

The Parish of
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
CHESTERFIELD and DRONFIELD

parishofourladyqueenofpeace.org

annunciationchesterfield@gmail.com

The Presbytery 2 Spencer Street Chesterfield S40 4SD

Parish Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.30am – 5.00pm, 01246 232686

Rev. Fr Adrian Tomlinson STL. VF.
PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Fr Christopher Ainslie
ASSISTANT PRIEST

33rd Sunday in Ordinary time: YEAR A
18th November 2023

Earning Our Salvation

There is a wrong way to interpret this parable.

Some might think that Jesus is telling us that we are supposed to earn our salvation by our own activity, our works.

But Jesus is not saying that. He is not saying that if we pray a certain number of Rosaries and light a certain amount of candles we will then deserve entry into heaven.

In fact, the idea that we can earn our own salvation has been formally condemned as a heresy - the heresy of Pelagianism [puh-LAY-gee-uhn-izm].

Pelagius, a fourth-century monk, thought we could overcome evil, temptation, and the damage of original sin just by our own efforts.

And he was wrong; our efforts are useless without God's grace.

If we look carefully at today's parable, we see that the activity of the servants is necessary, but secondary.

The primary agent of success is the master.

He gives his servants an opportunity to try and make good use of their talents.

He also hands out the talents themselves in the first place.

They didn't earn their original talents; they received them from the master's goodness.

It's like that in our relationship with Christ.

He gives us life, the world, our faith, forgiveness, the sacraments, our talents - innumerable gifts. And if we use them well, they will serve their purpose, which is to bring us closer to him, to fill our minds with wisdom and our hearts with joy, here on earth and forever in heaven.

If we abuse those gifts, we can cut off our relationship with the one who gave them to us.

But in either case, we are the secondary agents of success; we can't earn salvation; we can only receive the gift of God's grace and put it to good use.

St Paul understood this well: the Christian life is a partnership in which God's grace plays the primary role, and our cooperation is the secondary, but necessary, role:

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast" (Ephesians 2:7-8).

"But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective.

Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however, but the grace of God [that is] with me" (1 Corinthians 15:10).

The Catechism puts it like this:

It is by grace that we are saved and again it is by grace that our works can bear fruit for eternal life.
(CCC1697):

WARM SPACES AND LIFE LUNCHES

Warm spaces and Life Lunches at The Church of the Holy Spirit, Dronfield every Tuesday. Tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits served from 10.30-2.00. Homemade fresh soups served from 12.00-1.30.

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

Each Sunday following 10.00am Mass, teas and coffees will be served in the Annunciation Parish Centre. Please do join us. Any help is greatly appreciated - if you would like to help out please let us know.

Christmas Around the World

Saturday 9th December 2023 11am - 2pm
Annunciation Church, Parish Centre

At this festive gathering, we will come together as a diverse community to learn, share, and celebrate the rich and beautiful traditions of Christmas from various corners of the world. It's a wonderful opportunity to embrace the cultural diversity within our parish and strengthen our bonds of unity.

Savour a delectable feast with a potluck lunch showcasing dishes from around the world!

Visit Santa's magical Grotto!

Children's craft activities and games!

Homemade craft sellers!

Traditional Christmas music from around the world!

We are still seeking volunteers to bring traditional Christmas food to the event and as always, a call to arms to all our wonderful bakers within the parish to donate cakes and sweet treats!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy takes place in the Parish Centre during 10am Mass for all primary school children (and younger with an adult) every Sunday until 17th December.

Just follow the Catechist as we process out from Church and know where to return to your family at the Offertory. More details are on the parish website, see parish groups.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: FRIDAY 28th JUNE – 4th JULY 2024

Bishop Ralph invites you to join him on the 2024 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Booking forms are available to download at www.hallam-lourdes.com.

Enquiries **01302 247910** or **07724 650066**.

Fare **£879pp - 6 nights Full Board** (excl. Ins.) flying from Leeds Bradford Airport direct to Lourdes.

Applications are particularly welcome from pilgrims who need help due to medical issues/mobility.

Volunteer doctors, nurses and helpers are also required.

HALLAM YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Details are available through each diocesan High School for young people to travel with their school groups. Young people aged 16-18 in parishes, who do not attend Catholic schools, and wish to join Hallam Youth on the diocesan pilgrimage please email smcdonald@hallam-diocese.com for details.

ANSWER MACHINE PROBLEMS

The Parish Answering machine is still causing difficulties

and some messages have not shown on the system until hours after they were left...if at all!

Please bear this in mind if you are calling and wish to leave a message.

YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

On Sunday 26th November after the 10am Mass

there will be a meeting for any/all our Young Catholic families within the Parish.

The aim is to bring our young parents/families together to discuss the joys and challenges

of living out the Catholic Faith in our modern post COVID society,

and to develop ideas how we can best support each other in this effort.

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

Donations are urgently needed to help support aid workers providing vital humanitarian aid including food, water, medical care and emergency shelter to those in need. Donations can be made via the parish website (under the News menu) or via the contactless terminals in the Annunciation Church.

Please continue to keep those affected by this crisis in your prayers.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT AT THE ANNUNCIATION CHURCH

On Saturday 16th December, 7pm, the choir of Chesterfield Parish Church (*Crooked Spire*) will be performing a concert of Carols and Hymns at the Annunciation Church in preparation for Christmas. The concert is free entry and will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. Please do join us for what promises to be an entertaining and festive evening!

PIETY STALL.

The Piety stall is stocked with Christmas items from the sisters at Kirk Edge as well as boxed Christmas cards, Missals and 2024 Diaries

ADVANCED NOTICE FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

There will be a morning of recollection and training for Extraordinary Ministers on Saturday 27th January 2024 10.00 – 12.00noon. Please make a note in your Diary!

TRUSSELL TRUST FOODBANK APPEAL CHRISTMAS 2023

The list of items is at the back of Church for you to take away and return to Church before the end of November for distribution. All donations will be gratefully received.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS AND BAPTISM CERTIFICATES.

If you require a Baptism certificate in order to complete your child's admission form then please email your request with the child's name, date of birth and approximate date of Baptism to annunciationchesterfield@gmail.com

NB: Applications to Catholic Schools by those in the admissions category do not require a letter of support from a priest- the certificate is all that is required.

YOU ARE CHOSEN AS THE BELOVED OF GOD: A RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Journey with us over a series of 4 retreats as we live the "Life of the Beloved", dwell in God's love, experience healing and go forth to give life to others.

The first retreat day will be on the 2nd December 9am-5pm at St Joseph's Convent Chesterfield.

For more information please contact maryjohnfdc@gmail.com

MARYS MEALS BACON BUTTIES

This Sunday after both Masses on Sunday morning Bacon Butties will be sold in the Parish Centre to raise money for Mary's meals...ketchup or brown sauce...no judgement!

JUMBLE SALE

The next jumble sale will take place on **Saturday 2nd December.**

If you have any donations or would like to help out please contact Chris on 01246 229517

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE CHARITY

We are aware that following their appeals over the years, many parishioners support this charity within our own diocese. However, we have been informed that Barclays Bank has erroneously closed their account causing any standing order donations to be returned to the donors' own bank.

Please bear with them if you are a donor and they will email you once the bank has corrected the error, though this may take a number of weeks.

Please also consider making a catch-up payment once their bank account is restored.

YOUR COLLECTION OFFERING

Are you Giving in Cash?

Could you give that amount with your Debit Card using the Contactless machines at the Back of Annunciation Church?

Even better by weekly or monthly Standing Order?

Please be aware that if you are eligible for Gift-Aid, you only need to enter your details in the contactless terminals once, thereafter they will be remembered and applied every time you donate using the same card.

Similarly, if you're in a rush, you can enter your Gift-Aid details in the terminals or via the parish website at any time and any previous donations will have the Gift-Aid applied.

LITURGY TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<p>Monday 20th November</p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>Steven Langen</p>
<p>Tuesday 21st November <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i></p>	<p>9.30am Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Edward and Ruth Morris</p>
<p>Wednesday 22nd November <i>St Cecelia, virgin, martyr</i></p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation <i>6pm until finished</i></p>	<p>Hugh McCarron <i>Confessions</i></p>
<p>Thursday 23rd November <i>The Dedication of the Cathedral</i></p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>James and Zita McMahon</p>
<p>Friday 24th November <i>Ss Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and Companions, martyrs</i></p>	<p>12.00noon Annunciation</p>	<p>The Nelis Family</p>
<p>Saturday 25th November VIGIL MASS</p>	<p>11.00am Convent 4.30pm Holy Spirit 5.00pm Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Private Intention <i>Rosary and Confessions</i> Graham John Moore</p>
<p>Sunday 26th November Our Lord Jesus Christ the King: Year A</p>	<p>8.30am Annunciation 10.00am Annunciation 4.00pm Holy Spirit 5.00pm Annunciation</p>	<p>Holy Souls Brian Hodgson {SVP} <i>Syro-Malabar Mass</i> The People of the Parish</p>

RETIRING COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection after all Mass this weekend in aid of the
Sick and Retired Clergy

Parishioners wishing to donate by contactless can do so using the payment terminals in
the Annunciation Church