

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 13 August 2023

Thought for the Week

As Matthew relates, the incident described in this week's Gospel is clearly symbolic. The boat represents the Church, and the disciples are beaten by the winds and waves of persecution; Jesus is not with them physically, but he is praying to the Father in heaven. In their hour of need he makes his present felt among them, calming their fears and bringing them peace. Understood like this, the Gospel story has great relevance to us today.

Some people think that if you have enough faith all will be 'plain sailing.' But this not so, faith does not shield us from the hard knocks of life or death. What it does, is give us the strength to face them. The person who has faith has a source of strength and inspiration, especially when trouble strikes. It is not we who keep the faith. it is the faith that keeps us.

We see this in the first reading. The great prophet Elijah was a man of faith, but because of his opposition to idolatry, Queen Jezebel wanted to kill him. So Elijah fled into the desert and took refuge in a cave. A broken and beaten man, he wanted to die; however, in the cave he experienced the presence of God, and strengthened by that experience, he was able to go on.

The Gospel story shows us the power of faith. It shows us what Jesus always does for his people when the wind is contrary, and they are in danger of being overwhelmed by the storms of life. To those with faith, Jesus is not a ghost from the past, he is the Son of God whose grace upholds us when things are too much for us.

Deacon George Young

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

There will be **NO** Adoration during the month of **August**.

The Rosary

The Rosary is prayed after the 12:00 Mass each Friday, please join.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St Edward's:

Saturdays: 11:00 - 11:30 and 17:30 - 18:00

Tuesdays: 18:00 - 18:30

Holy Hour

There will be **NO** Holy Hour in the month of **August**. It will resume again on **Sunday 10 September**.

Sacrament of the Sick

The next anointing of the Sacrament of the Sick will take place on **Friday 25 August**. Following on from this, it will be on **Friday 8 October**, then continue on the second Friday of each month. If anyone would like to receive this Sacrament outside of these times, please contact Fr David.

Mass Times & Intentions 12 - 20 August

| | | | |
|-----|----|-------|---|
| Sat | 12 | 18:00 | Glowa Family -RIP |
| Sun | 13 | 09:30 | John Patrick Kelly - RIP - St Mark's |
| | | 11:00 | People of the Parish - RIP |
| Mon | 14 | 10:00 | Eucharistic Service |

Solemnity of The Assumption

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|-----|----|-------|--------------------|
| Tue | 15 | 12:00 | Mary Riley - FM |
| | | 18:30 | Alice Aranud - RIP |

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|------|----|-------|------------------------------------|
| Wed | 16 | 10:00 | Babsy - INT |
| Thur | 17 | 10:00 | Sean O'Shea RIP - St Mark's |
| Fri | 18 | 12:00 | Nula Hanly - RIP |
| Sat | 19 | 18:00 | Jon Underwood - RIP |
| Sun | 20 | 09:30 | Mary & Richard Davis - RIP |
| | | 11:00 | People of the Parish |

Parish Diary 12 – 20 August

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|-------|----|-------|--|
| Sat | 12 | 13:00 | Wedding - Rebecca Wilson & Callum Rackley |
| Sun | 13 | 12:00 | Tea and coffee in Parish Centre |
| | | 12:15 | Baptism - Otis Grove plus Anointing |
| Mon | 14 | 18:30 | Catenian Meeting - P/C |
| Tue | 15 | 19:15 | RCIA - St Brigid's Room |
| Thurs | 17 | 18:30 | Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room |
| Fri | 18 | 13:30 | Wedding - Kevin McMullen & Aneta Paprocka |
| Sun | 20 | 12:00 | Tea and coffee in Parish Centre |

Morning & Evening Prayer

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|-----|----|-------|---|
| Tue | 15 | 18:00 | Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's |
| Wed | 16 | 09:30 | Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's |

Offertory

S/O - DD £ 1,848.08 Envelopes £226.00 Loose £476.78

First Holy Communion Programme – 2023-2024

The team are now accepting registrations for the 2023-24 First Holy Communion programme. Further details plus application forms can be found on the Parish website. Kindly send completed application forms and **a copy** of your child's baptismal certificate to fhc@catholicwindsor.org.

To enrol, please fill in an application form that can be found on our website. The introduction and the unfolding of the programme will be on **Thursday 21 September at 18:30 in the Parish Centre**.

At this meeting of parents, you will receive a 'Record Card' that needs to be stamped when you attend Mass. Further dates will be given at this meeting.

Catholic Windsor - website www.catholicwindsor.org

Parish Office

Patricia Brown: Parish Secretary

office@catholicwindsor.org

Richard Flisher: Finance Manager

finance@catholicwindsor.org

Sharon Cole-Blows: Youth Ministry Worker/Coordinator

YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org

Pat Burke: Safeguarding Representative

safeguarding@catholicwindsor.org

Pastoral Team

Canon David Hopgood: Parish Priest

canondavid@catholicwindsor.org

Rev George Young: Deacon

georgeyoung@hotmail.com

Sr Teresina Fingleton CSB: Parish Sister

Presbytery: 44 Alma Road, Windsor Berkshire, SL4 3HJ

Phone: 01753 865163

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth – Charity No. 1199568

On-Line Shopping to benefit the Parish

If you do not already use Give As You Live online shopping please consider now. Simply download the app using the address below and it will automatically divert your online shopping via 'Give as you live' to your normal supplier. The cost to you is nil; the benefit to the Parish is huge.

For everyone who signs up before the end of August the Parish will get £5.00. So sign up now and donate for nothing!

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/st-edwards-r-c-church>

Your Church Donation with Gift Aid

With the Summer holidays fast approaching and everyone having busy lives I am concerned that some of you may not have seen the parish emails, or newsletter notice regarding Gift Aid.

Due to the change in the Diocesan charity number, we will not be able to meet HMRC requirements on Gift Aid, worth an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, **unless a new form is completed soon.**

If you are a taxpayer and give to the church through your bank as a standing order or through the envelopes we need a form completed in order for us to claim the extra Government donation worth approximately £30,000 per annum to the Parish community. There are forms on display at the back of each church as well as on our website. Alternatively please do get in touch via the Parish Office or email finance@catholicwindsor.org.

Many thanks. Rich Flisher Finance Manager.

finance@catholicwindsor.org

A Gallery of Unofficial Saints!

We have an unusually tall visitor in the Lady Chapel – the Adelante Gallery. Bracknell parishioner Hugh Gibbons made this to mark the official sainthood of Oscar Romero, based on his call to go forward: Adelante! But it also celebrates unofficial Saints - people of all sorts helping others' lives go forward in some way. The four faces offer many examples, from Windsor Foodshare to The Skateboard Hero. There's much to surprise and enjoy: an A-Z list that includes You; reconciliation in a fragment of WWII history unearthed in our pastoral area at Winkfield; a touch of a Quaker school's weekly silence to take away; Fairtrade socks by Churches Together in England; and a great poem on Small Kindnesses. See Guide at www.just1.org.uk/adelantegallery

Monthly Talk for September - Creation

Dr Judith Thomas will be presenting a Talk on creation as follows:

Sat 2 September at 10:00 St Edward's Parish Centre, Windsor
Monday 4 September at 10:00 St Edmund Campion Church, Maidenhead

Wednesday 6 September at 18:30 St Joseph's Parish Centre, Maidenhead

The talk lasts for 1 hour and there is no charge - just come along, listen, be encouraged and inspired!

The Love Languages Course

The Love Languages were discovered by Dr Gary Chapman so couples could learn how to make each other feel most loved. This course is for all couples to learn each other's Love Language! The couples who attended this course last year really learned about each other and enjoyed the course! We would love for you to attend! It will be held **Friday 22 September from 19:00 until 20:30** in St Edward's Parish Centre!

Please contact Kathy on kathyarundale@hotmail.com to register!

Pastoral Area update; Come and Join us

Over the next few weeks and months you are invited to experience our broader community and join in sessions at each other's parish. The first invitation is from Maureen and Mohan at St Edward's:

'Mass Readings Explained Sessions' by Dr Brant Pitre - facilitated in S. Brigid's Room at St Edward's Church, Windsor on Thursdays 18:30 - 20:00.

Dr Pitre's reflections on Mass Readings always give wonderful explanations that help us connect the Old Testament with the New Testament and suggest how the Old is fulfilled in the New. The explanations are eye opening and give a wonderful understanding that we have never had before. Our appreciation of the gospels has blossomed with these videos and the discussions afterwards.

A testimony from one of our parishioners:

"The Mass Readings Explained sessions opened my eyes to the Scriptures and I found it to be a wonderful and enlightening experience. It has shown the endless connections between the Old and the New Testaments and answers to many questions I had. This has opened my eyes to understand what God is telling me through 'His Word' at Mass each Sunday. The knowledge I acquired through these sessions has further deepened my faith". We welcome you to come, taste and then decide.

For more information you may contact Mohan or Maureen on 07517453338 or e-mail: ecmak1@aol.com

St Francis of Assisi - Ascot

If you would like to start receiving Ascot's Parish Newsletter, please subscribe using this link:

<https://dashboard.mailerlite.com/forms/328304/80177558794011978/share> It is usually sent on Thursday or Friday, every week.

Good news, Alpha is returning in September!

This year, we are going to offer the course both **online** and **in-person**. Many people find it difficult to secure childcare or prefer to meet others whilst in the comfort of their own home, so by offering an online version, we hope you will give it a try. If meeting in-person is your preference, that is still a great option too.

Start dates are as follows:

Monday, **18 September, Alpha Online**, 19:30 - 21:00

Tuesday, **19 September, Alpha In-Person** at St Edwards Parish Centre, 19:00 - 21:00

Alpha is a 10-week course that explores life's big questions, in an open, non-judgmental and safe place. We'll be discussing questions like: Is there more to life than this? Does God exist? Why did Jesus have to die? and, why is there so much suffering in the world?

To RSVP, please follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/miZUsLvKeFs2LMRf7>

If you have questions about joining, inviting others, or joining our team of volunteers, please email Ryan Greig at:

alphawindsor316@gmail.com

March for Life

March for Life on Saturday 2 September are looking for help in one of these roles: Marshal/Steward - Musicians on the march – Helpers for stalls - if you think you can help please send an email to march4lifeuk@gmail.com