

From Sunday's Gospel



*Like a Treasure
Hidden in a
Field*

Jesus said to the crowds that had gathered around him, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure which has been hidden in a field. When someone finds the treasure, he hides it again and then he goes filled with joy; he sells everything that he has and buys the field. Again the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant who is looking for fine pearls. When he finds one pearl of really great value, he goes and sells everything he has and buys that pearl."



*the Pearl of
Great Price*

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 26th

July 2020. Matt. 13:24-30

(the 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)



Sacred Heart & St William

31 High Street

Uppermill OL3 6HS

www.sacredheartparish.org.uk

Please visit the website above.

For Daily Mass Readings, Video reflections and any updates go to Sunday Mass in the Newsletter

While the Church remains closed until Further Notice

Fr Bernard will continue to celebrate Mass

IN PRIVATE without any people present at 9.00am each morning

The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26th 2020 (Matthew's Gospel)

The intentions are as follows:

Sunday: Ann McCarthy
Monday: People of the Parish
Tuesday: Esther Crewdson
Wednesday: November Dead List
Thursday: Mary & Gerry Hayes
Friday: Patricia Healey
Saturday: Yorkshire Brethren
Sunday: Joseph Priestley

There will be only **one** Mass each day. **The Church will remain closed until further notice.**

Confessions by appointment.

Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Bickers Tel: 01457 872603

Permanent Deacon: Revd Peter Rudd Tel: 01457 876559

Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Tessa Spalding Tel: 01457 873515

Mrs Michelle Moore



Pope Francis writes, "My dear young people let us keep the faith we have received and which is our true treasure."

Today's word is **Treasure**. In this Sunday's gospel passage Jesus compares

the joy of the kingdom of heaven to the joy of finding hidden treasure or valuable pearls. When we try to live as Jesus taught us, God's kingdom grows within our hearts; we discover that we are loved and treasured by God. This is a treasure beyond compare, more valuable than any earthly riches bringing us joy and everlasting happiness. We might well say that we treasure such a person, or that some gift we have been given is a real treasure, and that is another way of saying that they are very important to us. This gospel reminds us that no earthly treasure is as important as the treasure that is our faith, our love for God, and our knowing that God loves each one of us more than we can possibly understand!

Re-opening the Church



IN order to be ready to open in September we need to have in place:

1. Effective signage concerning entry, exit, one way system and seating arrangements
2. Volunteers to act as stewards with a list of their responsibilities
3. Volunteers to act as cleaners after every time the church is opened
4. The necessary PPE, cleaning materials and sanitising gel
5. A booking system for every Mass to enable track and trace should this be necessary – Susan Gibson has kindly offered to run the booking system

The current situation with regard to social distancing is likely to continue for the foreseeable future and so it is important to emphasise that those who volunteer are taking on a commitment which could well last for some time. When we open in September if stewards are missing or the cleaning has not been done the church cannot be opened. There can be no short cuts when it comes to the safety of parishioners, many of whom are of a vulnerable age. We need to be risk averse and it will be important to review the situation on a regular basis.

If you are willing to volunteer to act as stewards or cleaners please contact me in the first instance by phone or email. Thanks to the 5 people who have volunteered so far. I am hoping to be away in August so the sooner you can contact me the better.

Thank You, Fr Bernard



Mary Farmer completed the Big Sleep Out on Friday July 10th 2020. Many thanks to those who have already sponsored her. Mary writes: my total so far for Cornerstones is **£171** (£105 cash and £46 through Justgiving.)

I am very pleased with the amount and just wanted to raise at least £100 . In the present circumstances when I can't put a sponsor sheet in church like last year and am not seeing people like before it is a marvellous amount .

Many thanks, Mary

Parish Finances



Sincere thanks to those who have sent cheques, left Offertory Envelopes, set up Direct Debits in lieu of the weekly offertory collection. £1,069 was paid into the parish account on Wednesday which brings the total to have been paid into the bank since the church was closed for public worship in March to £4,508.

As we know many charities have been suffering recently and the Finance Committee decided to make payments based on last year's figures to those National and Diocesan Charities for whom we have obligatory collections.

The following donations have been made:

Catholic Care - £520.00

Holy Places - £150.00

Priests' Training Fund - £325.00

Catholic Communications: £190.00

Retired Priests - £230.00

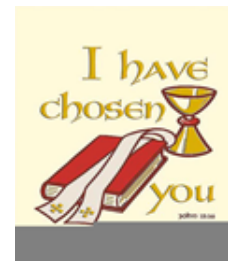
Day for Life - £180.00

Peter's Pence - £185.00

Apostleship of the Sea - £200.00

Total £1,980.00

Congratulations



Our sincere congratulations as a parish to Fr Henry Longbottom who was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Marcus in the Cathedral on Friday 17th July and to Fr Darren Jones who was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Marcus in the Cathedral on Saturday July 15th. Due to the current constraints the numbers able to attend were very restricted.

Our best wishes to both newly ordained priests for service in our diocese.



"Compassion is the language the deaf can hear and the blind can see." Mark Twain