

Our Lady & St Joseph's Parish Bulletin

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TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY
OF THE YEAR
5th October 2003



THIS SUNDAY'S MUSIC : Entrance : Into one we all are gathered 243; Offertory : Upon thy table Lord 606; Eucharistic Prayer : Gathering Mass 481; Communion : Love one another; Recessional : Love Divine 801.

A Matter of Survival

It is doubtful if Judaism could have survived had it not been for the Sabbath institution and celebration. Jerusalem fell in 586 BC. The Jewish Temple was destroyed. The Jews themselves were taken to Babylon as captives. During their exile they had only one thing to remind them of God: the Sabbath, which they observed strictly. How true it is that "more than Israel kept the Sabbath, the Sabbath kept Israel."

What Has Happened to Sunday?

Satan's greatest victory among modern Christians has been the secularizing of Sunday. Once we manage to convince ourselves that we can be "just as good Christians" on the golf course or in the supermarket on Sunday morning, it is but a very short walk to the point where God plays no real part in our lives at all. Even Voltaire who was no friend of the church once said, "If you wish to destroy the Christian religion, you must first destroy the Christian Sunday." Dag Hammarskjöld's words ring true: "God does not die on the day when we cease to believe in a personal deity, but we die on the day when lives cease to be illumined by the steady radiance, renewed daily, of a wonder, the source of which is beyond all reason."

A Lost Presence

Originally a day for rest and worship, Sunday has now become a day of rest **from** worship. When we don't have the presence of God to go to, and we have to bear all of our fears and failures alone, then ultimately we break down.

T.S. Eliot spoke with irony of those who work hard or have fun every day of the week with no regard for the holiness of the Lord's Day: "They were decent godless people - their only monument the asphalt road - and a thousand lost golf balls." Indeed, those who have no Sunday finally lose everything because they lose God. But those who know the secret of Sunday find that life is worth living and death heralds the beginning of a

new life with Christ, the rest that remains for the people of God.

Max Gunther, in his book 'The Weekenders', asks after describing all the feverish activity that is part of so many weekends: "What went wrong? Didn't they have fun? Didn't they spend enormous sums of money, travel endless miles to and from crowded beaches, lakes, mountains, give and attend big, noisy parties, endure hours of strenuous sports under a blazing sun, and raise countless blisters tinkering, painting, fixing, building, and weed-pulling? If none of this frenzied activity yielded that sweet feeling of peace, why not?" Those who know the secret of the Lord's Day do not find it hard to answer the question. If we do not keep the Lord's Day Holy, our weekend will never really help us, no matter how much fun we think we have. A person who has traded in the Lord's Day for the empty, hollow weekend, has made a very bad bargain. In filling their life with fun or work, they empty it of meaning. In a world without God, free time can be hell.

Dr. Victor Frankl, writes in his book, 'The Doctor and the Soul,' "In any city, Sunday is the saddest day of the week. It is on Sunday, when the tempo of the working week is suspended, that poverty of meaning in everyday, urban life is exposed. The people who have no goal in life are running the course of life at the highest possible speed so they will not notice the aimlessness of it. They are at the same time trying to run away from themselves, but in vain. On Sunday, when the frantic race pauses for 24 hours, all the aimlessness, meaninglessness and emptiness of their existence rises up before them once more."

Without God, Sunday becomes a day when we feel more sharply the pain of inner emptiness. With God, Sunday, the Lord's Day, becomes what the Creator designed it to be - a day when our empty cups of faith and hope are filled. And God's promise is fulfilled: "And we will come to Him and make our home with Him." (John 14:23).

(Extracted from an article by A.M. Coniaris *The Symbol of a Start of a New Age.*)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

SAT (Alston) 6.00	Priv. Int.
SUN 10.00	Mollie Hewitt
4.30	Parish
MON 12.10	Brigit & Hugh Ward
TUE 8.00	Pope's Int.
(Cuthbert Ct.)11.00	Donor's Int.
12.10	Tom McGrath
WED 9.15	Priv. Int.
12.10	Poor of the Parish
THU 8.00	John Kelly
(St. Gab) 9.15	Priv. Int.
12.10	M. Drelincourt
FRI 8.00	Priv. Int.
12.10	Donor's Int.
SAT 12.10	Tom & Clare Evans
(Alston) 6.00	Martha Noble
SUN 10.00	Parish
4.30	Priv. Int.



PLEASE PRAY FOR : Kathleen Poland, Ellen Fairish Eve Oliver and John Drummond who are sick, also Martha Noble whose anniversary occurs about this time.

CLERGY

Parish Priest

Mgr. Gregory Turner

Assistant Priest

Fr. William Glasswell

Deacons

Rev Gib Harrison

Rev Kevin Hickey (Ret'd)

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY

ALSTON—St WULSTAN

SAT VIGIL 6.00PM

(HOLYDAYS 6.00PM)

OUR LADY'S 10.00am

TUES,THU, FRI 8.00AM

TUES (Cuth.Ct.) 10.00am

WED (St. Gab.) 9.15AM

MON-SAT 12.10PM

(HOLYDAYS extra Mass at 7.00pm)

CONFESSIONS

OUR LADY'S

AFTER 12.10 MASS FROM

MON—SAT.

6.15—7.00PM SAT

ALSO ON REQUEST

LIFE DRAW WINNERS

AUGUST

59	C. Evans
44	K.Hickey
68	P.Sunter
16	M.McArdle

SEPTEMBER

41	L.Bruce
78	G.Pattinson
81	M.Graham
40	R.Reardon

FAMILY AND FRIENDS PARISH

CEILIDH - Saturday 18th October 7.30pm.

Entertainment by "Thrice Brewed". Brampton Community Centre.

Tickets : Adults £5.00 children £1.00 (shared finger buffet), contact Val 016977 41280, Kathleen 016977 46484 or Trina 01228 560990. Bar/Raffle proceeds in aid of Our Lady and St. Wilfrid's, Warwick Bridge/St. Ninian's, Brampton.

BIBLE STUDY

Could the person who has borrowed the Bible Study File from the back of church please return it as soon as possible. Many thanks.

TUESDAY VIDEOS

These excellent Christian videos will be shown on Tuesdays at 7.30 at 16, Lismore St; Carlisle.

NEXT SUNDAY 10AM MASS

Our Liturgy will be arranged by the young people of the Parish.