



# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)**

**25<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**Sunday Reflection:** Jesus advises His disciples in today's Gospel, "Do not be afraid". This is a bold and challenging piece of advice, especially in today's World where intimidation is so evident. Recent events of terrorism and the Grenfell Tower fire in North Kensington were all real causes of 'fear'. There are many happenings in our World today that generate real 'fear'. It is something we have all experienced in one form or another. Depending on the immediate cause we can easily be paralysed by 'fear'. But 'fear' can also have a positive side to it, in that it can motivate us to move quickly and get out of the way of danger and so seek protection and safety. Jesus knew His disciples would encounter 'Fear', so He gives this solid advice to them, 'Do not be afraid'. I believe it occurs 365 times in scripture, one for every day in the year!! But Jesus did not just repeat this advice, He also prepared a real Remedy to overcome and heal "fear" and that of course was "Trust". For Him the only antidote to 'fear' was "Trust in God"; 'Trust a loving Father to hold you and protect you in the face of intimidation. He is really saying "God's love for you, is stronger than fear", so stand firm. In our first Reading we hear how the great prophet Jeremiah overcame the fear that surrounded him with the strong faith that upheld him: "But the Lord is at my side a mighty hero". Jesus himself prayed on 'His Cross', "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit". Sometime later He experienced 'Resurrection to new Life'; Jesus also reminds His disciples to remember their 'worth' or 'value'; you have a value in God's eyes, so don't submit to the merchants of death and destruction. Jesus tells us all to 'stand firm' and not to submit to those who make a cheap offer: 'Don't be afraid of those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul". Jesus urges all His disciples to know and trust in the Father's love for them, because God's everlasting love is the only real offer you cannot refuse. This is what we find in Jeremiah, Jesus Himself and all the Christian Martyrs who faced their persecutors with awesome courage. More recently we have the example of Bishop Oscar Romero, who conquered fear and gave his life in the cause of justice by challenging unjust Regimes and Policies. He too knew God was on his side".

**Day for Life 2017** – Today Sun 25<sup>th</sup> June. We should reflect "On the dignity of every human person, both young and old and pray for and support all life from conception to natural death". (Bishop Sherrington). On the Italian Day for Life in February this year, Pope Francis said; "May no one be left alone and may love defend the sense of life". We pray for Mothers and their children. Our Collection today supports the good work of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other projects to protect life at every stage.

**St Peregrine Mass** – The healing Mass of St Peregrine is on next wed 28<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm. Come along to pray for all who are ill, especially those suffering from Cancer.

**International Mass** – Is scheduled for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 12.15pm Mass in our Church and will be followed by an International Lunch in the School playground. Our next meeting is on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 7.15pm to finalise plans. We ask the Liturgy group of the Parish Council to organize the Liturgy for the Mass and to contact different language representatives to do the "Welcomes". With regard to the Lunch we were pleased to see so many national volunteers ready and willing to organize their 'National' food-table for the celebration. Hopefully with all working together it should be a great occasion.

**Parish Outing** – On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2017, going to Littlehampton seaside and also to do some fruit & vegetables picking. The coach is now full! For those travelling, Collection Point will be at Worlds end Square Kings Road @ 7am. All Proceeds will go to the people of the Philippine City of Mawari which is under attack.

**Generous Response** – We are most grateful for your very generous response to last Sundays 2<sup>nd</sup> collection for the support of the victims of the terrible tragedy at Grenfell Tower. The total amounted to £2,075. Let us continue to remember all these People in our prayers.

## Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon - Thur 9am to 5pm

(Lunch Hour 1.30pm - 2.30pm)

## Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30 pm

Sunday 8.30 am

10 am

(Spanish) 11.15 am

12.15 pm

7 pm

Mon - Sat 10 am

6.30pm

## Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Thurs 6.15 - 6.30 pm

Saturday 10.45 - 11.15 am

6.00 - 6.30 pm

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon - Thur 10.30 am - 11.15 am

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 – Every Thursday 11am in the Founders' Room.

## Saints Days

Tue 27<sup>th</sup> – St John Southworth

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> – St Irenaeus

Thur 29<sup>th</sup> – Sts Peter & Paul

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> July – Dedication of the Cathedral (1910)

Baptismal Course: Will be on Tues 4<sup>th</sup> and Tues 11<sup>th</sup> of July at 7.30pm. Both Parents need to attend. Please obtain a registration form from the Parish Office.

Toddler Group: Will be in the Founders Room on Tuesday Morning from 9.30am. All are Welcome!