



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 30th July 2017

Sunday Reflection: “The pearl of great value” – in one way or another we are all treasure-seekers. Some of us will have seen the figure with his metal detector, either in the countryside or by the sea shore, hoping to unearth a hidden treasure which will change his life for the better. Nowadays we look to the lottery or the stock-market to provide us with the jackpot that will ensure instant happiness. In his teachings Jesus alerts us to this aspect of ourselves, “the seeker”, “the searcher” within us. Not everything we find is “the pearl of great price”. Our first reading today comes to our assistance. When Solomon was told he could have any gift he wanted from God, he choose to ask the Lord for “a heart wise and shrewd” and the Lord answered his prayer. We all need “a discerning heart” so as to know the true values in life, and to be able to recognize “the genuine article”. Jesus in this parable compares the Kingdom of God to “a rare pearl of great value” which is worth acquiring. When its value is acknowledged then we sacrifice everything in life in order to acquire and hold unto this “priceless pearl”. In Jesus’ parables, the kingdom of God means the “Reign” or “Reigning” of God in our lives. It is really our consciousness of God, or our awareness of God’s presence. This is the bedrock of our faith. The Kingdom of God means to live in the awareness that we are children of God, unconditionally loved, gifted with a divine dignity and an eternal destiny and these colour and shape how we see our brothers and sisters. In the last analysis, Jesus gives us this faith-vision, so He is the pearl of great value.

Prayerful Congratulations – We offer our prayerful Congratulations to our own Fr. Philip Allen OSM. Who celebrated his Golden Jubilee of Ordination on 22nd July 2017, last Saturday. The occasion will be duly marked and celebrated now that all the Community are re-assembled on Monday 31st July with Mass and Community Celebration. Fr. Philip was brought up in this Parish, attended our Servite Primary School, and after that went to Cardinal Vaughan Secondary School. He was baptised in our Servite Church and made his First Holy Communion here and his First Sacrament of Reconciliation. He was also Confirmed in our Parish Church, and was duly ordained a Priest here in this very Church on 22nd July 1967, at the hands of the then Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, Bishop Patrick Casey. He is certainly a lifelong member of the Parish, ‘a child’ of the Servite Parish. We promise to remember him in our prayers. We offer him our sincere “Congratulations” and good wishes and blessings for the future. We give thanks for his 50years of Ministry in the Order of Servants of Mary and especially for his years spent on “home ground”, as “one of our own”. Ad Multos annos.

Young Musicians – We welcome one of the Children’s groups of the Royal School of Church Music to perform at our 6.30pm Mass on this Saturday, 29th July 2017, together with Rosemary their Teacher. We are grateful for their musical gifts and presence with us.

Summer Changes – During the Month of August of this year 2017, we will only have One Mass each week day (Monday – Friday). On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays Mass will be celebrated at 10am each morning and on Tuesdays and Thursdays Mass will be celebrated at 6.30pm each day. We hope and pray this will facilitate our weekly Mass goes. Please let us know if this is convenient for you. We also have other Mass commitments to fulfill. We trust you understand. On Saturdays Masses will be at 10am and 6.30pm. Sundays Masses will be as usual. Thank you for your co-operation.

New Foundation Degree for Catholics working in Healthcare & those seeking to be Chaplains – Starting in October, St Mary’s University Twickenham is pleased to offer a new foundation degree in Healthcare Ethics, Theology and Care. This is a part time two year programme, one evening a week and additional lectures and resources. If you are interested in applying or finding out more please contact matthew.james@stmarys.ac.uk

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

Mon 31st – St Ignatius of Loyola
Tues 1st – St Alphonsus Liguori
Wed 2nd – St Eusebius of Vercelli
St Peter Julian Eymard
Fri 4th – St John Vianney

Readers Rota: Is now ready for
collection.

Day With Mary: At Our Lady of
Muswell, Colney Hatch Lane,
London N10 on Saturday 12th
August 2017.