



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – 7th November 2021

1st Reading – 1 Kings 17:10-16

Psalm – My soul, give praise to the Lord.

2nd Reading – Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel – Mark 12:38-44

Who contributes most to the life of our local parish community? Who is the most important? We sometimes put the two together and think that if I contribute more then I ought to come first. The problem of course often lies in our assessment of who contributes what. Jesus is pointing out to us in today's Gospel that we can become very good at missing things that are obvious to Him, but not to us. The poor woman in the Gospel would normally go unnoticed, she came without any fuss, she didn't raise her voice nor draw any attention to herself whatsoever. She did what she felt needed to be done and what she perceived the Lord asking her to do. She stands for all people who carry on with their lives from day to day without needing to make a point about anything they contribute. In all those simple acts she gave her all, her whole heart and offered all she had. It may be that the most important people in our parish will never get noticed. Through their faithfulness to prayer, their simple commitment to the Lord in all that they do, their contribution although unnoticed may be what is keeping the rest of us going. The contribution of the widow to Elijah in the first reading was small, and yet God used that offering, blessed it, and multiplied it so that not only Elijah could continue on his journey, but she and her son could continue for as long as it was necessary.

If there is anything that we can gain from today's Word of God is the recognition that there will be many times we will fail to see the worth and value of another parishioner. We can also stop and reflect on how we make judgments about others, and what would be necessary for us to change in order to have a fuller picture of the person in front of us. All of these things require our greater union with God in prayer, an ability to acknowledge when we get things wrong, and humility to accept that we do not know all there is to know. Let us pray that the Word of God continues to guide us in our daily life.

November Dead List – During the month of November we pray for our loved ones who have died. If you haven't done so already, you can write the names of your loved ones using the paper and envelopes available at the back of the church and we will add your list to the names we already have beneath the altar. We remember them daily at Mass. As you enter the church, on your left there is a chapel dedicated to Our Lady where you will see a collection of cards and pictures of those who have died. I would also like to use our parish website as a way to remember the ones we pray for – if you would like to have a picture of your loved one displayed on our website, please get in touch.

Cleaning the church volunteers – Our church is a sacred place where we come to worship God and deserves to be kept clean. We need volunteers to help us do that on a weekly basis. We would like to set up a monthly rota with 4 groups, so that each group would only have to do it once a month. If you can offer your time and energy, please contact the parish office or speak to me after the Mass.

Catholic Schools Inspectors Required - The Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking to recruit inspectors of Catholic primary and secondary schools. We are particularly keen to hear from former school leaders who seek to remain connected with Catholic Education. Email b.mcardle@bdes.org.uk for details.

The Universe Catholic Weekly - is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new on-line newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Order **your Digital** copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call us on 0743661 7650 and ask for Michelle.

Special offer: Only £20 for 3 months.

Church Hall Renovations –We are planning a good clean of the hall so that we can start using the space for various parish events and functions. We will let you know the date as soon as we set it, more hands make light work. The plan is to have a parish hall we can all be proud of, a warm and welcoming place not just for parishioners, but also for the use of the wider community. Start thinking about ways in which we can fundraise as a community or you as an individual. We will be presenting our proposals as well as the journey towards achieving our goals through our website and in the porch at the back of the church. I pray we will all engage with the work, even if your contribution would be to pray for its success. It is all deeply appreciated.

House Visits / Blessings – An important part of my service to you as your parish priest is to come to know you, pray with you, and bless you. That is why I would like to invite myself into your homes! – not for a 3-course meal, not even a cup of tea required, but to meet you, chat, and pray. Don't be afraid – I won't turn up uninvited. If you'd like a visit, just get in touch in any way you can – speak to me after Mass in the sacristy, email, phone, fill out the form on the website, or fill in a card that should be available at the back of the church.

Rosary Prayer Group Fridays 7.00p.m. – We meet every week in church to ask Our Lady's protection over our parishioners and the whole world. Come and join us.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Just a note to remind all parishioners that our church opens from 5.30 p.m. on Saturday evenings for a time of silent adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. It is a perfect opportunity for some quiet prayer and reflection, which ends at 6.15 p.m. with benediction.

1st Holy Communion / Confirmation 2022 – If you would like your child to receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation, please get in touch in order to sign your child for the relevant course. All classes will begin from January, but the sooner you let us know the better. Please fill in the relevant form on the website or speak to me in person. You have until mid-December to ensure your child is signed up.

Parish Council – The Parish Council meets on a regular basis throughout the year to ensure we work together as a community of our Lord's disciples and address any aspects of our life together to support everyone in our life of faith. If you would like to contribute to our parish life in anyway, or feel we could be doing something more and you'd like to get involved, or have some constructive suggestions, feel free to get in touch with them, please send your e-mail to pct.ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

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.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 7th November 2021 Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

6.30 p.m. (Sat) Winnie Joyce R.I.P.
9.00 a.m. November Dead List
11.00 a.m. Parishioners
5.30 p.m. OFS

Monday 8th

Bl. John Duns Scotus

7.30 a.m. November Dead List

Tuesday 9th

***Dedication of the Lateran
Basilica***

7.30 a.m. November Dead List

Wednesday 10th

St. Leo the Great

7.30 a.m. Winnie McDonagh R.I.P.
November Dead List

Thursday 11th

St. Martin of Tours

7.30 a.m. The Cotter Family
Nancy Schaffie & Family
November Dead List

Friday 12th

St. Josaphat

7.30 a.m. November Dead List

Saturday 13th

8.00 a.m. November Dead List
6.30 p.m. Leonid Labosmin

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley, Linda Parrott**. 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.