**ST PETER APOSTLE CHURCH, RUSHDEN**

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**24th September 2023 – YEAR A**

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

**MASS BOOK:** Page 131

**PREFACE:**  Page 66 Number 2

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**: Number 2

**MYSTERY OF FAITH:** We proclaim your Death, O Lord…

Sat: 6:30pm - Elizabeth Anne Richards

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

Tue: 10:00am - Funeral Mass for (Terence) Terry Murray

Wed: 7:30pm - Philip Wardle

Thu: 9:30am - Imperia Cooper

Fri 7:30pm - Ammin Paul

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

Sun: 10:00am - George Heyd-Smith

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

Rosary: Wednesday 7:10pm

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Sadie Trotter, Eva Bermingham, Thomas Houlihan, Kostas Kligoris, Pranas Nekrasas, Enid Tomaszewska, Prospera di Salvo, Josef Kindler, Elena Trott, Benjamin Brenchley, Lorenzo Gallucci, Stefania Wasiewicz, Patrick Cummings, James Callaghan, Bridget Clarke, Ronald Blom, Christopher Hemmington, William McGrath, Patrick Travers, George Brown, Mary Purvis, Violet Carter, Norma Puxty, Marjorie Marriott, Peter Trott, Albert Magee, Amelia Donaghy, Alice Isitt, Bernard Tasney, Alice Rivett-Carnac, Thomas Cross and Bruce Skiltow.

**Please remember in Prayer**

Nigel, Rosie, Waterfield, Myles & Wardle families, Eileen & Family, Inge Family, Jeff, Kevin, Sindhu, Susan, Gill & Rosie, Samantha, Richard Addae Jnr., Sophie & Neil, Tony A, Albert & Tina, Angela, Lily McD, Jacob, Veronica T., Trevor, Lucy, Jane, Soumya, Louise, Shaun, Sam & family, Jason, Jozef, Claudia & Eloise friends & family and Sandrine & family, the Collett family, the Skilton and Vallet families, Fleurette, Steven, Hajni and Lena.

**OFFERTORY:** Last week’s collection amounted to £543.69. Thank you very much.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** Last weekend raised £330.02 for Evangelii Gaudium. Thank you very much.

**FR JOE’S RETIREMENT:** His last day in the parish will be September 27th 2023. The whole parish thanks Fr Joe for all he has done and wishes him all the very best for his retirement in Ireland.

**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK:**

Tuesday: SS Cosmos & Damian - Martyrs

Wednesday: St Vincent de Paul - priest

Friday: SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael - Archangels

Saturday: St Jerome - Priest & Doctor

**LIVING FAITH:** Daily scripture reflection magazine for October to December 2023 now in Church, priced £1.50.

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

**UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS**. The capitation fee this year is £16: would you please let Kathy have this as soon as possible. **The Rosary Rally** is on Saturday October 14th at Olney starting with Mass at 10am.

**FOOD BANK NEWS**. Thank you to everyone who has been donating to the Food bank. It is very much appreciated. Cash donations in July and August came to £89.70.

**TOGETHER IN PRAYER (TIP):** Is from 7-8pm today, Sunday September 24th at Highfield Community Baptist church. The theme is “Gathering for praise intercession and especially the Illuminate Mission”. All are welcome.

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

1. ‘I was the first’. Envy easily comes to the surface when faced with the good fortune of others, especially when compared to what seems less favourable treatment of ourselves. *Can you recall that feeling in yourself and what it did to you? Can you also recall times when you were content with your lot, even though it seemed others had greater gifts, better opportunities, etc.*

2. A parent or teacher who gives a lot of time to a difficult child does not love the others less, but if we are one of those other children we may not see that. *Recall a ‘Jesus person’ in your life who helped you to overcome feelings of envy and helped you appreciate that the apparently more favourable treatment of another did not mean a lessening of love for you.*

3. This leads us to the core message of this parable, namely, that God’s love is a free gift, and not earned. *Recall moments when you were particularly conscious of the gifts that God has given you by counting all the blessings that you have, no matter how small.*

4. ‘It is too late now’ are words sometimes uttered to justify doing nothing about a situation. This parable tells us that where love is involved, it is never too late. *Can you recall times when you get a possible response after taking action when you thought it was too late?*

**A MESSAGE FROM FR JOE**

As some of you will know by now, I am leaving St Peter’s on Wednesday and relocating to Co. Mayo in the West of Ireland, to continue the priesthood without the ministry of parish administration. This is not an easy transition after we have been nearly three decades serving one another together. It may be possible to meet again at some diocesan events as we have done over my forty years in the Diocese of Northampton. I want to thank you for the life we have shared, for your kindness, your care of one another, your prayers, your love and your several ministries.

Borrowing the Jesuit motto: “Ad Majorum Dei Gloriam”, meaning ‘For the Greater Glory of God’, with God’s help you will continue, with Father Dariusz, your new Parish Priest, as you always have.

Joe