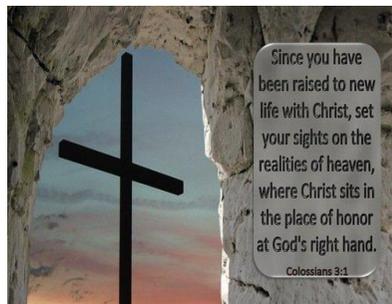


Ponder Over.....

Second reading: Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 explained: We are living in a culture that caters to our desire for immediate gratification. It encourages us to amass possessions, and in many ways, it thrives on deceit. Hence, Paul directs our attention to those treasures that endure, warning that greed for wealth and influence is idolatry and that the Faith-life of a believer requires Christ as its first priority.

Baptism is our participation in the death and Resurrection of Jesus. Paul reminds us that, since we have been raised with Christ through Baptism and are going in a Heavenly direction, we must "put to death immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire and the greed that is idolatry" (Col 3:5). The desires of the human heart cannot be satisfied by what is here today and gone tomorrow because we have been made for "what is above"(Col 3:1).



For Paul, the whole process of joining Christ in glory revolves around "taking off our old self with its practices and putting on the new self, which is being renewed..., in the image of its Creator" (Col 3:9-10). Although power, influence and possessions come and go, our new self will endure because it is grounded in the power of the risen Lord. Our affections will never be drawn from things beneath. Sin is mortified by the contrary good; the joy and grief of the world by spiritual joy and grief. The snow is melted by the warm beams of the sun, and the more your hearts are warmed with love to Christ, the easier will earthly affections fall away. A child if he has no affection for his book will never make a scholar. The things above become daily more and more important, while the things of earth grow daily less so. Every day lessens the duration of temporal things and brings us nearer to eternal things. The things above cast down upon us a transforming beauty. Man's heart never acts without being acted upon. Contact with the good sanctifies; communion with the happy gladdens. A man was passing along the street, and saw a blind boy seated on his father's knee, holding in his hand a kite-string, the kite flying away in the air. The man said, "Is it any satisfaction to you, my lad, to fly that kite, when you cannot see it?" "O yes, sir," he replied, "I cannot see it, but I can feel it pull." And so out of this dark world, and amid this blindness of sin, we feel something drawing us heavenwards; and though we cannot see the thrones, and the joy, and the coronation, blessed be God, we can feel them pull.

ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH BIRKENHEAD RD, HOYLAKE, CH47 5AF



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WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 4th AUGUST 2019
(Readings- Sundays: Cycle C, Weekdays: Cycle 1, Psalter Week 2)

This Sunday – EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass 8.30am (George Boulist)

Mass 10.30am (Parishioners)

Monday - Mass 9.30am (Pat Butler)

**Tuesday - Mass 9.30am (Jo Harrison - Intention): The Transfiguration of the Lord
- Feast**

Wednesday- Mass 7.30pm (Eileen Bennett)

Thursday – Mass 9.30am (In Thanksgiving): St Dominic

Friday – Mass 9.30am : St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross - Feast

Saturday - Mass 12noon : St Lawrence - Feast

Next Sunday- NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass 8.30am (Dorie)

Mass 10.30am (Parishioners)

MORNING PRAYER: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 9.15am

NO EVENING PRAYER THIS SUNDAY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Tuesday 10.00-11.00am.

CONFESSIONS THIS SATURDAY 11.00am - 11.45am and on request

Diocese of Shrewsbury, a registered charity (NO 234025)

ST CATHERINE'S NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR all who have died recently, especially Pat Butler, Peter Helsby and James Mulligan. Also please pray for those who are ill or housebound including, Stephen Wright, Baby Rose Coleman, Jo Power, Ann Brown, Betty Roberts, Norah Stuart, Kathleen Bennett, Joseph Conway, Amy Duke, Sue Green, Geoffrey Roberts, Geoff Milton, Timothy Wild, Francis Hayes, Ann Marie Heald, Katie Hogan, Eilis Longley-Brown, Joan Nulty, Neil Monaghan, Justin Williams, and Jo Clark.

(Please advise Fr. Thomas of any changes to this list in order that it may be kept up to date).

FR THOMAS HOME VISITS, ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, DEATH, etc. – please contact at the presbytery on 632 4388.

RECENT DEATHS. If anyone has a friend or relative who has died in the last year please give names to Fr Tom.

SICK: A reminder to let you know it is really important that if anyone you know is ill, and particularly those who might be going into one of our hospitals, to please inform Father Thomas as soon as possible.

COFFEE will be served today by Cleaners , next Sunday by Ladies Guild.

MESSAGE FROM FR TOM RE. THE NEW PARISH PRIEST: The Bishop has appointed Canon David Roberts to be Parish Priest of St Agnes' and St Catherine's Hoylake, with a view to bringing the two parishes together. I know you will make him very welcome. I will be moving to Christ the King Church, Bromborough. Please keep us both in your prayers. Our appointment takes effect from 7th September.

"AFTERNOON TEA AND SINGING" fundraiser will be held in the Parish Centre on Saturday 10th August 2pm - 4pm. Sandwiches, Cakes & Tea/Coffee will be served. Singing by the Bluebird Community Choir will perform songs you can sing along to. Monies raised from this event will go to the "Bucket and Spade Project" . Entrance is £4 on the door.

PAT TESTING EQUIPMENT - If you, or anyone you know, has a PAT tester and would be willing to verify the safety of electrical goods before they are donated to the SVP Clients then please contact any member of our Conference. Minimum commitment - maximum effect.

BUCKET AND SPADE PROJECT HOLIDAY CHALLENGES. The holiday period is now upon us and it is hoped that many of you will take part in the Party and Holiday Challenges and the Photo competition. Please help yourself to an Information pack, available at the back of church, Unfortunately, the online giving address was incorrectly stated in an earlier newsletter but the correct address is justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bucketspade

SUNDAY OFFERING 28TH July: £660.98

DIOCESAN NEWS

HEALTH AND SALVATION IN THE PUBLIC EYE. A Conference and Retreat for healthcare professionals who wish to think, pray and talk together. This year's theme examines practical questions about healthcare communications through the media and social media. At Boarbank Hall, Cumbria, 6 – 11 January 2020. Contact Sister Margaret Atkins margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk for details or see website www.boarbankhall.org.uk

DAY OF REFLECTION AND HEALING FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES, AND THEIR FAMILIES. On 5th October, Bishop Richard Moth, who leads the ministry to those affected by mental health issues, will lead a day of reflection and celebrate Mass with anointing of the sick at St Columba's Church, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1PL from 11am to 5pm. More information in September.