

SUNDAY BULLETIN

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 21ST, 2020

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BURSLEM & TUNSTALL,	MASS TIMES	Sacred Heart	Saint Joseph's	Mass Intention
	<p>The Sacred Heart Tunstall Queens Avenue ST6 6EE thesacredhearttunstall@gmail.com www.thesacredhearttunstall.org.uk</p> <p>Saint Joseph's Burslem Hall Street ST6 4BB stjosephburslem@gmail.com www.stjosephsburslem.org.uk</p> <p>Fr. Stanislaus Chukwube, CSSp. Parish Priest parishpriestsht@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Parish Secretariat:</i> Carol Critchlow Office hours: Wed, Thurs and the Fri 10 am to 2pm 13 Queen's Avenue Tunstall ST6 6EE 01782 838357</p> <p><i>Safeguarding:</i> Mrs May Algar 07817212552 Mrs Ellen Churchill 07859916416</p>	Saturday June 20 th <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary, Memorial</i>		
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Day of Life</i>				Mass in Private People of the Parish
Monday 22 nd <i>SS John Fisher & Thomas More, Feast</i>				Mass in Private Richard Lusher (Birthday)
Tuesday 23 rd <i>Feria</i>				Mass in Private Special Intention
Wednesday 24 th <i>The Nativity of St. John Baptist, Sol.</i>		Individual Prayer 11am-1pm		Mass in Private Anne Platt RIP
Thursday 25 th <i>Feria</i>				Mass in Private Special Intention
Friday 26 th <i>Feria</i>				Mass in Private Special Intention
Saturday 27 th <i>Feria</i>				Mass in Private Special Intention
SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER & PAUL, Apostles.		Private Prayer 11am-1pm	Private Prayer 11.30 - 1.30pm	Mass in Private Anne Platt RIP

REOPENING OF CHURCHES FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

The Sacred Heart Church was opened (after the total lockdown) for individual prayer on Friday 19th, 2020 – the day marking the 90th Anniversary of the Church. From this Sunday 21st June Sacred Heart will continue to be opened for individual prayers (Wednesdays and Sundays 11am to 1pm). St Joseph's Church will be opened on Sundays only for now (11.30am to 1.30pm) from Sunday 28th June. By individual prayer is meant "a person or household entering the venue to pray on their own and not as part of a group, led prayer or communal act."

Those who come to the church for private prayers have to sanitise their hands at the entry and exit points in the church. Avoid touching or physically venerating the statues or relics. The seating capacity of each of the churches for now is limited to about 25% in view of the appropriate social distancing (2 meters) following the markings on the pews and as the parishioner on duty directs. People with cold or flu-like symptoms are advised not to enter the church.

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU BACK TO OUR CHURCH.

Bishops stand in solidarity with US sisters and brothers as they challenge the evil of racism and the brutal killing of George Floyd. Wed, June 3rd, 2020

"We stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the USA as they challenge the evil of racism and the brutal killing of George Floyd. As the US Bishops made clear: 'we cannot turn a blind eye to these atrocities and yet still try to profess to respect every human life. We serve a God of love, mercy, and justice.'

"Systemic racism is embedded in our own society. The disproportionate harm suffered by BAME people throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted profound inequalities, marginalisation and injustice here in the UK. The peaceful Black Lives Matter protests taking place in our towns and cities this week reflect the understandable anger that so many people feel about this.

"As Catholics we recognise that racism is an evil which must be opposed; we all have a responsibility for actively promoting racial justice. Whenever we ignore racism or dismiss.

BAME people's experience of it, we are complicit in violations of human dignity. We pray for God's help to overcome racism in all its forms and that we might protect everyone who suffers its consequences. We are all made in God's image."

Bishop Declan Lang
Lead Bishop for International Affairs

Bishop Paul McAleenan
Lead Bishop for Racial Justice

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS of Margaret Mary Murinas, Marion Ruth Pittaway, Ann Platt and all those whose anniversary occur at this time. May they rest in perfect peace.

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE

For all enquiries for Catholic Marriage and Baptism, kindly contact the Parish Priest at the parish office.

PRAYER A DAY FOR VOCATIONS

Please email or Facebook Carol to choose a day in June to pray for vocations during the month on behalf of the parish.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE. The Way of the Heart:

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

A PART TIME TRUST SECRETARY FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese is seeking a voluntary part time Trust Secretary to assist the Trustees in good "corporate practices". Details can be found on: <http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs>

APPRECIATION

We thank a family in our parish who was thoughtful and generous enough to donate a lawn mower to the parish. Thanks also to some volunteers who have worked very hard in the past couple of weeks to help out in different capacities in our parish. May God bless you as you make sacrifices for our dear Parish.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fear conceals itself...

How easy to become paranoid, to wonder what others might be saying about us. These aspects can be present outside our relationship and within it; at their core is fear! Jesus continuously exhorts the Twelve, "do not be afraid...every hair on your head has been counted". Living our life now in Christ, we will not fear what others think.

ZIP WIRE CHALLENGE SPONSORSHIP.

Thank you to all who contributed to the St. Joseph's Zip Wire Challenge. You were able to raise £135 before the lockdown. We wish you God's blessings.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

We begin this Sunday's reflection with a round of questions: How do we evaluate the culture in our society today? Can we deny that it is a culture of individualism as opposed to community, of self-interest as opposed to common good, of consumerism as opposed to need, of material possession, as opposed to spiritual personal worth, of advancement and success as opposed to ethical, moral behavior? If this is so, must we not very seriously ask ourselves: Is it possible to be a Christian without being, by that very fact, counter-cultural? Is it possible to be a Christian and to be comfortable in our modern world? Is it possible to be a Christian and to accept without question the status quo, the way things are? Or must a Christian necessarily be critical, prophetically critical, and in the fullest sense of the word a Christ-like sign of contradiction? That is, is it possible for us to be Christians, without bearing witness to the Gospel, irrespective of the difficulties involved? Today's liturgy tells us that it is not possible. If we are called by Christ and really respond to the call, then we cannot escape the burden of bearing witness. Prophet Jeremiah in the first reading saw "terror from every side" of people disparaging and denouncing him. They saw the words he preached as a disturbance to their way of life. Jeremiah thought of absconding but the word of God becomes like fire burning in his heart, imprisoned in his bones, he could not but proclaim the good news. The Lord was with him and delivered his soul.

In the Gospel reading Jesus sends out the Twelve and tells them not to be afraid nor be intimidated by what people say or do to them when they speak out and acknowledge Jesus in the light of my gospel values, rather "what I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops." Christian call is an invitation to a life of courageous witness to the Gospel message.

One calls to mind the six Jesuits who were murdered in El Salvador in 1989 because they spoke out against injustice in their society and acknowledged Jesus in the light of his gospel values. Leah Sharibu, a Christian girl, is one of the over one hundred school girls abducted by Boko Haram, an Islamist terrorist group, in Dapchi, Northern Nigeria in February 19, 2018. All the Christian girls abducted by the terrorists agreed to renounce their faith in exchange for freedom, but Leah stood her ground refusing to renounce her faith. The rest of the girls were released except Leah. She has undergone despicable abuse from the terrorists but as I write this homily she is still in captivity.

Christianity does not ask us if we are ready for martyrdom, rather it asks us a much simpler question: Have you ever even gotten into a little bit of trouble yet - in the name of Jesus?