

GRIDIRON

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR
THE PARISH OF ST LAURENCE, LONG EATON

in the Diocese of Derby and the See of Oswestry

www.st-laurence.net

Sunday 11th September 2022
24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9.30am THE PARISH MASS

Presider and preacher: Father David

Welcome to our worship this Sunday. Baptised and communicant members of any Christian denomination are welcome to receive Holy Communion; if you'd prefer to receive a blessing, please carry a Mass booklet or hymn book with you when you come to the communion point. Gluten-free communion hosts are available – please let a sidesperson know if you require one. Large-print copies of the Order of Mass and children's Mass Booklets are also available. Refreshments are served after Mass in the Hall – please join us.

Welcome, also, today – **Education Sunday** - to **Mrs Ronni Barker**, the Headteacher of our parish school, who will give us an 'update' on the school after the final hymn, and will join us for coffee after Mass.

Music at St Laurence's this morning

*Today's hymns are from **Hymns Old and New***

Introit	274	Give me joy in my heart
Gloria	Gloria 4	
Offertory	559	O thou, who at thy Eucharist ...
Sanctus	Sanctus 3	
Agnus Dei	Agnus Dei 2	
Post Communion	365	Sweet Sacrament divine
Recessional	433	I cannot tell*

**The first verse is sung before the Angelus, the remaining verses following.*

Next Sunday 18th September 2022
25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9.30am THE PARISH MASS

Presider and preacher: Father David

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

***A priest is usually available to hear confessions
forty-five minutes before Mass on weekdays,
from 8.30am on Sundays, or by appointment.***

THIS WEEK at ST LAURENCE

Wednesday HOLY CROSS DAY 10.00am Mass

Friday Sts Cornelius and Cyprian 12noon Mass

Saturday St Hildegard of Bingen 10.00am Mass

*Mass is also celebrated at Holy Trinity, Ilkeston,
on Tuesday at 9.30am, and on Thursday at 7.00pm.*

COVID-19

OUR RESPONSIBILITY OF CARE FOR EACH OTHER PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Following the further lifting of restrictions, but in light of the continuing risk of infection, here at St Laurence you are requested to be measured in your contact with others, who may still be anxious and very concerned. **The Sharing of the Peace** will continue in a 'socially-observant' manner – please don't move around the church. **The Communion greeting**, 'The Body of Christ', is now restored individually, but you are asked to reply, 'Amen', *sotto voce*! The priest will continue to sanitise his hands before distributing the host, and may choose to wear a face visor/covering during the administration.

PRAYERS, PLEASE ...

The Sick: Judy Crisp, Elvena Dew, Renée Else, Grace Fouracres, Keith Hann, Kati Hart, Jane Hessey, Julie Hunt, Barry Kirk, Pauline Lawley, Angela Pown, Ian Rogers, Bill Turner, Cordel Young, Jemima, John and Natalie.

The Recently Departed: Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Anthony Couchman priest, Michelle Stone.

Anniversaries of death this week: Howard Gadd (Tue), Florence Chattell (Wed), Reginald Redfern priest (Thu), Nancy Guise (Sat).

Thought for the week ...

Jesus makes himself poor that we may be able to do him charity; he stretches out his hand to us like a beggar, that upon the sunlit day of Judgement, when he appears in his glory, he may be able to utter and we to hear the loving words: 'Come, blessed of my Father; for I was hungry and you gave me to eat: I was thirsty and you gave me to drink: I was a stranger and you took me in: I was in prison, sick, and you came to me.' It was Jesus himself who uttered those words, it is he who wants our love, begs for it. He puts himself, so to say, at our mercy. And the smallest thing is precious in his divine eyes.

St Teresa of Kolkata (Mother Teresa)

This week's spiritual link from New Pilgrim Path:



New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week:

On Not Knowing How to Pray

'Prayer is a deliberate openness to God...What kind of prayer opens us to authentic encounter with God?' Dr Sarah Bachelard is an Anglican priest and theologian based in Canberra, Australia. She is a member of the ecumenical World Community for Christian Meditation. In a very engaging 50-minute talk, she explores the ancient tradition of monastic contemplation and its deep relevance to 21st century pilgrims. Watch it here: www.newpilgrimpath.ie.

New Pilgrim Path introduces fellow Christians of all denominations to the great wealth of online spiritual resources that our small team has discovered and continues to discover. We provide links to, and a brief description of, a variety of resources we have explored and found valuable. In addition to our permanent pages, each week we feature a **Website of the Week**, **Poem of the Week** and **Music of the Week**. We hope these links will help visitors to encounter the person of Christ. Our small team of two people run it on a shoestring. We neither look for nor accept any form of financial support such as advertising and donations. Our only way of promoting the site is through word of mouth. If you find our website useful, please share the link: www.newpilgrimpath.ie.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING 2022

Sunday 25th September at St Laurence – donations of foodstuffs for The Canaan Trust are invited – a box may be found at the back of church. The Harvest Supper will be held the previous evening, Saturday 24th September. Price for a two course hot meal and tea or coffee followed by a quiz is £8. Please sign-up on the sheet at the back of church stating your preference for main course and pay Yvonne Shattower or Mary West. Final numbers needed by next Sunday 18th September to allow for food to be bought. You are, of course, most welcome to bring wine to accompany the meal if you wish to! No charge for corkage ...

Items for inclusion in The Gridiron ...

should be sent to Father David by Thursday lunchtime, please.

**THE PARISH CHURCH
OF ST LAURENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR
LONG EATON**

Parish Priest

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A FORWARD IN FAITH PARISH IN THE SEE OF OSWESTRY AND



The Society
under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

About today's Mass readings:**First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13f**

Today's Mass readings begin with a fine argument between the Lord and Moses. 'Your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt', say the Lord to Moses. 'Your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt', say Moses to the Lord. Like parents, each blames the other for a misbehaving child. As soon as Moses' back was turned Israel made itself an idol in the form of a golden calf – or rather a golden bull, called a 'calf' merely to be derisory – after the model of the local storm-gods. The principal point is that, for all his blazing anger, the Lord cannot maintain his wrath against the people to whom he has promised an eternal inheritance. Once again, God changes his mind. His love of his people triumphs over his anger. In the next chapter he passes before Moses and cries out the meaning of the name 'the Lord': a God of mercy and forgiveness, slow to anger, rich in faithful love and constancy, a meaning of the name which will echo down the pages of the scripture. The reading prepares us for the parable of the Lost Son in today's Gospel.

Second Reading: I Timothy 1:12-17

Most biblical scholars hold that, in accordance with a contemporary convention, the letters to Timothy and Titus were not actually written by Paul, but by a faithful disciple, still inspired by Paul, who puts what Paul would have said in the particular circumstances. Paul is represented as directing his two principal co-operators in their organisation of Church structures. These letters present a valuable picture of the problems of the Church, a generation or two after Paul, settling into an organisational pattern towards the end of the first and the beginning of the second centuries, and finding its way among the values of Hellenistic society. In the present reading Paul's open confession of his ferocious way of life before his conversion to Christianity, and the mercy he received from the Lord, pairs well with the record of divine mercy in the other two readings set for today. The final little confession of faith in Christ as Saviour is one of the many declarations of Christological doctrine which give a special richness to these letters. Traditional formulations of doctrine are especially valued guidelines in these letters, showing us that even this early in the Christian tradition the Church was beginning to very cogently put into words her beliefs about the person of Jesus, and of our relationship to him.

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-32

Today's gospel gives us three particularly attractive Lukan parables of forgiveness. That Luke recounts the three stories in direct succession one

to another is yet another example of his careful planning and editing of the material he drew into his account of the Good News. The first two form a typical Lukan pair. First comes the story of the lost sheep, which comes also in Matthew. Luke, however, puts all the accent on the joy in heaven at the return of the sinner. Then, to the story of the man looking for his sheep, Luke adds the story of a woman looking for her lost coin. He is always careful to show that women have an equal part in the Kingdom with men. So he deliberately pairs Zechariah and Mary, Simeon and Anna, Jairus' daughter raised to life with the Widow of Naim's son, and so on. The main story, however, is that of the Lost Son, told with all Luke's love, artistry and delicacy of character-study: the wastrel son who goes back home simply because he is hungry; the loving father perpetually on the look-out, running to meet the son, interrupting the carefully-prepared speech and pampering the returned wastrel; the disgruntled stay-at-home who invents slanders about the other's 'loose women' and is gently corrected by his father's 'your brother'. An unforgettable picture of the overflowing love and forgiveness of God.

A Saint for this week

St John Chrysostom (349-407)

13th September

John Chrysostom was born in Antioch. After a thorough education, he took up the ascetic life. He was ordained to the priesthood, and became a fruitful and effective preacher. He was elected Patriarch of Constantinople in 397, and was energetic in reforming the ways of the clergy and the laity alike. He incurred the displeasure of the Emperor and was twice forced into exile. When the second exile, to Armenia, had lasted three years, it was decided that he should be sent still further away, but he died on the journey, worn out by his hardships. His sermons and writings did much to explain the Christian faith and to encourage the living of the Christian life: his eloquence earned him the surname **Chrysostom** (the Greek for 'golden mouth'). Curiously, his most famous prayer, (beginning, 'Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee ...') was inserted by Thomas Cranmer into the order for Evensong in the First Prayer Book of 1549, and remains in the Book of Common Prayer to this day.