narrow gate and a hard road, but today's reading imagines a narrow door into a house. (Did Jesus use both images in his teaching?)

Luke then develops the image to the Lord inside the house with the door locked.

Merely walking the streets of the Holy Land, says Jesus, is no guarantee of entering the house: only those true to faith will find the way, whatever part of the world they come from.

The Gentiles, seemingly rejected by God's choice of Israel, will also have their places in Heaven.

Matthew's parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins has a similar conclusion. We recall that these two Gospel accounts were written about 75-85AD and a strong awareness of salvation for the whole world would have taken hold.

The apostles had thought that Jesus' message was only for Israel (Acts 10:34-35): now they understand better. God's love is for the whole world.

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## **Contemplation on the Readings:**

The narrow door of salvation reminds us of the necessity of all to be committed to receiving this gift. The image does not say that God wishes to make it difficult to obtain salvation, but it emphasizes the co-responsibility of men and women, the reality of the effort involved in this commitment to obtain salvation.

According to Cyprian, going through the narrow door means a transformation:

*"Who does not wish to be transformed as soon as possible into the image of Christ?"*

The image of the narrow door is a symbol of the work of transformation to which the believer is committed through a slow and progressive effort on him/herself in order to refine him/herself and be molded by the Gospel. More correctly, the one who does not commit him/herself to any kind of reciprocal relationship with God, with others and with the world, risks perdition.

Often the temptation is to propose other doors, seemingly easier and more useful, like those of selfishness, avoiding God's friendship and relationships with others. Are you committed to build relationships or are you intent on being selfish? Are you convinced that salvation is offered you through the relational dimension of communion with God and others?

Salvation is possible for all. Everyone may attain it, but such a gift from Jesus requires an effective and personal response from us. In Jesus' teaching we do not find the use of any threat to render people aware regarding salvation, but only an invitation to be fully aware of the extraordinary and irreversible opportunity of the gift of mercy and life before God and in dialogue with Him.

Towards what and towards whom is your life pointing? How do you use your freedom? Are you able to welcome God's invitation to be co-responsible for your salvation or have you surrendered to waste and perdition?

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**Parish Clergy** PP: Fr Martin Sylvester, STB, MA Tel: 01457 852113  
**Postal address** Royle House, Church St, Glossop, Derbyshire, SK13 7RJ  
**Parish Newsletter Editor** Liz Nash **Sub-Editor** Maddy Brown  
**Website** www.glossopcatholics.org.uk  
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**Parish events this week**

**SMC = St Mary Crowned Church AS = All Saints Church SMS = St Mary's School**

**Sat 24<sup>th</sup> August** 6.00 pm AS Holy Mass (Rev Michael Murray RIP)

**Sun 25<sup>th</sup> August** Twenty-First Sunday of the year - Readings p. 127  
9.15 am SMC Holy Mass (Margaret Clarke – Birthday Blessing (CW))  
11.15 am AS Holy Mass (People of the Parish)

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Aug** Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God, Priest  
10.00 am AS Holy Mass (Eileen Tagg RIP (M & D T))

**Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Aug** St Monica  
10.00 am SMC Holy Mass (Doreen Leech – Special Intention (AW))

**Weds 28<sup>th</sup> Aug** St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor  
**12 noon SMC Funeral Service (Pauline Kaiser RIP)**  
Please pray for today's meeting of the PPC

**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Aug** The Passion of St John the Baptist  
**9.00 am SMC Holy Mass (Anne-Marie McLean RIP)**  
Please pray for today's Day of Recollection for Priests

**Fri 30<sup>th</sup> August** Dedication of the Cathedral  
10.00 am AS Holy Mass (Ernest Hall RIP)  
7.45 pm SMC Prayer Group

**Sat 31<sup>st</sup> August** 10.00 am SMC Exposition & Sacrament of Reconciliation  
10.45 am SMC Benediction  
5.15–5.45pm AS Sacrament of Reconciliation  
6.00 pm AS Holy Mass (Patrick Shanahan RIP)

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Sept** Twenty-Second Sunday of the year - Readings p. 130  
9.15 am SMC Holy Mass (Fr Owen Gallagher – Shrewsbury Diocese; Ordained July 2019; Former Head of RE at SPH)  
11.15 am AS Holy Mass (People of the Parish)

**Our offerings last week:** Thank you for your generosity.

	Loose	Envelopes	S/O	Total
All Saints	£74.40	£113.00	£120.00	£307.40
St Mary's	£161.00	£205.00	£261.00	£627.00

**Many thanks for your continued support for the Retired Priests' Fund: AS £47.55; SMC £34.50**

**Parish Diary - for the next few months:**

<b>Sept 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning at Bradbury House
<b>Sept 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Baptism Course Part 1, All Saints, 4 – 5.30pm
<b>Oct 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Baptism Course, Part 2, All Saints, 4 – 5.30pm
<b>Nov 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Let's Act Drama Group: THE NEW PLAY at 6pm
<b>Nov 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Let's Act Drama Group: THE NEW PLAY Matinee at 3pm
<b>Nov 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Shared Christmas Fayre, St Mary's Hall

**Parish Rotas: Weekend of 31<sup>st</sup> August / 1<sup>st</sup> Sept'ber**

**Sacristans:** All Saints, 6pm Monica & David; 11am Ann & Len; St Mary's, Chris;  
**Welcomers:** All Saints, 6pm Claire; 11am Sue B; St Mary's, TBA;  
**Ministers:** All Saints, 6pm Monica & David; 11am TBA;  
St Mary's, TBA;  
**Readers:** All Saints, 6pm, TBA, 11am TBA; St Mary's, TBA;  
**Bidding Prayers:** Andrew (following week – Chris)

**Coffee Morning: September 14<sup>th</sup>:**

Donations gratefully received for the stalls – Raffle, Tombola, Bric-a-Brac, Books and CAKES on the day, Thank you!!

**A Request from the NHS – Bleed for the People you Care About**

The NHS are holding a Blood Donor Session at Glossopdale High School, Newshaw Lane, Hadfield, Glossop, SK13 2DA on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August. The session will run from 12.50 – 15.15 and 16.35 – 19.15.

You can book an appointment to donate blood by phoning 0300 123 2323, or online at [blood.co.uk](http://blood.co.uk)

Please consider donating and pass the message on to anyone you know who may be able to help others in this way.

Thank you!!