



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – 4th July 2021

1st Reading – Ezekiel 2:2-5

Psalm – Our eyes are on the Lord till he shows us his mercy.

2nd Reading – 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Gospel – Mark 6:1-6

St. Paul says he is quite content with what he has to put up with on account of his preaching the Gospel to the people, and most importantly he is content with his weaknesses. We often struggle to accept the weaknesses of others around us, and focusing on those can become an enjoyable habit. Who deep down doesn't enjoy sorting out the life of another when things are so obvious? Better still, if only those people listened to our advice and what we have to say, things would turn out best for them. It can be challenging that the other person totally ignores you and maintains that what they think and do is right, even though you know that's not true. Imagine how life can become so burdensome so quickly if we think along those lines.

St. Paul offers another approach to life – stop looking at others and instead learn to be content with how you are. The reason why we would rather deal with other people's lives is that it's easier. We can go about doing good without paying too much notice to ourselves. Slowing down and looking in the mirror may prove too painful. The Word of God tells us today it is essential. Learning to accept my weaknesses, my lack of patience, my frustrations, my anger, my jealousy, my pride – is not about giving up on life and any hope of change, but is the first step towards it. Accepting that the problem is not the other person but how I react to another person is a responsible first step in the right direction. It will help me see that what goes on in my heart is not that dependent on the people around me – thank God for the freedom that comes from that truth.

St. Paul was indeed free, even when imprisoned, insulted, persecuted, and in pain. He experienced the truth that none of these things could take away his peace that Christ gave him, and in the same way no riches, status, power, or position could give him peace either. His peace and contentment lay in his relationship with God. It is a life-long lesson and St. Paul teaches us how much we can carry if we learn in small ways to accept our own weaknesses. Let us follow his example and be content so that the peace of Christ may remain with us for ever.

Sr. Margaret Begley R.I.P. and James Brolly (Tony) R.I.P. – Sr. Margaret has been a great presence over the years in our parish, especially serving our Irish Travellers' community. She was a member of the Sisters of Providence. Her funeral will take place on the 12th July in the church of St. Peter-in-Chains, Stroud Green. Please check their parish website for details of the live-streaming of the funeral.

Tony Brolly died recently and his body will be brought into church on Monday evening at 7pm, followed by his funeral Mass on Tuesday morning at 11am.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Friary Update – This Friday 9th July we will welcome br. Martin Sanderson into our fraternity. He will be the new guardian of the friars, making him responsible for the welfare of the friars and the friary. We wish him well in this new role.

Meeting on COP26 with Anneliese Dodds MP

The coronavirus pandemic has had a catastrophic impact on the world's poorest communities, with 150 million people set to fall into extreme poverty as a result. The climate crisis is a huge threat to these communities and all of us.

The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31 October – 12 November 2021 with the Prime Minister in the chair. This COP26 summit will bring parties together to accelerate action to tackle the threat of climate change.

The aim of the campaign launched by CAFOD is to bring before our political leaders in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic the plight of the poorest nations of the world and to adopt measures to help rebuild them by ending unjust debt repayment and tackling the climate crisis.

Join us to discuss with Anneliese Dodds, our MP for Oxford East, the role Britain can play in leading a just and green global recovery from the pandemic.

The meeting will be held on zoom at 4.00-4.30 on Friday 9th July.

Join us using the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://parliament-uk.zoom.us/j/67233994045>

Meeting ID: 672 3399 4045

Passcode: 604648

The event has been setup by the parish of St Edmund and St Frideswide (Greyfriars) together with the parish of St Mary and St John in the Cowley Road.

Please let us know if you are joining the meeting by emailing Michael Malone-Lee at mmalonelee@hotmail.com. It would be useful to know if there are any particular points which you would like to raise with our MP.

Franciscan Spirituality Sessions – Our next session will be on Friday 9th July at 7.30pm. I will be sharing the Franciscan spiritual journey according to St. Bonaventure's 'Itinerarium Mentis in Deum'. It is a short piece of writing commonly translated as the soul's journey into God. A reflection of a saint on the spiritual life of another saint – aimed at helping all of us to deepen our love and experience of God in everyday life. Held on Zoom. Meeting ID **845 9492 0169** Passcode **934692**
Open to everyone, invite your friends.

CAFOD Campaign to Reclaim our common home - Cafod have launched a campaign 'to reclaim our common home' in advance of the G7 meeting in June of leaders from seven of the world's richest countries under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and the COP26 climate talks in November also under Mr Johnson's chairmanship. The aim of the campaign is to bring before our political leaders in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic the plight of the poorest nations of the world and to adopt measures to help rebuild them by ending unjust debt repayment and tackling the climate crisis.

The easiest way to sign the petition is to do so online at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home>

Parish donations – Our website provides you with details of how you can support our parish financially during this time, whether you are a member of our GIFT AID scheme or not. If you are a tax payer, please take a moment to fill in the relevant form you will find on our website – all at no cost to yourself, but helping us immensely. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Intercessory Prayer Group

If you would like us to pray for somebody or for anything else, please email GreyfriarsIntercessoryPrayer@gmail.com or phone 07384 116920. All requests will be treated in strictest confidence.

Diocesan Newsletter

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news, information and online events from across the Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email.

Please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news to sign up.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 4th July

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Mary O'Shea R.I.P.
5.30pm	O.F.S.
Monday 5th July	
7.30am	Lucio & Adelaide Da Cunha
7.00pm	Reception of the body of Tony Brolly R.I.P.
Tuesday 6th July	
St. Maria Goretti	
7.30am	Kieran Hughes
11.00am	Funeral Mass for Tony Brolly R.I.P.
Wednesday 7th July	
7.30am	Rosario Martinho Mascarenhas R.I.P. (1 st Anniversary)
Thursday 8th July	
7.30am	Holy Souls
Friday 9th July	
7.30am	Arthur & Felecia Van Cuylenburg
Saturday 10th July	
St. Veronica Giuliani	
8.00am	Alain & Sasha Huddad
6.30pm	Tarcisco Reis Amaral & Filomena Isabel Da Costa (Wedding Anniversary)

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley**. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.