**ST PETER APOSTLE CHURCH, RUSHDEN**

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**10th September 2023– YEAR A**

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

**MASS BOOK:** Page 125

**PREFACE:**  Page 66 Number 1

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**: Number 1

**MYSTERY OF FAITH**: Save us, Saviour of the world

Sat: 6:30pm - Biagio Campanaro

Sun: 10:00am - People of St Peter’s living & deceased

Tue: 9:30am - Bridget Caldwell

Wed: 7:30pm - Deceased of Smith & Walsh families.

Feast of the Holy Cross

Thurs: 9:30am - Harry Collett

Fri 7:30pm - Bishop Christopher Budd (Plymouth)

Sat: 6:30pm - People of St Peter’s living & deceased

Sun: 10:00am - Brigid McGuirk

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11am - 11:30am

Rosary: Wednesday 7:10pm

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Michael O’Rourke, Catherine Baldwyn, Giuseppe Frezza, Maureen Wrighton, Grace Rowthorn, Leslie Freeman, Kenneth Shaw, Maria (Rosie) Stoker, Annie Stuart, William Keenan, Mary Branningan, Fr Brian Leatherland, Walenty Bakalanz and Kevin White.

**Please remember in Prayer**

Nigel, Rosie, Waterfield, Myles & Wardle families, Eileen & Family, Inge Family, Collett family, Jeff, Kevin, Sindhu, Susan, Gill & Rosie, Samantha, Richard Addae Jnr., Sophie & Neil the Skilton and Vallet families, Fleurette, Tony A, Albert & Tina, Angela, Lily McD, Jacob, Veronica T., John W., Trevor, Claudia & Eloise friends & family and Sandrine & family.

**OFFERTORY:** Last week’s collection amounted to £538.77. Thank you very much.

**OUR SYMPATHY:** The death has occurred of Terence (Terry) Murray who died last week and whose Funeral Mass will be held here 26th September 10am May he rest in peace. We extend our sympathy to Eileen his bereaved wife, children and his sisters.

**Together In Prayer (TIP):** 24th September 7-8pm Highfield Community Baptist church, Gathering for praise intercession. All welcome

**Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel**

1. At the time Matthew was writing his gospel local church communities would have numbered no more than fifty people. They would be known to one another. Matthew presents the instructions of Jesus for dealing with people whose behaviour disrupted and harmed the community. Note the steps suggested. Simple directions but many of us do otherwise. We avoid difficult confrontations. We talk about the faults of others to everyone but themselves. We go over the head of someone who displeases us and make complaints. In your experience, which of the above approach is life-giving for you and for others?

2. While Jesus is referring to a group situation, the advice can be applied also to personal difficulties and problems with others. What lessons has life taught you about constructive ways of dealing with conflict?

3. As individuals and communities we have the power to bind and to loose, to exclude people from relationship, or to open up and include others in relationship. When have you found it important to acknowledge this power in your own life?

4. Jesus also promises to be with his followers when they gather together. What does that mean to you? How have you experienced the presence of Jesus in his followers gathered together? During the recent lockdown due to the coronavirus, how did you experience the presence of Jesus in your faith community?

**The meaning of Mass**

The primary reason why we gather for Mass is to celebrate, offer praise, glory, and thanksgiving to God through offering Jesus, the Sacrifice. It is more meaningful to speak about offering Jesus the Sacrifice than the Sacrifice of Jesus. And he offers us in his sacrifice to God since, through his incarnation when Jesus became fully human, he now lives in us and we share his divine life now. It means there is only one sacrifice. Not Jesus’ sacrifice and our sacrifice. It’s a great challenge to accept this, pay more attention to it, be profoundly grateful, and joyfully make the weekly effort to offer ourselves with and in Jesus, the sacrifice that God provides for us. This is worship, praise, and thanksgiving at its very best that go beyond mere duty and obligation.

**ADORATION:** Tuesday from 10:15am to 6pm.