



THE
CHURCH
GOD'S
TREE

St Thomas Aquinas and St Stephen Harding Catholic Church

Diocese of Shrewsbury Deanery of Telford and East Shropshire

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Newsletter 16 – 23 June 2024

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B Weekdays Year 2

Date	Market Drayton	Intention	Newport
Saturday 15 June	Mass 9.30am	Priest's Intention	Vigil Mass 5.30pm
Sunday 16 June 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass 11am	Kieren Bonner RIP	Mass 9.15am
Monday 17 June <i>Feria</i>			
Tuesday 18 June <i>Feria</i>	Zoom Evening Prayer		Mass 10am
Wednesday 19 June <i>St Romuald</i>	Mass 10am Exposition & Benediction	Alan Chadwick RIP	Mass 10am
Thursday 20 June <i>St Alban</i>			Mass 7pm
Friday 21 June <i>St Aloysius Gonzaga</i>	Rosary 7pm		Mass 10am Exposition & Benediction
Saturday 22 June SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE	Mass 9.30am	Priest's Intention	Vigil Mass 5.30pm
Sunday 23 June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass 11am	Mary Colgan RIP	Mass 9.15am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

9.15 Wednesday, 10am Saturday or by appointment with Fr Lee

Day of Special Prayer for Life The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, Day for Life is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year, which fall this year on 16 June. The theme this year is *The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life*. A debate on end-of-life issues has been in the headlines in recent months with calls for assisted suicide being expressed, especially by celebrities, a view that opposes the Catholic view that life is a gift and that we are called to care for others at the end of their lives. More Information <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>. See also General Election item overleaf.

Father's Day A Prayer for Christian Fathers. Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience. Support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Refugee Week 17 - 23 June 2024 Bishop Paul McAleenan, Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees for the Bishops' Conference, offers a reflection on three themes – his recent visit to the Bibby Stockholm barge, the impact of the Rwanda Bill, & societal attitudes towards refugees and migrants. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk>.

Please keep the following parishioners in your prayers ... Eddie Hickey, Freya Jackson, Fr Anthony Wild, John O'Rourke, David Smith, Niall Gallivan, Doreen Dodd, Faye Hargreaves, Mary Goodwin, Julian & Dawn Huxley, Shane McGroggan, and all sick and housebound of the parish.



† **Please pray for the repose of the soul of Helen Smith**, wife of parishioner David, who has recently died, and for her family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Readings for the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time year B Psalter week 3

Ent antiphon O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour.

1st reading Ezekiel 17: 22-24. *I make low trees grow.*

Response **It is good to give you thanks, O Lord. x3**

2nd reading 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10. *Whether we are living in the body, or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.*

Acclamation **Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!**

Gospel Mark 4: 26-34. *It is the smallest of seeds, yet it grows into the biggest shrub.*

Comm ant **There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**



Peace Please pray for the people of **Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, Morocco, Sudan, Nigeria, Uganda, Yemen and Iraq** and all those in countries affected by, unrest and conflict; pray for an end to war, and for peace.

General Election Bishop Mark's Statement on the General Election 2024 In the porch are printed copies of Bishop Mark's statement on the forthcoming General Election and an additional letter Bishop Philip Egan sent to the clergy religious and faithful in April 2024. Do please take a copy home with you. More information for the election can be found on the website of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>.



New Lectionary The translation of the Bible used at Mass will change on the 1st Sunday of Advent 2024. CTS are now advertising the new Missals, available in October, at the price of £19.95. Order now for 10% discount (£17.96). If you order with the parish, it will be free of postage. A list is in the porch for you to sign up for your copy, **last date for ordering Sunday 23 June**. Cheques payable to 'SS Thomas & Stephen' or cash to Helen McSherry.

New Lectionary Donations The church will be purchasing the Lectionary Ambo Edition (there are Four Volumes) and the Book of the Gospels. The prices of these are £695.00 for the Four Volumes of Readings (£173.75 per volume) and £395.00 for the Book of the Gospels. (This is before the preproduction discount). Each volume comes with a donation plate to be stuck into the front of each book. Should anyone wish to donate towards the cost of these for example in loving memory of departed loved ones, or in thanksgiving. Do please speak to Fr Lee or Deacon Wilf.

Doctors of the Church: 15/37 St Peter Damian 1007-1072 Feast day 21 February. Born in Ravenna, orphaned when young, he was left in the charge of a brother in whose house he was treated more like a slave than family. He joined a community of hermits, and was essentially a reformer, both as a monk and later as Cardinal Bishop of Ostia. He was called a Doctor of the Church by Pope Leo XII without previous canonisation. He is one of those stern figures who seem specially raised up, like St. John the Baptist, to recall men in a lax age from the error of their ways and to bring them back into the narrow path of virtue. His onslaught on clerical behaviour is called the Gomorrah Book' he even asked them not to play chess! *"Strengthen your patience with understanding, and look forward serenely to the joy that comes after sadness."*



Divine Mercy Celebration and Veneration of 1st Class Relic of St Faustina Led by Fr Peter Prusakiewicz from Poland, who travels the world proclaiming and explaining the Divine Mercy devotion and talking about his experience of St Michael the Archangel and Holy Angels. Please join us at St Anne's Rock Ferry from 12 to 2.30pm on Wednesday 19 June for Mass and a talk, followed by a Eucharistic healing service with veneration of a 1st class relic of St Faustino. There will also be an opportunity to purchase rosaries and the Angels magazine.

A Lively Musical Evening to support SVP Youth Work, with The Mercy Brothers

On Friday 21 June you are invited to an evening with The Mercy Brothers, a clergy-based band from the Salford and Shrewsbury Diocese. Funds raised will go to support for SVP Youth Work in the Shrewsbury and Salford Dioceses. Venue: Our Lady's Social Club, Flint St, Stockport, SK3 8GE. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets at £15 are available from <https://giving.give-star.com/event/saint-vincent-de-paul-society-england-and-wales/a-lively-musical-evening-with-the-mercy-brothers> or on the door.



Dementia Care Pauline Lauder would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all who have sponsored her walk. If you still have money for this cause, please give any donations to Pauline.

Offertory	09.06.2024	Loose plate £112.90	Envelopes £104.00	Standing Orders £181.06	Total £397.96	Thank you!
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