## 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

13<sup>th</sup> September - 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020

# SACRED HEART

Year A • Ferial Cycle 2 • Psalter Week 4

# LIMITLESS FORGIVENESS

he message of last Sunday focused on fraternal love and the mutual obligation we have toward one another. It encouraged a healthy relationship. This important lesson of healthy relationship continues this Sunday. Since we are not angels but mere mortals yet to be perfected, naturally hurting others is bound to happen anywhere human beings find themselves.

We cannot but step on one another's toes. This even happened among the disciples of Christ (cf. Acts 6:1ff; Mt 20:24ff). But to live a healthy relationship despite our differences, we must let go, we must forgive one another.

This is what the liturgy of today is all about. We can only be good Christians if we are ready to forgive others and let go. All the readings of today are talking about forgiveness.

In the first reading, we are strongly warned against the danger and consequences of harbouring bad feelings to those who wronged us in the past, and in this hard words Sirach says: "Anger and wrath, these also are abominations... He that takes vengeance will suffer vengeance from the Lord... Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.

Does a man harbour anger against another, and yet seek for healing from the Lord?" In the second reading, St. Paul brings to our attention of our connectedness, and without mincing words he states: "None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord." What each of us does affect others directly or indirectly. Therefore, we have an obligation to live in peace with one another.

In the Gospel, our Lord teaches the disciples how necessary it is to be ever ready to forgive their fellowmen. Peter, always the spokesman of the group, asks if seven times would be enough to forgive one's offender. But Christ tells him seventy times seven. Here our Lord indicates times without number when He uses this figure. Meaning that there is no limit to forgiveness. Christ then tells a parable to make it clear that if we want God to forgive us, we must forgive others.

In this parable of Christ, we see a servant who received pardon for a huge offence, but failed to grant pardon to a small offender. The position of this servant was absolutely hopeless. He owed the king so much money that even if he worked forever, he would not be able to repay the king. This is our situation before God. The king in this parable is God whose mercy is immeasurable and immensely greater than our own.

This greatness of God's mercy and forgiveness is also emphasized in today's responsorial Psalm. We too, as God's children, must be willing to extend to others the generous forgiveness God has extended to us. The forgiveness we expect from God hinges around our ability to forgive our fellow brothers and sisters each time they offend us. Therefore, we lose God's forgiveness and mercy by hoarding the same forgiveness we owe others.

## **READINGS**

FIRST READING: ECCLESIASTICUS 27:33-28:9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PSALM 102(103):1-4,9-12

SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:7-9

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

## **LEARN**

"There is no offense, however serious, that the Church cannot forgive. "There is no one, however wicked and guilty, who may not confidently hope for forgiveness, provided his repentance is honest. Christ who died for all men desires that in his Church the gates of forgiveness should always be open to anyone who turns away from sin"

CCC982, MATHEW 18:21-22



# SACRED HEART OF JESUS — CAMBERWELL

Archdiocese of Southwark Twenty—Fourth Sunday - Year A

Clergy: Fr Victor Darlington (Parish Priest) Assistant Priest: Fr. Alfred Ebalu.

Parish Office open Mon - Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm
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St Joseph's Catholic Infants' School - Head of School - Ms Anna Swann. Tel No: 020 7703 9264 St Joseph's Catholic Juniors' School - Head of School - Mr. Patrick Riley. Tel: 020 7703 3455 Executive head of Sacred Heart & St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Secondary School:

Mr Serge Cefai Tel: 020 7 274 6844

#### **SUNDAY MASSES**

6:00pm (Sat) 8:30am 10:00am 11:30am\* 6:00pm \* with Children's Liturgy 3:00pm (KCH chapel)

**CONFESSION:** Sat: 10.30am - 10.45am 5.00pm - 5.45pm **Eucharistic Adoration:** Sunday 4:30 - 5:30pm Friday 7:30 - 8:30pm

#### **MORNING PRAYER**

Monday - Friday 8:45am Saturday 9:45am

**ROSARY** After weekday Masses

PRAYER GROUPS

**Sacred Heart Association:** Friday: 6.00pm 1st Friday 7:30pm

Our Lady & Divine Mercy: Thursday 5:30 pm

**Legion of Mary Seniors:** Thursday 7.00pm

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Saturday 7pm

St. John Bosco Junior Altar **Servers** Tuesdays 5.30pm

**Adult Altar Servers** Sunday after 11.30am Mass

#### **MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

#### 13TH SEPTEMBER – 19TH SEPTEMBER 2020

**SUNDAY 13TH** TWENTY—FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) 6.00PM Maura Davorn, eternal repose,

10.00 AM People of the Parish

12.00 PM 6.00 PM

**MONDAY 14TH** FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

9.00 AM Cecilia Tsiga, RIP

7.00 PM

6.00 PM

**TUESDAY 15TH** MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

9.00 AM Carl de Oliveira for forgiveness, healing and salvation

**WEDNESDAY 16TH** 

9.00 AM For the intentions of Odia, Imiavan, Vanni, Ehiguese & Omonbude 7.00 PM Jonny McDonagh, Birthday rememberance, RIP

MEMORIAL OF STS. CORNELIUS, POPE & CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS

**THURSDAY 17TH FERIA** 9.00 AM **Holy Souls** 7.00 PM

**FRIDAY 18TH FERIA** 

9.00 AM Stephen Edward Hastings 7.00 PM

**SATURDAY 19TH** MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY

10.00AM Chukwuebuka Ani, Birthday Thanksgiving and God's blessings 6.00PM

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the Parish community of Sacred Heart, Camberwell celebrates the presence of Christ in our lives. Central and true to our name, we celebrate, we stand, and we dedicate our lives, witnessing to the unfailing love and friendship of God, through His beloved Son, in whose Heart of love we find daily strength for our journey. We are a catholic community, diverse and multicultural. Everyone has a voice and everyone is welcome.

We strive to make visible, God's love and care for the world in word, sacrament, and service to all. Nourished by the sacraments and in our diversity, we strive to create a supportive parish family that fosters communication. We use our talents as responsible stewards-accountable to God, to our neighbour, to our community and to the world at large.

**Rev Fr Victor Darlington.** 

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

SIRACH 36: 18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

#### FIRST READINGS

ECCLESIASTICUS 27:33-28:9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death.

If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 102(103):1-4,9-12

- R. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
- My soul, give thanks to the Lord. all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord. and never forget all his blessings.
- 2 It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion
- His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.
- 4 For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

#### SECOND READING

ROMANS 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord.

This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living

The Word of the Lord

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

1 SAM 3:9, JOHN 6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have
the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum."

And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him.

Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

# NOTICES OF THE WEEK

# PARISH FINANCE: WEEKLY DONATIONS

Donations can be paid into the Parish Account:

Sacred Heart Church Camberwell Sort Code: 60-50-01 Account Number: 79102409

#### **GIFT AID & OFFERING**

We have the Offering and Gift Aid boxes at the entrance and exit doors of the Church for those who wish to drop their Offerings and gift aid envelopes as you come for Mass or to pray before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We are encouraged to make our offering after Mass. Thank you for your generosity to the Church.

#### **GIFT AID USERS**

\_Please all gift aid users are kindly encouraged to pick up their envelopes at the exit door of the church with your numbers indicated on the envelopes.

#### FROM THE FINANCE DESK

We can now register our gift aid envelope online by picking a form from the parish website. After the details are entered, kindly email to: camberwellfinance@rcaos.org.uk

#### **FOOD BANK**

If you know any family, or persons who will need the support with food items at this challenging time, please let us know. We shall arrange to deliver food items for such families and persons discreetly. Our food bank team has been greatly supported by parishioners since this pandemic and Caritas of Westminster Diocese have also supported us with food vouchers for families struggling due to this global pandemic. I am grateful for all your generosity and support. We continue to receive messages of appreciation

#### **INFANT BAPTISM**

The parish has commenced infant baptism.

This will be only on request and one child per family only due to the safe guarding restrictions at this time. Any catholic family wishing to baptise their child are advised to email <a href="mailto:camberwell@rcaos.org.uk">camberwell@rcaos.org.uk</a>

Please give us a number to reach you for further information and update with regards to specific requirements needed for infant baptism.

#### **MASS SPACES**

There are Masses spaces available this week. Please let any of the priest know if you would like to book a Mass.

#### **GRATITUDE**

Fr. Victor will like to express his gratitude to parishioners, for their calls, text messages and gifts in thanksgiving for his 30th Priestly Anniversary.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

We congratulate all our newly baptised and confirmed brothers and sisters who are now full Catholics.

#### **PILGRIMAGE 2020**

Dear Pilgrim,

It is with regret and sadness that, due to the unprecedented circumstances caused by COVID-19, the decision was made to postpone your planned 2020 Pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni and Loreto. Deposits have been paid to both British Airways and the hotels, but they have agreed that we can postpone the reservations until 2021.

As you have already booked and paid a deposit for the 2020 Pilgrimage, we of course will give you the option to take up a 2021 place, before advertising generally.

Therefore do please advise if you wish to have one of these places. The dates are not as yet set but we should have some information in the near future. The deposit paid will simply be transferred to your booking for 2021. please be rest assured, Tangney Tours is a fully bonded Company and your money is safe with them.

PLEASE ADVISE YOUR CHOICE BY EMAILING gill@tangney-tours.com OR CALL 01732886666.

#### **CHANGE IN PARISH MASS SCHEDULE:**

From Tuesday September 1st we shall increase our Masses, to two Masses daily in the parish with a time change for the second mass. The afternoons will help us to accommodate school masses and funerals. Instead of 12:45pm it will be at 7pm, this will encourage more people to consider attending daily masses henceforth.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY: Masses at 9am and 7pm SATURDAYS: Masses at 10am and 6pm SUNDAYS: Masses at 10am, 12 noon, and 6pm

This arrangement is inline with the recommendation that after every mass stewards have to clean the pews and ensure everyone leaves the church before a second gathering of people.

## NOTICES OF THE WEEK

# RESUMPTION OF WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS IN THE PARISH

Any of the Pious Prayer Groups in the Parish, who feel they are ready to begin prayer meetings again under the new restrictions guiding us for Masses, are now encouraged to do the following:

- Each prayer group should appoint a safeguarding officer and a steward and submit the names and contact information to Fr. Victor.
- Soon after meeting this request, prayer groups can begin their weekly prayers. For the sake of clarity, the following are the weekly prayer groups of our parish: The Legion of Mary, the Charismatic, the Divine Mercy group and Sacred Heart Association.
- 3. At all prayer meetings, the 2 meter social distancing must be observed, sanitise your hands before entering the Church and when leaving the Church. Face covering must be used except by those exempted due to health reasons. The steward should ensure everyone writes their names for Track and Trace. No group singing is allowed during prayers. However, a cantor or a soloist can sing and the organ or Piano is permitted. No passing of prayer books, each person should have his/hers. Physical contact with anyone is not permitted during prayers. The duration for prayer meeting is maximum of one hour. After the prayer meeting, the safeguarding officer for the group and the steward will ensure the pews are thoroughly cleaned with recommended anti bacterial wipes without bleach.
- 4. The UCM and St. Theresa's society are also permitted to meet only for prayers avoiding their usual meeting patterns. This way such meetings are permitted inside the Church. Both groups can alternate their meetings at the choir gallery. If they must proceed with this arrangement, please give us the names of your safeguarding officer/steward as requested for other societies.
- 5. Please note that cultural/social gatherings of communities within the parish are not permitted at this time.

Finally, as we all are aware, the coronavirus is still very much with us and restrictions are being tightened. We have to adapt to safety rules and learn to live with it. In the last two weeks, two parishes and their parish priests tested positive of the virus and have been shot down for two weeks. Let us remain careful and cautious as we create a safe environment for our collective worship. God bless you all.

**Father Victor** 

#### **CONSULTATION AND FORM SIGNING**

Since the presbytery and the parish office is not Covid-19 risk assessed, unfortunately face to face consultation and form signing with Fr. Victor is not permitted at this time. However, for those who wish to sign any forms or other documents, they are encouraged to fill in their parts and then drop off the form through our letter box addressed to me

Such forms will be ready for pick up by next day between 10am and 4pm.

For any other consultations please email <a href="mailto:camberwell@rcaos.org.uk">camberwell@rcaos.org.uk</a> or call any of the priests directly or by text message, we shall respond to you promptly. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **CORONA VIRUS PRAYER**

Loving and healing God, we turn to you in prayer, confident that you are with us and with all people in every moment. We stand before you as people of hope, trusting in your care and protection. May your faithful love support us and soothe the anxiety of our hearts. Generous God, fill us with compassion and concern for others, young and old, that we may look after one another in these challenging days.

Bring healing to those who are sick and all who work in our medical facilities. Give wisdom to leaders in healthcare and governance, that they may make the right decisions for the well-being of people. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas—we who are put to the test—and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and Blessed Virgin Mary. Amen.

#### RCIA 2020/2021

Calling on adults who wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation and to become full Catholics: The parish is now taking new registrations to begin the RCIA programme in October. Forms are now available at the exit door.

Please encourage anyone you know who wish to become a Catholic or who is lapse in faith to consider joining the RCIA programme this year. Completed forms should be returned back to the priest by the 20th of September. We shall adapt our RCIA programme this year inline with current restrictions and safety guidelines.



## HOUSEBOUND & SICK

Debritu Hadgu, Donaldson Opoku, Sue McCarthy, Peter Kellegher, Eileen Hartnett, Jessie Vincent, Adelaide Peters, Margaret lynch, Birdie Heffernan, Angela Smith. Joan Bastin, Eileeen Nimmo, Timothy Angol, Rita Greaway, Agnes Omeike, Andra Martin, Ashley Isochukwu Igwebike, Anthony Okoh, Johanna Sims, Ursula Lubrano, Troy Benjamin, Lucy Tousaint, Basil Pereira, Kathleen Lennon, Minnian Davies, MarieAugust, Rueben Jameson, AlbaJuliana Ramirez. Kenny Lawal, Kathleen Gray. Robert / Eileen O'Dempsey Indria Singh, Ulina Pierre, Arielle Miambanzila, Paulin Ngang, Cían Dinsmore, Joseph Murray, Sheelly Choudray, Nesar Ali, Ewen Aitchison, Rasheeda, Kelly Knightly, Joan Gould, Eileen Moore, Agnes Smith, James Mc Donald, Fr. Chris Dooley, Velda, Mary Regan Marie Perla, Elsie Devereaux, Alba Juliana Ramirez, James Mc Donald, Doreen Barnett, Barbara Kendall, Esther Eugene, Declan Finn, Caleem McDonagh, Imelda Kerr, Jackie Skeete, Taylor Thompson, Zafar Jabal, Tina Kevitt, Nirajan Bhai, Nicola Hermenstine, Anne Keane, Pascal O'Cloo, Liam Whitfield. Monica White. John Howard, Charlie Quigley, JJoshua Tomas, CollenDonagh