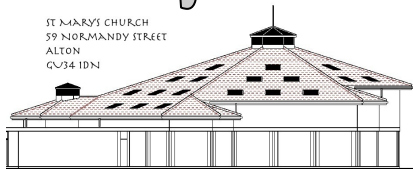


St Mary's Parish Newsletter

ST MARY'S CHURCH
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TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

Sunday 14th July, 2018

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

(Year B) Psalter Week 3

Saturday	5.30pm	The People of The Parish
Sunday	15th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	
Medstead	9.00am	Ann Lowther, RIP (A-MM)
St Mary's	11.00am	Amy & Leonard Gilbert, RIP(KH)
Monday	St. Swithun	
	9.30am	Maria Elizabeth Treacy, RIP(M-P)
Tuesday	Feria	
	9.30am	NO MASS
Wednesday	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	
Thursday	Feria	
	9.30am	
Friday	Feria	
	9.30am	Andrew Harte, RIP
Saturday	Our Lady on Saturday	
	5.30pm	In Thanksgiving (RG)
Sunday	16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	
Medstead	9.00am	The People of The Parish
St Mary's	11.00am	John McGinty, RIP(MM)

Following the 11am Mass sun 21st July

Keelie Maeve West & Kiera Regan West will be baptised.

**Confessions: Saturday 4.45pm prior to Mass
and by request at any time**

15th Sunday of The Year

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Responsorial Psalm

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your
saving help.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia ! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they
are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia !

Communion Antiphon:

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her
young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my
God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever
singing your praise.

A POPE'S REFLECTION Pope Benedict XVI

In the liturgical calendar on 15th July, is the Memorial of
St Bonaventure, a Franciscan, a Doctor of the Church and the
successor of St Francis of Assisi at the helm of the Order of
Friars Minor. It was he who wrote the first official biography
of the saint and, at the end of his life, he was also Bishop of
the Diocese of Albano. Bonaventure wrote in one of his last



15TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

14th July, 2024

Again it is prophecy that is our theme this week. Here, we concentrate on the sending of prophets, the entrusting of the mission to them, and most importantly the necessary qualifications to be a prophet. The only qualification necessary is an open ear, to hear the mandate from God. We see this in Amos, the simple shepherd, and in the Twelve, called by Jesus from their humble occupations, which no one would have thought qualified them to speak on 'religious' themes. As last week, the possibility of rejection and failure is quite explicitly treated - Jesus instructs the Apostles in what to do if they are ignored. When the Gospel simply states, "So they set off to preach repentance..." we can imagine all that was in their minds and hearts as they did so. They had heard the call of Jesus, and allowed it into their hearts: this was all they needed to go out and speak his words.

"He began to send them out."

letters: "I confess before God that the reason which made me most love the life of Blessed Francis is that it resembles the birth and development of the Church". These words refer us directly to this Sunday's Gospel which presents the first occasion on which Jesus sent the Twelve Apostles out on mission. Jesus "called to him the Twelve", St Mark recounts, "and began to send them out two by two.... He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics". After his conversion Francis of Assisi practised this Gospel to the letter, becoming a very faithful witness of Jesus; and, uniquely bound to the mystery of the Cross, was then transformed into "another Christ", exactly as St Bonaventure describes him. Jesus Christ is the inspiring centre of St Bonaventure's entire life and likewise of his theology. We rediscover this centrality of Christ in the Second Reading of today's Mass, the famous hymn of St Paul's Letter to the Ephesians that begins: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places". The Apostle thus shows in the four passages, that all begin with the same words: "in him", with reference to Jesus, how this plan of blessing was brought about. "In him", the Father chose us before the creation of the world; "in him" we have redemption through his blood; "in him" we became his heirs, predestined to live "for the praise of his glory"; "in him" all those who believe in the Gospel receive the seal of the Holy Spirit. This Pauline hymn contains the vision of history which St Bonaventure helped to spread in the Church: the whole of history is centred on Christ, who also guarantees in every era new things and renewal. In Jesus, God said and gave all things, but since he is an inexhaustible treasure, the Holy Spirit never ceases to reveal and to actualize his mystery. So it is that the work of Christ and of the Church never regresses but always progresses.



Please remember in your prayers

Katie Elliott, Mary McGinty, Kit Butterfield,
Sheila Payne, Maria Proli, Sheila Payne,
Sister Terry, Francesca Adams, Mary McGrath,
Annie Tomlinson, Rita Rawling, Kate Cradock.
Alex Smith, Jonathan Wiltshire, Mary Sturgess, Brenda
Gregory, Margaret Collins, Theresa Davies,
Maureen Rogers, Flavia Stampa Gruss,

**MARY, MOTHER OF THE AFFLICTED,
PRAY FOR THEM**

Please pray for **Eileen Bowler** who has died.
Funeral arrangements to follow.

Saint of the week

Saint Swithun—15th July



The life of St Swithun, an Anglo-Saxon bishop, is rich in legend. A century after his death in 863, he was chosen as patron saint for the Winchester Cathedral's Benedictine monastery. His bones, housed in a splendid reliquary, became famed for their healing powers. His cult lasted until the Reformation, when all traces of his shrine were swept away. The lovely story of St Swithun, the Cathedral's much-loved Saxon patron saint, combines a handful of hard facts with many legends. The facts are that around 800 he was born in Winchester, became counsellor to the Saxon kings Egbert and Ethelwulf, and was Bishop of Winchester for the last 10 years of

his life. When he died in 863, he was buried in front of the west door of the Saxon Old Minster – its outlines are traced in brick next to the Norman Cathedral. Here he rested for a 100 years.

How did he become famous? When Aethelwold, the reforming Bishop of Winchester, set up a new community Benedictine monks at Old Minster around 964, he decided they needed a new, purpose-made patron saint. Bishop Swithun's bones were dug up and placed them in a precious reliquary inside the building, given by King Edgar – an act later seen as against the saint's wishes. In the 11th century, his relics were on the move again – this time, into the huge new Cathedral built by the Norman invaders. His Anglo-Saxon reliquary was carried with great ceremony to its new position behind the high altar, where it stayed until 1450. His tomb became a major site for pilgrims, many seeking to be healed from illness. A short tunnel called the Holy Hole, allowed them to crawl right under his shrine, as close as possible to his miraculous healing powers. In 1476, a new, even larger shrine was inaugurated at the far end of the building. It must have been a striking sight, festooned with gifts of silver, gold and jewels offered by grateful pilgrims.

What legends are told about him? One legend claims that Swithun tutored the young Alfred the Great. Another says that he built the first stone bridge over the River Itchen that runs through Winchester. His most famous miracle tells of a simple act of human kindness to a poor woman. When she was crossing the bridge, she was jostled and dropped her basket of eggs. The saint took pity on her – and made her broken eggs whole. One source claims that when Swithun died, he asked to be buried out of doors 'where the feet of ordinary men could pass over him.' This, and the possible mistranslation of a medieval text, may have given rise to the story that when the saint's bones were moved inside the Old Minster on his feast day, 15th July 971, a terrible storm broke out, lasting for 40 days and nights. This is the basis of the popular belief that if it rains on 15th July, it will rain for 40 days. Sadly, this claim has no basis in fact.

What happened to his shrine? The cult of St Swithun and his shrine came to an abrupt end during the Reformation, when King Henry VIII seized control of the Catholic Church in England, and declared himself head of the English Church. On 21 September 1538, under cover of darkness at 3am in the morning, the king's commissioners smashed the shrine apart, and stole all the valuables. Three years later, a workman stopped up the Holy Hole. Nothing now remains of his once great shrine today, but a modern memorial can now be seen that that marks the spot.

Lord's Prayer Wordsearch 1

P B V R E H T A F R N E E V I G R O F C O M E M T R E S S P A S S E S A L D K I N G D O M E Q N S E T E M P T A T I O N L L Y W X A G A I N S T E I H E A V E N G I S T A V F V D E W O L L A H D E H I E N O D Q E K T E R Z L G T E D A I L Y	AGAINST COME DAILY DELIVER DONE EVIL FATHER FORGIVE GIVE HALLOWED	HEAVEN KINGDOM LEAD NAME TEMPTATION TRESSPASSES
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*There will be a Special Collection this week-end
for The Apostleship of the Sea*

Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Today's second collection is for Apostleship of the Sea, the Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually.

This collection is vital to enable it to continue its work, so please give generously and remember seafarers in your prayers. Thank you. For further information please visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Pray for Seafarers, Pray for Us

O Mary, Star of The Sea, light of every ocean, Guide seafarers across all dark and stormy seas that they may reach the haven of peace and light prepared in Him who calmed the sea. As we set forth upon the oceans of the world and cross deserts of our time, show us, O Mary, the fruit of your womb, for without your Son we are lost. Pray that we will never fail on life's journey, that in heart and mind, word and deed, in days of turmoil and in days of calm, we will always look to Christ and say, 'Who is this that even wind and sea obey him?' Our Lady of Peace, pray for us!
Bright Star of the Sea, guide us!

The Offertory collection last Sunday,

7th July, amounted to £206.11.

Of this amount **£60** was given in Gift Aid Envelopes (an extra **£15** for the Parish) but **£146.11** was in Loose Plate (therefore a loss of potential income of **£36.53**) This may not seem a large sum but when it is added up over the quarter it could make a huge difference to our Gift Aid Claim.

We fully appreciate that not everyone is eligible to join the Diocesan Gift Aid Donation Scheme but if you pay UK tax, we would ask that you please consider completing the simple form which would allow us to claim back the tax (which you have already paid) on any monies you give to St. Mary's. Of the **548** people we have on the Parish Register, only **96** of those re-registered for Gift Aid when the new form was issued last year. Forms are available at the back of the Church and can be handed into the office or placed in any of the collection boxes.



CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS TO THE PARISH with card or phone

Card readers are on the table by the Repository shop. All you need do is type in your donation and tap your card or phone on the reader. You can add a description, for example, **GA** for a Gift-Aided donation plus your GA number. Or for the second collection today—type **AS** for Apostleship of the Sea.

Minute Meditations

In intercessory prayer, I speak to God on behalf of another and their petition, be it a person, situation, or a community. In this way, reflecting on someone else and interceding for them is a manifestation of genuine love for another. Intercessory prayer also reminds me that I am not in charge, that more often than not, there is nothing that I can "do" for someone in need. But intercession is not only praying for someone else's needs. It is holding that person or situation in prayer—with trust and confidence that God will take care of all, and that whatever happens next, it will all be well. It's an intimate petition to our Father in heaven. This is praying to the Father as Jesus did.

"Let Us Pray: Interceding for One Another"

by María Ruiz Scaperlanda

***"Let sacrifice, not convenience,
Be the measure of your generosity."
Pope Saint John Paul II***