

SUNDAY BULLETIN

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 28TH, 2020

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BURSLEM & TUNSTALL, The Sacred Heart Tunstall Queens Avenue ST6 6EE thesacredhearttunstall@gmail.com www.thesacredhearttunstall.org.uk Saint Joseph's Burslem Hall Street ST6 4BB stjosephburslem@gmail.com www.stjosephsburslem.org.uk Fr. Stanislaus Chukwube, CSSp. Parish Priest parishpriestsht@gmail.com <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 <i>Safeguarding:</i> Mrs May Algar 07817212552 Mrs Ellen Churchill 07859916416	MASS TIMES	Sacred Heart	Saint Joseph's		Mass Intention
	Saturday June 27 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private	Intentions of Jean Harding
	THIRTEETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul, Apostles</i>	Private Prayer 11am-1pm	Private Prayer 11.30 - 1.30pm	Mass in Private	Winnie Hall RIP
	Monday 29 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private	Anne Platt RIP
	Tuesday 30 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	Wednesday 1 st	Private Prayer 11am-1pm		Mass in Private	Anne Platt RIP
	Thursday 2 nd <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	Friday 3 rd <i>St. Thomas, Apostle</i>			Mass in Private	Gertrude Field RIP
	Saturday 4 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.30am		Holy Mass	People of the Parish
			11.30am	Holy Mass	Anne Platt RIP

IMPORTANT MESSAGE AS WE OPEN OUR CHURCHES FOR PUBLIC MASS.

St Joseph's and Sacred Heart churches will be open for public Masses from Sunday 5th June, 2020. Our schedule (at least for the month of July) will be as follows:

- Sundays 9.30am Sacred Heart
 11.30am St. Joseph's
- Wednesdays 11am – 1 pm Adoration and Holy Mass at Sacred Heart.

The number of Masses could be increased depending on the availability of volunteers to sanitise the churches after each use. Pews will be "roped off" to maintain the social distancing. Families may sit together. Please follow the direction of the church stewards. It is advisable to wear face mask especially if you are keeping a one-meter distance as opposed to two. There will be no hymn books or Mass Sheets (you can come with your Missals). Audio church music/songs may be played at the appropriate times. There will be no sign of peace and no offertory procession with gifts. Sanitize your hands at the entry and exit points in the church, and avoid touching or physically venerating the statues or relics. The priest and Eucharistic ministers will wash their hands thoroughly before distributing Holy Communion and you can only receive in the hands.

Please bear with us as we go through this rigorous process. **Be safe and healthy!**

Dear Parishioners,

As you are aware, we are about to begin public celebration of Holy Masses in our churches few weeks after opening for private prayers following the coronavirus pandemic lockdown. I must say that I am overwhelmed by the amount of information on the rules and regulations we have to observe in order to safely celebrate the liturgy or gather for any other parish public function at this time. I will be sharing this information with you through your email contacts, our parish websites, and Facebook pages. You can also contact our Parish Office through phone for any question or clarification. But please do not be disturbed by these initial challenges we have to face. These are necessary to keep us safe. I believe we have gone through the most difficult times and things will surely get better with time. Let me also remind you that the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation Masses remains in effect. In as much as I would love all of you to come to Mass but know that you are not obliged to come. Your health and safety are of paramount importance to us. Those at higher risk from COVID-19, and those not feeling well, anyone with fever or cough of any sort are encouraged not to come to church at this time. Be reminded that a visit from a priest (for the Holy Sacraments of Anointing and Eucharist) is possible, observing the usual precautions (face mask, social distancing, sanitizing, etc.). Again, let us be prudent for our sake and for the sake of others. May the Blessed Mother Mary, intercede for us!

Fr Stan

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 July to pray for vocations during the month on behalf of the parish.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY. Our Families:

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to Jean Harding who celebrated her birthday on 24th June 2020. We wish her more years of good health, joy, and God's abundant blessings.

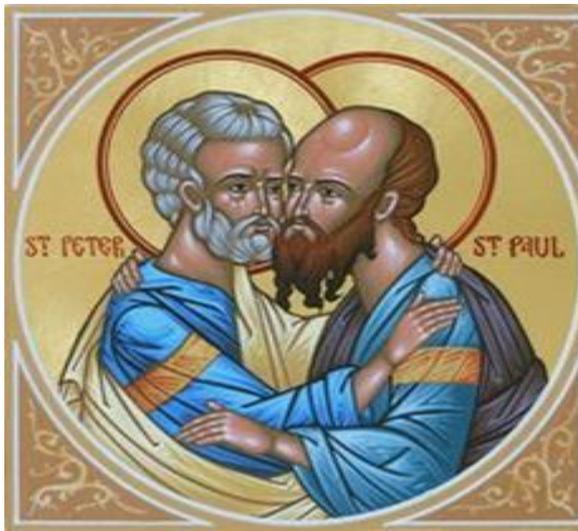
MARRIAGE MATTERS

Saints Peter and Paul (Acts 12:1-11 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18 Matthew 16:13-19)

The power of love

Peter, the denier, and Paul, the persecutor, both familiar with failure, were overwhelmed by the power of love and gave up their own lives. Let us rejoice in our calling to love as Jesus did, to lay down our lives for each other, willingly and gladly. Our lives might be the only Bible that some people will ever read.

Saints Peter and Paul, Pray for us.



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Acts 12: 1-11; Psalm 33; 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16: 13-19

Every country has its national leaders and heroes. These are usually the founding fathers or great leaders in their struggle for freedom and self-determination. We easily think of William Wilberforce, Admiral Horatio Nelson for this country. Washington or Jefferson or Lincoln or Martin Luther King Jnr in America; or of Nelson Mandela in South Africa; or Aristide in Haiti; or Archbishop Romero in El Salvador. Such people hold the values that their countries cherish. That is why children learn about them in school and we celebrate their birthdays. It is a good way of seeing certain people as concrete models or examples to be cherished and imitated because of the values their lives entail.

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, who, together, were the founding fathers and great leaders in the establishment of the church and the spread of Christianity throughout the world. They are the two pillars of Christianity. They are distinct in their backgrounds and temperaments, yet united in one faith, one Christ and one Church. St. Peter was a simple local fisherman, without formal education. At the invitation of Jesus, he abandoned his fishing occupation to embrace the 'new way' and Jesus changed his name from Simon to Peter (the Rock). He was a zealous follower of Jesus and was part of Jesus' inner circle of disciples right from the beginning. He held the keys of the kingdom and gave authoritative direction and confirmation to the young institutional church in Israel and beyond. A kindhearted and energetic man, full of love for Jesus, but with flaws like any other human being, easily overcome by fear. He is known to have denied Jesus three times at slightest provocations during Jesus' passion. He also wanted to run away from Rome during the great persecutions of Christians. But on his way-out Jesus appeared to him and in utter embarrassment he asked Jesus, "Domine, quo vadis?", meaning, 'My Lord where are you going?' Jesus replied, 'I am going to Rome to be crucified the second time'. That was all the motivation Peter needed as he turned and went back to Rome. Shortly after that, he was arrested imprisoned and crucified on the cross head down.

Paul, on the other hand, was an educated young man who was opposed to the new religion. He was on his way to carry out a bloody mission against Christians when he encountered Jesus. His name was changed from Saul to Paul. Once converted he never looked back but courageously moved out and preached to the Gentiles the evangelical gospel free from the Jewish law of the Old Testament. He was always moving out as the Spirit directs him and brought many gentiles to the faith. He opposed Peter in public about Church membership of gentiles arguing that they should not be made Jews in order for them to be Christians. Paul acknowledges that grace abounds all the more in weakness. God's grace helped him survive many hardships and at the end of his life he was able to say, "As for me the time of sacrifice has arrived and the moment of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim 4:6-7).

Both the Petrine central authority and the Pauline ecumenical and missionary outreach were present and necessary in the church right from the very beginning, and they were held together in fruitful tension by these two giants of Christianity. Peter and Paul, though different were united in upholding the Gospel message and they have much to offer our contemporary Church. Our differences should not be a stumbling block to the expression of the one Catholic faith. There is a legitimate place for the distinct aspects of the life of the church – the traditional and the new, the binding law and the freeing gospel – as long as there is a good working tension between the two, always lovingly seeking a common ground. The church must also not be turned inward on itself as if the only reason for its existence were itself and its own members; but it must be turned outward in ecumenical and missionary concern for others and for the world. Furthermore, if God used Peter and Paul to accomplish great things in spite of their weaknesses, God can also use you and I, imperfect though we are, to do great things. Let us also realise that to seek Jesus is our greatest adventure; to find him, our greatest human achievement.