

# Sunday Message

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 13 July 2025 • Psalter Week 3

## EVERYBODY NEEDS GOOD NEIGHBOURS

LUKE 10:25-37



In today's Gospel a lawyer puts this question to Jesus: "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replies: "What is written in the law? How do you read it?"

It's not a quiz Jesus springs on him as a test but a question that has to do with the foundation of a well-lived Jewish life. The scholar replies by reciting a portion of the Shema, a prayer that remains a basic Jewish prayer to this day: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself." Jesus tells the lawyer: "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

But the scholar, as scholars often do, wants to have the last word. He has a follow-up question: "And who is my neighbour?" His question results in one of the most famous of all Jesus' parables.

A traveller on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho is attacked, robbed and beaten up. The half-dead victim is passed by both a priest and Levite who appear to be going to the Temple. It is possible they pass him by because they consider him already dead and don't want to make themselves impure by touching him, which would leave them unable to serve in the Temple. Maybe they're worried that if the robbers beat one man to death, they might be looking for more victims. In any event, they ignore him.

Then along comes a Samaritan. Jews and Samaritans despised each other. Imagine Ukrainian and Russian soldiers today, or a Palestinian and an Israeli settler. It is the despised Samaritan who puts aside all concerns for his own safety and acts out of compassion for the Jewish victim. He cleans him up, bandages him, puts him on his horse, takes him to an inn where he gives the innkeeper money out of his own pocket, and says: "Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back." The Samaritan not only opens his heart and his wallet, but leaves the equivalent of his credit card number behind. His actions say, "Put it on my account."

Who is the neighbour to the unfortunate traveller? The answer is obvious, and it must have been very difficult for Jesus' listeners to hear. The one who acted like a neighbour was the foreigner, the outsider, the enemy. In saying this, Jesus identified anyone in need as a neighbour.

Jesus tells the lawyer (and us): "Go and do the same yourself." ■

### PRAY

Pray for people on the margins, those who are isolated and ignored, those who feel as if they are nobody's neighbour.

### DO

In this era of populism and narrow nationalism, think about your attitude to the foreigner, the refugee, the stranger. Do you see them as your neighbour?

### LEARN

The Christian treats every person as they really are.

Everybody is the same in God's eyes.

Our actions show the kind of people we are.

For the Christian, WE is more important than I.

### SAY

"Lord, help me to welcome the stranger always. Amen."

### REFLECT

The implications for us of today's Gospel couldn't be clearer. Christians cannot be rugged individualists, out merely for themselves. They never turn a blind eye to those in need. Christians always see beyond themselves.

Dr Martin Luther King spoke about the parable of the Good Samaritan the night before he was assassinated. He framed it in a beautiful way. He said: "The first question the priest asked, the first question the Levite asked, was, 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But then the Good Samaritan came by and turned the question around: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'"

Christians see beyond themselves.

Today's parable reminds us that everyone is our neighbour. Not just those who live close by, or have the right post code, or share the same views on politics and religion – everyone is my neighbour.

It means I cannot be a Christian and a racist, or a bigot, or a homophobe, or be anti-Semitic; I cannot be a Christian and be contemptuous of anyone because of who they are, or how they look or dress or where they come from. Hard as it may be to digest sometimes, the fact is everyone is my neighbour.

That's why the Jews have set aside a special room in Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial museum in Jerusalem, to honour those they call the Righteous of the Nations. The Righteous of the Nations were those ordinary people – more than twenty-eight thousand of them are listed – who went out of their way to protect their Jewish neighbours from the Nazis and their accomplices. Doing what they did was dangerous. If caught sheltering Jews, they risked imprisonment and death. Still, they did it anyway.

Many of their friends and neighbours would have considered these people to be crazy; their actions not very sensible. The wise thing would have been to look away, to mind their own business, to pass by on the other side, as so many people did in those dark years. Instead, they looked out for and protected their Jewish brothers and sisters. They were Good Samaritans. They saw beyond themselves.

Jesus tells us this is how we also must act. ■



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.*

**COLLECT**

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. 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** Deuteronomy 30:10-14

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people: 'Obey the voice of the LORD your God, keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

'For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?" But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Psalm 69(68):14, 17. 30-31. 33-34. 36ab, 37. R. cf. 33

**R: Seek God, you who are poor, and your hearts will revive.**

1. I pray to you, O LORD,  
at an acceptable time.  
In your great mercy, answer me, O God,  
with your faithful salvation.  
LORD, answer, for your mercy is kind;  
in your great compassion, turn toward me. **R.**
2. As for me in my poverty and pain,  
let your salvation, O God, raise me up.  
Then I will praise God's name with a song;  
I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **R.**
3. The poor when they see it will be glad,  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the LORD attends to the needy,  
and does not spurn his own in their chains. **R.**
4. For God will bring salvation to Sion,  
and rebuild the cities of Judah.  
The children of his servants shall inherit it;  
those who love his name shall dwell there. **R.**

Or Psalm 19(18):8. 9. 10. 11. R.9a

**R: The precepts of the LORD are right;  
they gladden the heart.**

1. The law of the LORD is perfect;  
it revives the soul.  
The decrees of the LORD are steadfast;  
they give wisdom to the simple. **R.**
2. The precepts of the LORD are right;  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the LORD is clear;  
it gives light to the eyes. **R.**
3. The fear of the LORD is pure,  
abiding for ever.  
The judgements of the LORD are true;  
they are, all of them, just. **R.**

4. They are more to be desired than gold,  
than quantities of gold.  
And sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey flowing from the comb. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Colossians 1:15-20

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.  
Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** cf. John 6:63c, 68c

**R: Alleluia, alleluia.**

Your words, O Lord, are Spirit and life;  
you have the words of eternal life.

**R: Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** Luke 10:25-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: Behold, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? How do you read it?' And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.'

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him.

And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, "Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back." Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' And Jesus said to him, 'You go, and do likewise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord, as she makes her prayer to you, and grant that, when consumed by those who believe, they may bring ever greater holiness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.*

Or

*Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord, that, by our participation in this mystery, its saving effects upon us may grow. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**





St Patrick's Church  
King Street  
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TF1 3AP

# THE BEACON

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& St Luke's Church  
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13 JULY 2025

## 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEA SUNDAY- Collection for Stella Maris					
Sat	12th	17:30	Clare Kendrick RIP		St Patrick's
Sun	13th	08:45	<b>No Mass in Polish</b>		Our Lady's
	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in</b>	09:00	Francis Bayley RIP		St Patrick's
	<b>Ordinary Time</b>	11:00	Joan Jones 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary		St Patrick's
		13:00	Catenian Mass		Our Lady's
Mon	14th	<b>Ferial</b>			
Tues	15th	<b>St Bonaventure, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b>			
		12:00	Kathleen Gaughan 98 <sup>th</sup> Birthday		St Patrick's
Wed	16th	<b>Ferial</b>			
		<b>10:00</b>	Joseph Chacko 12 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – St Luke's Leavers' Mass		Our Lady's
Thurs	17th	<b>Ferial</b>			
		19:00	Ros Venezia (Health)		St Patrick's
Fri	18th	<b>Ferial</b>			
		12:00	Anne & John Doran 55 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary / Special Intention - Antonio's Surgery		St Patrick's
Sat	19th	17:30	Sicity Thomas RIP		St Patrick's
Sun	20th	08:45	Mass in Polish		St Patrick's
	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in</b>	09:00	Stephanie Copeland RIP		Our Lady's
	<b>Ordinary Time</b>	11:00	Olive and Dennis Collins RIP		St Patrick's

### SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

**RIP: John Kelly, Sicity Thomas, Stella Breeze, Stephanie Copeland and Father Gerry McGuinness**  
We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time,

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

**BAPTISMS** Parents, along with Godparents, are strongly encouraged to attend at least one preparatory session before the celebration of the Sacrament. The next session will be on **26 July** at 12noon.

**Weekly Offerings:** Total: £1553.21- Standing Orders £744.37 (£586.12 Gift Aided), Envelopes £285.35 (£212 Gift Aided), Loose Plate £523.49 (Not Gift Aided). We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

**Bank details:** St Patrick Wellington

Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 54546760

Our Lady & St Luke Telford

Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 54582160

### ROTAS

**Sat 5.30:** W: Denzil & Joanne EM: Nicky C: Maggie & Gail. **Next week:** W: Lynne & Lewis EM: Ann C: Nigel & Bernadette

**Sun 9:** W: Kevin & Katrina EM: Francis C: Catharine/Felicity. **Next week:** W: Alex & Janet EM: Catharine C: Bruce & Mick

**Sun 11:** W: Krystyna & Nancy EM: Stephen C: L&K. **Next week:** W: Marvellous & Melody EM: Moira C: Diane & Collette

**Fr Ravi will be covering Masses at Shifnal and Albrighton this Sunday.**

### CHANGES TO POLISH MASS TIMES OVER SUMMER:

There is no Polish Mass on 13<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> August, and no Polish Masses on Fridays in July or August.

*The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)*

### DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY NOTICE

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

**LIVESTREAM:** Our Masses from St Patrick's are available online at <https://churchservices.tv/wellington>



**SEA SUNDAY COLLECTION:** Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. Sea Sunday is Sunday 14th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need.

You can donate in church, by visiting [www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate](http://www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate), or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously. Thank you.

**THANK YOU:** Our Lady's kitchen has a new dishwasher. A huge thank you to Chris McCay at Kitchen Depot who donated it and to Joe Vincent who fitted it.

We thank all those who arranged and helped with the Family barbeque at Our Lady's last Sunday. The tombola will be available after Sundays Mass if you missed a chance to have a go last week. The ticket for the children's raffle will be drawn after Mass.

Our next Parish event is the Bingo night on 18<sup>th</sup> July and then there will be our International Celebration on August 31<sup>st</sup> which will be held at All Saints Parish Hall in Wellington (more information to follow).

**SVP APPEAL FOR WHITE GOODS:** The SVP are appealing for white goods in good working order. If you have a washing machine, tumble dryer, fridge/freezer or electric cooker you no longer need, please let one of the SVP members know, or call Jane on 07956 072534. Thank you.

**BINGO NIGHT:** To be held at Our Lady of the Rosary & St Luke's Church on Friday 18 July at 7pm. Bingo tickets 20p a game. Tickets cost £5 and include Baked Potato supper with choice of filling, Primary school children £2. Please bring your own soft/wine drinks. Tea/Coffee and squash will be available. There will be a raffle.

All proceeds to be divided between St Patrick's Poor Clare Mission in Myanga Kenya and Our Lady of the Rosary Church.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM:** If anyone has paid their deposit for Walsingham but has not yet received the forms to complete about accommodation please contact Alex Beyer tel: 01952 410315 email: [a.beyer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:a.beyer@blueyonder.co.uk)

**SVP SUMMER RAFFLE:** Tickets will be available at Our Lady's after Mass next Sunday (29<sup>th</sup> June). Cost £1 each or a book of 5 for £5. First prize £5,000. Second prize £1,000. 15 prizes of £100. The Draw will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. Please support the work of SVP both nationally and locally in helping to relieve loneliness, isolation and poverty.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:** There is no meeting in July and August for CWL. The next meeting will be after noon Mass on Tuesday 16 September.

**TELFORD IN LOURDES:** The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes departs at the end of July. If you want pilgrims to take your Prayer Intentions to the Grotto, please use one of the white envelopes to enclose your Intentions and pop it into the post box in the church porch. If you want to contribute towards the cost of the large candle that will be left burning near the Grotto, please place your contribution in one of the small brown envelopes and place it in the box. Thank you.



**A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE DIRECTOR:** The Lourdes Management Team have launched a 'wish list' to support our assisted pilgrims. Supporters of the pilgrimage can directly help by purchasing equipment to support their care in the Accueil alongside items to enhance and enrich their all-round experiences in Lourdes.

To view the Wishlist and purchase items for the Pilgrimage please follow this link: [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/42FRNUVO3GUX?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/42FRNUVO3GUX?ref=wl_share)

**NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION AND PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE:** It is especially needful in the light of the events of the past week that on Saturday 2nd August 2025, the National Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life will take place at England's Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham. Led by Bishop John Keenan of Paisley, the pilgrimage will commence at the 12 noon Pilgrim Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation and will also be available to join via livestream. To join the pilgrimage via the livestream: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

**THE POWER OF PRAYER: UPDATE ON JOHN DOONEY:** Thank you all for your prayers, well wishes and thoughts for John. He is now able to sit out in a chair and is walking with assistance around the house. He is gradually building up the strength in his legs, in readiness, we hope, for a walk outside the house soon. We are, as is John, keen to move to the next stage in improving his cognitive processes and conversation with others in the Parish would undoubtedly help him. The aim is for John to be able to come to Church, but we have a long road ahead before this can happen, so we are taking things step by step. As those of you who know John will know, being a part of the Parish and attending Mass has always meant a lot to him so we would like to ask if anyone would like to help in stimulating these conversations and sharing memories to contact Anna on 07858 050709. We would be looking at a 20-30 mins visit on either a Tuesday or Thursday between 10am-12noon. Tea or coffee would be provided! Thank you for your continued prayers, The Dooney family.

**OUR LADY'S CHOIR** will be on their holiday break for the Sundays 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July but will be back in full voice on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August.