



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) 22nd July 2018

DIV

Sunday Reflection: –Holiday time approaches. Many look forward to a good break; they need time for rest, relaxation and solitude. In today's Gospel we find Jesus acknowledging this need for his Apostles – “you must come away to some lonely place and rest a while.” In this we see the caring Jesus – Jesus is caring for the careers and trying to guard the value of rest and refreshment. But their escape into privacy does not succeed. The needy people foresee where they are aiming for and follow them. So, while holding the care of the apostles in his heart, Jesus is confronted with the large mass of people in desperate need before him. His solution to the dilemma is predictable; “he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd.” He recognizes their need is greater. In this episode we meet the kind and tender Jesus. We see the kind of person Jesus is, and the kind of God Jesus reveals. We see the tenderness of God for his people. Jesus is the good shepherd, who commits himself to attending to the needs of the flock. What a contrast with the shepherd leaders criticized by the prophet Jeremiah? They abandon the sheep and neglect their basic duties of caring for the flock entrusted to them; “you have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them”. The good shepherd by contrast is prepared ‘to put his life on the line’ for the sake of the flock, because the sheep are always the Lord's sheep. Jesus shows us a compassionate and caring God, and he shows his Apostles and all of us that he wants to establish a compassionate caring Church, in touch with human needs and ready to reach out and respond to the needs that emerge from suffering and humanity.

“War Room” – A movie on the power of prayer, starring the American Christian evangelist, Priscilla Shirer. Will be shown in the Founders Room this Sunday 22nd July at 4pm. All are Welcome.

Responses at Mass – We ask all our regular Mass goers to respond wholeheartedly to the dialogue prayers of the Mass. This is an area of Parish life that is in need of improvement in our Parish. Sometimes the responses are very weak, and the Priest is tempted to look up just to make sure the Congregation is there. This feature was remarked on recently by a visitor, so this is a call to all our good and regular Mass goers to put voice, body and heart into our Mass responses. For example: The Lord be with you, **And with your spirit.** Lift up your hearts, **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God, **It is right and just.** This effort is needed as holiday time approaches.

Confirmation Certificates & Photos – We hope to decide on a date for the distribution of these to our recently Confirmed young people after we have an opportunity to consult with the great Catechists who were such an important part of the Programme and Celebration. Apologies for the delay.

Eucharistic Congress – Liverpool, 7 – 9 September 2018. Our Cardinal calls us to the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

A Day with Mary – At St Mary of the Angels, Moorhouse Road, W2 on Saturday 28th July 2018. Please check noticeboard for details.

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm

(Lunch Hour 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm

Sunday 8.30am

10am

(Spanish) 11.15am

12.15pm

7pm

Mon – Sat 10am

6.30pm

Sacrament of Confession

Mon – Fri 6.15 – 6.30pm

Saturday 10.45 – 11.15am

6.00 – 6.30pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon – Fri 10.30 am – 11.15am

Rosary – Wednesdays 10.30am, followed by Tea/Coffee in the Founders Room.

Legion of Mary – Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Library. New members are welcome!

Charismatic Prayer Group: Is now on break and will return on Thursday 2nd August.

Saints Days

Mon 23rd – St Bridget of Sweden

Tue 24th – St Sharbel Makhluf

Wed 25th – St James

Thu 26th – Ss Joachim and Anne

Fri 20th – St Apollinaris

Sat 21st – St Lawrence of Brindisi

Toddler Group: is now on Summer Break and will resume in September.

Funeral Service for:

Margaret Mary Lawrence will be held on Thursday 26th July 2018 at 11.30am.