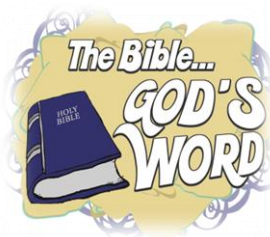


Ponder Over..... Today is Bible Sunday. It is important to have His word dominant in our lives. Most of us are ruled by our five senses, what we hear, touch, feel, smell and see and yet as believers we should walk by faith not by sight. Our mind must come under the dominion of God's word. The dominance of God's word over our lives can only come through reading and meditating God's word daily in our lives. In Job 23:12 we read: "I have not departed from the commandment of His lips, I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food" . This is how we should value God's word. Our attitude towards the word of God, determines the place that God holds in our daily lives. it should never be like words coming from an ordinary book. We should never treat God's word as a common book. The word should get into our blood and life. His word has to become part of us. We should become so lost in His word that His word is found in us. Early churchmen used a system, called the Lectio Divina, included four steps: reading a scripture, meditating upon it, praying it and contemplating on it. Likewise, we must ponder the scripture, attempting to expand our understanding of it and consider how it applies to our own experience in order for it to provide us with the highest benefit. Choose a small portion of scripture and read it over and over until it is very familiar. Then meditate on it by pondering its meaning. Apply it to yourself in various ways. Look at each word or phrase individually. Write a little personal commentary on each portion. Finally, when you have "chewed" on it enough, pray it. It is all too easy to read the scripture "religiously" and then forget what it says. But when we meditate and pray a portion of what we read, we will not become what James called, "a hearer of the word and not a doer." As this occurs and we are changed into His likeness by the transforming power of the Word. In Joshua 1:8-9 God tells Joshua to meditate on His word day and night. He told Joshua that he would be bold, courageous, prosperous and successful. This would happen all because of meditation on God's word. It is important to note that our actions are based on the patterns of our thinking. We can never be tempted by something that we don't think of. We never do anything that our thoughts haven't already carved out. We don't do what we haven't already lived out in our imagination. We follow our dominant thoughts. Indeed, the word is the greatest treasure any believer can ever have "The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of coins of gold and silver" (Psalm 119:72). "Therefore, I love your commandments, more than gold, yes, than fine gold. Therefore, all your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right, I hate every false way" (Psalm 119:127-128). I wish we knew how valuable the Word of God is to our lives.



## ST CATHERNE'S CHURCH

BIRKENHEAD RD, HOYLAKE, CH47 5AF



Fr Thomas Thoppaparambil OFM CAP  
0151 632 4388  
Deacons: Rev Tony Crisp  
0151 632 6617  
Rev John Fegan  
07549936098  
Parish website:  
[www.stcatherineshoylake.org.uk](http://www.stcatherineshoylake.org.uk)  
Newsletter amendments:  
[st.catherines.hoylake@talktalk.net](mailto:st.catherines.hoylake@talktalk.net)

**WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**(Readings- Sundays: Cycle C, Weekdays: Cycle 1, Psalter Week 2)**

**This Sunday – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**(Bible Sunday)**

**Mass 8.30am (People of the Parish)**

**Mass 10.30am (For Priests throughout the World)**

**Monday - Mass 9.30am (Private Intentions)**

**Tuesday - Mass 9.30am (Martin Keenan)**

**Wednesday- Mass 7.30pm (Deceased Priests of our Parish)**

**Thursday – Funeral Mass 1.30pm for Moira Bradshaw**

**Friday – Mass 9.30am (Tommy Ternant): St John of the Cross**

**Saturday - Mass 12.00 noon (Ann Crisp):**

**Next Sunday – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Mass 8.30am (Daniel & Agnes Collins)**

**Mass 10.30am (People of the Parish)**

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

**NO EVENING PRAYER THIS SUNDAY**

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Tuesday 10.00 – 11.00am**

**NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS THURSDAY**

**CONFESSIONS THIS SATURDAY: 11.00am – 11.45am and on request.**

Diocese of Shrewsbury, a registered charity (N0 234025)

## *ST CATHERINE'S NEWS*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** all who have died recently especially Moira Bradshaw, Brian Dunning. Also please pray for those who are ill or housebound including, John Morris, 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.

**COFFEE** will be served today by Ladies Guild, next Sunday by the Friends of the Holy Land.

**YOUTH LOURDES GROUP CAKE SALE** will be today after both Masses.

**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.

**SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION** will take place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7pm. Please try to attend this service and prepare ourselves to celebrate the nativity of the Lord.

**LOURDES FUND RAISER 'THANK YOU'.** Tony Murphy would like to thank all those who helped raise a fantastic £1,203 for the Across pilgrimage to Lourdes by Jumbulance at our event last Saturday. We will remember you in our prayers at the Grotto in Lourdes. Dates are available for local pilgrimages in 2019. Anyone wishing to find out more should contact Tony on 07881656974 or email [tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk). Facebook page is Liverpool & Chester Across

**FOOD BANK** – Please leave the food items in the box at the back of Church

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** now available at the back of Church. Please put an offering in the CAFOD box.

**SUNDAY OFFERING 2<sup>ND</sup> December:** £561.48      **Caritas:** £711.39

## *DIOCESAN NEWS*

**VACANCY FOR POSITION OF HEADTEACHER** at St Hugh's Catholic Primary School, Timperley. See poster for details.