22 JANUARY 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase;

they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,

the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM Psalm 26

RESPONSE: The Lord is my light and my help.

- The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink? R.
- There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. R.
- I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
 Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
 Hope in the Lord! R.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:10-13. 17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: "I am for Paul", "I am for Apollos", "I am for Cephas", "I am for Christ." Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul? **3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom, and cured all kinds of sickness among the people. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

(for shorter form read between > <)

> Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." <

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

> The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. <</p>

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray, and in sanctifying them grant that they may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

Or

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving the grace by which you bring us to new life, we may always glory in your gift. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 22nd January 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A. Sunday Hymns: Entrance: No. 533 The Lord's My Shepherd Offertory: No 712 I the Lord of Sea and Sky Communion: No. 556 This Is My Body Recession: No. 190 Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer

Services During the Coming Week Saturday 21st 5:30pm Confessions January 6:00 pm Vigil Mass offered for the people of the parish, Reader R Cork, Offertory Cork family. Mass offered for the Vieira family, Reader C Moore, Offertory Cleary family, Eucharistic Minister C Moore 8:00 am Sunday 22nd 10:00 am Mass, open intention. Reader A James, Offertory Pakes family, Eucharistic Minister J Poll January Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass today Monday 23rd Feria January No Mass Today Tuesday 24th St Frances de Sales January No Mass Today Mass of thanksgiving for Bishop Alan Hopes at the Cathedral church of St John the Baptist Wednesday 25th The Conversion of St Paul January No Mass Today Requiem for Deacon Clive Brooks at St Marks at 10:00 am Thursday 26th Saints Timothy & Titus January 10:00 am Holy Mass. Friday 27th Feria January 10:00 am Holy Mass, followed by Exposition and a Chaplet of Divine Mercy Saturday 28th 5:30pm Confessions January 6:00 pm Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Vigil Mass

Today's Gospel: Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen, Peter and Andrew, James and John, dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

Deacon Clive Brooks RIP: Deacon Clive Brooks, who ministered at St Mary Magdalen for many years, passed away on December 21st after a long battle with cancer. Clive's funeral will be a Requiem Mass at St Marks RC Church at 10:00 on Wednesday, with the recently ordained bishop of East Anglia, Bishop Peter Collins, officiating. There will be no Mass at St Mary Magdalens on Wednesday as Fr Paul will be attending the Requiem.

Farewell Mass for Bishop Emeritus Alan Hopes: On Tuesday this week, our new bishop, Peter Collins, will be hosting a special Mass of thanksgiving and farewell for Bishop Alan Hopes, the recently retired bishop of East Anglia. The Mass will be celebrated at the cathedral church of St John the Baptist in Norwich on Tuesday at 11:30 am and, as Fr Paul will be attending, there will be no Mass at St Mary Magdalens on Tuesday either.

Ladies Tea and Chat: On Friday this week, 27th January being the last Friday of the month, the ladies of the parish meet in the Garden Room at 2:30 pm for the monthly tea, cake and chat session. This is open to all – just come along on the day for a social get together.

Garden Room Coffee Rota: Will those involved in preparing coffee after 10:00 Mass please note a new rota has been published and is available in the church porch or on the parish web site. If anybody is willing to join our stalwart band and help out with after-Mass tea and coffee please speak to Val Croker.

Flame at Wembley: The Diocesan Youth Service is taking a group to *Flame* on March 4th. *Flame* is the largest catholic gathering of young people in the UK, coming together to experience the best in international speakers, artists and performers. For details and to book your place, please visit www.rcdea.org.uk/youth or follow the link on the parish web site. Bookings must be received by 12th February.

The Sick of the Parish: We ask your prayers for all our brothers and sisters who are unwell, afflicted, housebound or distressed. Comfort and relieve them according to their needs, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit:

John Anderson-Hurst, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Sheila Curry, Fabiana Di Mascio, Patrick Doran, Josephine Kalagira, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, Pauline Newton, Mary O'Reilly, Carol Sims and Pippa Williamson.

Our Own Dear Departed: Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Thomas Gordon (1997), Giuseppe Miceli (2010), Ivy Scaife (2011), Josephine Horne (1990), William Irvine, Derek Gilbert (2021), Margaret Long (1959), Anna Graham-Picket (1963), Sarah Kelly (1976)(, John McRae (1984), John Hughes (2007), Mary Corrigan (2015), Anna Ryan (2021), Edward Cole, Edward Ennis (1997), Kitty Finn (1999), Elizabeth Millar (1998)and Francis Jacobi (2022) whose anniversaries occur about this time. A complete list of parish anniversaries can be found on the web site.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.