

**PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**  
**Week Beginning: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Prayer Week: 2**

www.diocesehn.org.uk

<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Epiphany</i>	<b>10:00am</b>	Parishioners	<b>Holy Rosary</b>
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	<b>10:00am</b>	Basil, Margaret Hughes & Family	<b>Holy Rosary</b>
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	William & Violet Hyslop	<b>St Joseph school</b>
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>St Antony of Egypt</i>	<b>7.00pm</b>	Lyndsey Davies	<b>Holy Rosary</b>
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Rosaline Moss	<b>Holy Rosary</b>
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>St Wulstan</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	Veronica Webster	<b>St John's</b>
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Year (Vigil)</i>	<b>5.00pm</b>	Kath Garvey	<b>St John's</b>
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Year</i>	<b>10:00am</b>	Parishioners	<b>Holy Rosary</b>

**Please pray for the sick and everyone who is ill:**

Rev. Dan Mckie, Sarah McAllister, Max Simpson, Carol Brownlee, Grace Ollie, Judy Houchen, Peter Smith, Cai Rive, Avril Wordsworth, Lily Ward-Thurlbeck, Rose Wall, Peter Chapman, Christine Rooney, Brian Kane, Margaret Hitchinson, Helen Webb, Jim Hodgson, Fr Stephen Dye, Judith Sowerby, Kate Williams, Faustina Morgan, Maureen Maddren, Daisy Elliott, Maureen Braithwaite, Baby Cassian, Sheila Allen, May Hutchinson, Paul Griffiths

**Please remember those lately dead or with anniversaries:**

Today is the ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

As we begin 2024 this prayer is even more urgent than ever as war and violence escalate across Europe, the Middle east and beyond. Let's make our prayer a constant in our lives.

**This Weekend- White Flower Appeal 2024**

SPUC (Society for Protection of Unborn Children) works for a world where abortion is unthinkable. This year's appeal calls for the Government to end pills-by-post DIY abortion policy.

400 Club

December Draw: £100 (9) F. Donnelly/ £100(349) A. Gilhen  
£50 (47) D. Hamilton / £50 (135) P.Wilcox

World Day of Children

The Pope has announced this new Day which will take place 25-26May, shortly after World Youth Day..

**THE NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDAR 2024**

Our Diocesan Directory on sale at £3

**The Northern Cross-JANUARY**

£1.50p

**Statue of Our Lady**

For many years the statue was available to parishioners to have in their homes for a week. JANUARY now on noticeboard. Please sign up.

**Walsingham Pilgrimage: 30<sup>th</sup> August-1<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

Anyone interested please contact Fr Butters- AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Confessions next Saturday, St John's, 10.30-11am

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,  
and shall sing to you,  
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

## THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
who govern all things,  
both in heaven and on earth,  
mercifully hear the pleading of your people  
and bestow your peace on our times.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## FIRST READING

Samuel 3:3-10. 19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

Ps 39:2.4.7-10.R.vv8.9

R) Here I am, Lord!  
I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God. (R)

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. (R)

In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart. (R)

Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord. (R)

Ps 65:4

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
6:13-15. 17-20

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jn 1:41.17  
We have found the Messiah – which means the Christ –  
grace and truth have come through him.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

John 1:35-42

The Lord be with you.  
And with your spirit.  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.  
Glory to you, O Lord.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' - which means Teacher - 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' - meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,  
that we may participate worthily in these mysteries,  
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated  
the work of our redemption is accomplished.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

1 Jn 4:16

We have come to know and to believe  
in the love that God has for us.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness  
make those you have nourished  
by this one heavenly Bread  
one in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Our Faith on Sunday

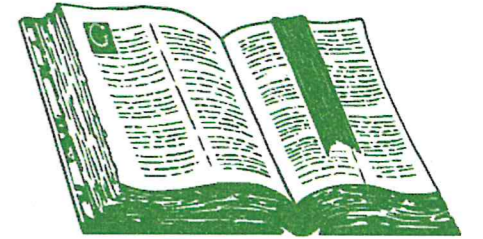
## GOSPEL REFLECTION



In today's Gospel we here about how Andrew and his brother Peter come to follow Jesus. It all seems to happen in a very brief period of time. They are somehow captivated by Jesus and decide to follow him.

Andrew says to his brother: "We have found the Messiah." There is obviously a special inspiration of the Holy Spirit which reveals to them who Jesus really is and they 'sign up' immediately, though they don't have a clue what following Jesus entails. Also, in that very first meeting, Jesus gives Simon a new name, Cephas, which means rock. It wasn't until nearly three has passed that the significance of this new name was explained. Clearly God had a plan for Peter, long before he even knew anything about him. We know that Peter

was impulsive and spontaneous, and also that he denied Jesus in the hours before the crucifixion. But Jesus held on to that plan for Peter, even when Peter had strayed from it. God has plan for the life of each one of us. He wants us to be faithful to that divine plan and he doesn't lose sight of it when ourselves do.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL  
FRATELLI TUTTI  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

THE BENEFITS AND  
LIMITS OF LIBERAL  
APPROACHES

164. Charity, on the other hand, unites both dimensions – the abstract and the institutional – since it calls for an effective process of historical change that embraces everything: institutions, law, technology, experience, professional expertise, scientific analysis, administrative procedures, and so forth. For that matter, "private life cannot exist unless it is protected by public order. A domestic hearth has no real warmth unless it is safeguarded by law, by a state of tranquillity founded on law, and enjoys a minimum of wellbeing ensured by the division of labour, commercial exchange, social justice and political citizenship".<sup>139</sup>

139. PAUL RICOEUR, *Histoire et Verité*, ed. Le Seuil Paris, 1967, 122.

The Fire of Love\*  
ABOUT COMMITTING SIN

From the fire of love, such virtue and beauty are developed in us that the righteous person would rather face torment than offend God for even a moment. Nothing is more pleasing to God than innocence. Wanting to please him is everything. Better to endure hardships than be enticed away from doing what is right, for God chastises those who do good and those who do evil alike.

If we notice how grain is threshed, we understand something of God's ways. When grain is being threshed, chaff is also flailed. But when the grain is winnowed, the chaff is thrown out while the grain is carefully collected for human consumption. If everyone lived a good life there would surely be peace and quiet and no war; but evil people are many and good people few. This means that evil easily comes into its own and touches the good as well as the bad because we are all living together and affect one another.

If we are righteous, it is for us to accept discipline, for we live on earth which is a valley of tears, not a pleasure garden. Remember Christ and his apostles. They suffered – so why should we expect to move easily from one joy to another in this life? It just cannot be done! Let the fire of love burn up the dross in us during our life on earth, then we will be fit to fly straight to heaven after we die. Don't be led astray by the temptations inherent in soft living.

\*The Fire of Love by Richard Rolle Published by Aeterna Press