

From Sunday's Gospel



As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God." Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, "What do you want?" They answered, "Rabbi," – which means Teacher – "where do you live?" "Come and see," he replied; so they went and

saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two (who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said) was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, "We have found the Messiah," – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, "You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas," – meaning Rock.

Sunday 17th January 2021 Adapted from John 1:35-42 The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B



Pope Francis writes, "My dear young people after meeting Jesus, the two disciples immediately noticed something new in their hearts." Today's words are Loving God and Each Other. This Sunday's

Gospel is full of new starts and reminds us that God is always ready to help us start afresh. Families who make a new start with God find that they grow closer together and begin to know and share the joy that Jesus brings. Jesus' followers made a new start after discovering Jesus. The beginning of a New Year presents an opportunity for us to make a new start. Can you think of the 'best' new start you ever made? Have you made any New Year Resolutions, which is another way of what new starts are you planning to make this year. Today is Peace Sunday, so perhaps a new start may be to make up with someone if we have fallen out with them, or to say sorry if we know we have hurt somebody, or being extra kind to our parents.



Sacred Heart & St William

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Please visit the website above.

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

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17th 2020 (Mark's Gospel)

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED WHILE WE ARE
IN LOCKDOWN**

**Fr Bernard will celebrate Mass each day
without a congregation. Please watch this space for further
information.**

The intentions are as follows:

Sunday:	McKnight & Ray Families
Monday:	Special Intention (EH & HH)
Tuesday:	Sr Winifred Deary
Wednesday:	Annie Flanagan
Thursday:	People of the Parish
Friday:	Nora Crowley
Saturday:	Mgr Anthony Boylan
Sunday:	People of the Parish

Confessions by appointment

Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Bickers Tel: 01457 872603

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Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Tessa Spalding Tel: 01457 873515

Mrs Michelle Moore

Peace Sunday 2021



The above reflection is by Rita Corbin putting into stark relief the 'Works of mercy' and the 'Works of war.' A good reflection for Peace Sunday, the theme for which

Pope Francis suggests is '**A Culture of Care as a Path to peace.**'

Pax Christi—The International Catholic Movement for peace promotes Peace Sunday and Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, the National President of Pax Christi writes: *"This year has been one of unprecedented and continuing challenges. We are all conscious of the need to restore and rebuild our communities here and around the world, accepting that we need new ways of working and relating with each other. The Christian message of peace, through reconciliation, justice and non-violence, can offer hope and direction in these times."*

Despite the restriction Pax Christi continues to work across England and Wales with a small team of paid staff and volunteers promoting peace through out reach work.

Pax Christi chooses not to be a charity in order to have the freedom and flexibility to speak up about issues, unrestricted by the constraints placed on charities.

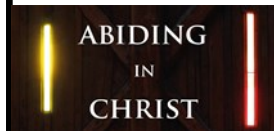
Therefore your support is all the more important.

With every blessing and good wish, +Malcolm OP

If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link:

<https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



Monday 18th January is the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which lasts until January 25th, The Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. Each year a group of people from different parts of world are invited to offer two

things: a reflection for each day and, secondly, the outline of a Joint Service normally celebrated on the Sunday within the Week. This year the materials have been prepared by an Ecumenical Group of Sisters in the Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland and they have taken for their theme 'Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit'. This passage of scripture is based on the 15th chapter of the Gospel of St John verses 1-17.

When they prepared the materials they could have had no idea that the COVID-19 pandemic would wreak such havoc in our lives. Here in Saddleworth we have very good ecumenical relations marked by various highlights. In 2020 we did manage to begin with our Joint Services during last year's week of prayer for Christian Unity. However, for some other joint services and activities we were able to come together. We missed out on the Good Friday Walk of Witness which has attracted increasing numbers over the years. The Whit Friday celebrations, together with the Band Contest were cancelled, though we did have a wonderful DVD presentation. The One World Fair, raising consciousness of different individuals and organisations working to alleviate poverty in the developing world, could not take place, neither could Carols round the tree. In addition the majority of the meetings of Churches Together and the Working Party took place virtually. We are beginning 2021 in a similar way as a more virulent strain of the virus has closed many churches and made large gatherings impossible, including any Joint Services planned for Sunday 24th January.

With this in mind, and given the importance of sustaining our ecumenical relations, I am offering a brief reflection each day of the Octave which will be accessible on the parish website.



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.

Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

Martin Luther King