

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please note that the reflections sometimes use examples that come from an American context



November 8, 2020

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 6:12-16 | 1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14 | Mt 25:1-13

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Google is a mixed blessing for me. One time, it helped me figure out I had a medical emergency and needed to get to the ER pronto! But a glance at my search history reveals that 99 out of 100 times that I'm searching for wisdom of some sort, I'm searching for things like "meatless Monday recipes," "best long-run shoes," or "living room paint colors" (plus 12 variations on each theme). This recognition came to mind when I listened to the words of our first reading. "She [Wisdom] is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her." Hearing this reminds me to spend less time Googling and more time searching for what really matters – God's love, goodness, and wisdom. The Gospel story of the virgins keeping vigil for the bridegroom expands on this, for it is the wise who are most prepared to sustain their watch.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Like many people, I have a bookshelf full of self-help books – guides to parenting, figuring out the color of my parachute, various diets, the magic of "tidying up." Today's readings have me wondering whether these well-meaning efforts to become "the best version of myself," or plumb the meaning of life, miss the point. After all, as today's readings remind us, the source of all wisdom is right before us, in the person of Jesus. We don't have to have all the answers, we just need to know where to look, and to have the patience and wherewithal to be prepared to receive it. By studying the Scripture and opening our eyes to the presence of God in others and even in the challenges we face, we can grow closer to Jesus and be ready to meet the bridegroom when he comes.

REFLECT Read and pray today's responsorial psalm.

(Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8)

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek;

for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts

like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

Mass Bookings

Mass Booking for the coming week will normally become available on a Friday evening. These can be made through using the link on our website or by phoning **07593 825035**. Please don't use the normal parish phone number for bookings.

Since only about one eighth of our parishioners can get to Mass each weekend, please consider allowing others to have an opportunity secure a booking for Mass.

If you need to cancel then please do so as early as possible so that others may be able to come to Mass. For online bookings, all those contained within the booking can be cancelled by using the ***view and manage booking link*** on the confirmation email. If you wish to cancel just one person from a booking with multiple attendees then please call the mobile number above. If you made the booking by phone then use the mobile number above to cancel.

Volunteers

Thank you to all the Volunteers who have enabled us to be open and have Mass by helping with the welcome and cleaning over the past months.

We need to supplement that group of Volunteers to see us through the coming months. Please consider being a part Welcome or Volunteers group. To do please use the following link and enter your details. Margaret, who helps to organise the groups, will then be in touch with you to check put everything in place to get you on our team.

<https://www.stcharles-paisley.org.uk/welcome-cleaning-volunteers>

Confirmations

Details of the current arrangements for Confirmations for S1 pupils from our area were communicated by St. Andrew's Academy this week.

First Communions

We celebrated the first two Masses for P5 First Communicants yesterday. This coming Saturday should see us completing the celebration for all those would have normally received First Communion earlier in the year. Please keep the young people in your prayers that they may come to know how great is the gift that God has given us in the Holy Eucharist.

Anyone who wishes to watch this Saturday's Masses can do so online through our YouTube Channel at [https://](https://www.youtube.com/c/StCharlesChurchPaisley)

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Food Bank Collections

St Charles' SSVP are collecting donations for the Food Bank **BEFORE** every public Mass. A member of SSVP will be available to collect donations, which should only be placed into the bag provided by the SSVP member. Please note that nothing can be left in or around the church area. Sincere thanks for your ongoing generosity.

Annual Holy Mass - Hawkhead Cemetery

Father Joe Burke will celebrate **IN ST. MIRIN'S CATHEDRAL** the Annual Holy Mass for the souls of the faithful departed of Hawkhead Cemetery. **Sunday 8th November at 12.00pm**. Unfortunately, due to COVID, Mass will not be in the cemetery itself this year. All those with loved ones resting there are invited to join him online or in church through Eventbrite booking. Mass is livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOpDi2GliU0&feature=youtu.be>

Adult Education Talks

This series of talks continues on **Monday 16th November** on Zoom at **6.30pm** with

Mgr. Denis Carlin on the theme of Liturgy - link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/97338649635?pwd=b1o2aIR5SUU2Rmo3OXlHMGRxS2liZz09>

Passcode: 058852

Future talks: Monday 21st December - Canon Michael McMahon & Fr. Ryan Black on theme of New Testament;
Monday 18th January - Bishop John on theme of Teachings of Saint John Paul II.

200 Club

We will be running the 200 Club in the coming year, therefore:

1. If you still wish to take part and already pay monthly through your bank, this will simply continue.
2. If you wish to make a one-off payment, or join for the first time, please contact Joseph McKeeman on 07760 542275 or email joseph.mckeeman@btinternet.com for details on how to do this.
3. If you need a note of your number, or have any other enquiries, please contact Joseph (as above).

Working to Eradicate Domestic Abuse.

The Scottish Interfaith Group on Domestic Abuse invites you to their Webinar on Wednesday 25th November 7.30pm (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women). The webinar will inform you with: insights into domestic abuse from a survivor: how COVID-19 has impacted abuse (Women's Aid and an MSP); the collaboration of all faiths against domestic abuse: the international aspect of domestic abuse from a leading charity; learning how to help. To register and receive the Zoom code go to <http://ifgoda.org.uk> You will receive an email with

all the details. We can all help in the work of countering abuse.

Alpha Course in the Catholic Context – Diocese of Paisley Evangelisation Commission

Dear friends of Paisley diocese
The mission of the Church is to "Go, make disciples of all nations..." Matt 28. Alpha's mission is like it - we equip and serve the Church in its mission to help people discover and develop a relationship with Jesus.

Jesus calls us to faithfulness to his mission regardless of the time and place we live. We know that 2020 has been a particularly challenging year due to the Covid-19 pandemic: lots of parishes are struggling financially; limitations on Mass attendance; parish ministries have had to reduce or stop altogether; continued social distancing has left priests and parishioners feeling disconnected and isolated; many priests feel overwhelmed and under resourced at this time. The idea of doing anything new can feel daunting, if not impossible.

That's why, at Alpha, we want to help lighten that burden and equip parishes to raise leaders, share the good news of Jesus, connect people with each other and with God, and create community with other parishes. The team at Alpha - Catholic Context UK have developed new training for parishes in your diocese. This is a unique opportunity to be trained directly by the Alpha UK team to get up and running with Alpha Online.

To register for training on Saturday 14th November 10am-1pm please click [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Mike Roche at michael.roche@alpha.org. We can't wait to see you in November for the Alpha Online training!

Scottish Interfaith Week – 8th – 15th November

Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all.”

Today is the beginning of Scottish Interfaith week. It is an opportunity for Catholics to follow the example set by our Holy Father Pope Francis to reach out to our neighbours and to recognise all people of faith as our brothers and sisters. Take the opportunity this week to pray that people of faith might work together for peace in our world and in our country. Interfaith Scotland’s website www.interfaithscotland.org gives notification of the many interfaith events happening throughout the country this week if you would like to get involved.