



A warm welcome to all who gather today
around the Altar of the Lord in our parishes of
Saint John the Baptist
&
Saint Bernadette
Working in Communion for Mission
Parish Priest: Father Tom Finnegan



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Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 6th September 2020



Sunday Scripture Thoughts: All of us – and not just our brother or sister – are sinners. Jesus offers a simple guide to help us handle our sin and its consequences, but are we living by this teaching Jesus has given? If not, then let's pray that God may help us to grow a culture of love, of honesty, of repentance and of reconciliation. Forgiveness is meant to be at the core of who we are, and if we can't forgive each other, then how can we ever be agents of reconciliation in the world? Jesus has given a blue-print for how our communities might be holy places where holy relationships flourish – and it's something that we need to practise until it is so ingrained in us that we can't imagine living another way. Because, for Jesus, there isn't another way.

ALL PUBLIC MASSES AVAILABLE ON LIVE-STREAM AND YOUTUBE

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Saturday 5 th September	St John's	6pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parishes
Sunday 6 th September	St Bernadette's	9am	Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year	People of the Parishes Justin Whitehead People of the Parishes
	St John's	10.30am 12noon		
Monday 7 th September	St John's	9am	Ordinary Time	Holy Souls
Tuesday 8 th September	St John's	6pm	Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	John Wincester
Wednesday 9 th September	St John's	9am	Ordinary Time	Special Intention
Thursday 10 th September	St Bernadette's	10am	Ordinary Time	
Friday 11 th September	St John's	9am	Ordinary Time	Private Intention
Saturday 12 th September	St John's	12noon	Ordinary Time	People of the Parishes
	St John's	6pm	Vigil Mass	
Sunday 13 th September	St Bernadette's	9am	Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year	People of the Parishes People of the Parishes People of the Parishes
	St John's	10.30am 12noon		

🕯 In our Prayers this Week...

Prayers: Please for those who are sick: John Streeter, Stephen Marsh. Helena Drawnel, Cecily Geldart, Maureen Watson. If you are sick and wish your name to be added to the prayer list, then please let Fr. Tom know. If you know of anyone who wishes to be added, then again, please let Fr. Tom know.

Recently Deceased: Ann Finlay, Patrick Whelan. May they rest in Peace.

Anniversaries: We keep in our prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Mary, Swindon.

A few words from Fr. Tom: I spotted something on Thursday last week that I have not seen since the beginning of lockdown in March. A Lollipop Lady!! It was good to see so many children and young people returning to school last

week. We trust that they will settle back in soon. There will of course be challenges ahead for our schools and colleges, but with due care and careful planning, we trust and pray that all will be well. God Bless all. **Fr. Tom**



Some Notices!

First Holy Communion and Confirmation: Throughout September and early October we will be celebrating 9 First Holy Communion Masses on Saturdays and Sundays. These celebrations are taking place because the First Holy Communion celebrations couldn't take place in May because of the Covid lockdown. It was a great disappointment to all. We are happy though to be 'catching up' now. Please keep these children in your prayers at this time. Plans for preparation for First Holy Communion in 2021 are in process. Because of social distancing, we will have to adapt our catechesis methods to ensure all are kept safe. More information to follow. This is also the case for those wishing to receive

the sacrament of Confirmation.

Parish Sponsored Walk: Despite COVID-19, we are glad to announce the Annual Parish Sponsored Walk will take place on Sunday 13th September. It will start as usual from Frank Geraghty's Garden at 3.30pm Elmhurst, Southbrook Lane, Steeple Ashton BA14 6HW. This year we will be supporting Fr. Pratap in India, they are still experiencing much hardship because of poverty and the impact of COVID-19. If you wish to walk, then please do. More details to follow.

Parish Golf Day: We are happy to announce that there is a Parish Golf Day on Wednesday 30th September @ Cumberwell Golf Club. Coffee and Bacon Butty from 10.30am, 18 holes & 2 course meal, plus prizes/banter all included in a fun day £35.00. Names to either Brian Moore "Brian Moore" misereor@tiscali.co.uk or Mike Heather michaelheather@blueyonder.co.uk before 23rd please.

Live Streaming of Mass: I am happy to say that we are now live streaming Mass at St. John's daily. You can access it direct from the Parish Website. You can also find us on Churchservices.tv from your desktop computer, or a smart TV. There is also an App that you can download for iPhone or Android phones and tablets, please search for Church Services TV. When you find St. John's live stream you can then set St. John's as your home page (Only if you want to!) It is a bit 'jerky' and slow at the moment due to poor broadband. However, this will improve when we change broadband provider. We had hoped that this would have happened by now, but it has been rescheduled again for late September. Please note, that there will be occasions when the live stream will be offline as there might be a private Baptism taking place. We will continue to record Mass on You Tube for the moment, until the live stream gets better. There has been a substantial financial cost of this. The initial installation cost was £4800. We also have a subscription fee of £180 per month to the streaming company. This will be ongoing for as long as we use them. If you feel you want to contribute to the cost of this, please let Fr. Tom know. Many thanks to those who already have done so. Masses will continue to appear on You Tube for the time being.

Soup Run Update: As well as continuing the Soup Run during the whole of lockdown, St Johns have also covered alternate Thursdays with Bethesda Baptist Church during this time. We have noticed extra clients turning up – and every scrap of food was appreciated, especially the homemade soup and cakes. Just to say a huge thank you to everyone who enabled the Soup Run to keep going, and especially to those who volunteered to provide extra for the Thursday slot. Finally, if anyone would like to join us and provide soup once every five weeks, you would be most welcome. Please contact Mary Turner 01225 767089.

CAFOD: CAFOD has joined with the UK Disasters Emergencies Committee to help millions of people whose lives are at risk as coronavirus spreads across refugee camps and countries suffering conflict. You can donate at cafod.org.uk/coronavirus to help CAFOD scale up its coronavirus response through our global Church family.

Offering: The parish still needs your generosity during these times. If you do not do so already please consider setting up a direct debit if you can afford it. Please let me know if you need a form by emailing me thomas.finnegan@cliftondiocese.com You can also use the Paypal donation button on the Parish Website. You can make your usual offering as you leave Church after Mass. There will be white collection boxes stationed at each door.

300 Club: The 300 Club is still running. Last weeks winners as follows £200 274 Samantha McCrindle, £ 70 140 Lucy Arnold, £ 50 06 Joan Hughes, £ 10 136 Joyce Bye. 300 Club Application forms are available from Frank Geraghty, f.geraghty303@btinternet.com, 01380871083. New members most welcome.

Newsletter: If you know of anyone who does not have email and would like a paper copy of this newsletter, please let me know their names and address.