

Sunday Message

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 5 October 2025 • Psalter Week 3

DUTY CALLS

LUKE 17:5-10



When Jesus or the writers of the New Testament talk about faith, they don't mean simply believing a set of statements such as we find in the Creed. Faith in the biblical sense means the kind of trust you have in someone that makes you risk everything to follow them.

This is the kind of faith the disciples ask of Jesus as they make their way to Jerusalem. Jesus replies that even if their faith were the size of a mustard seed, it could do great things. In the Gospels, the mustard seed is an example of something very tiny that possesses great potential for growth. Indeed, St Matthew says that faith the size of a mustard seed moves mountains (Matthew 17:20). Whether Jesus spoke about mountains or mulberry trees isn't important. What is important is how he challenges his followers to have the kind of faith that will make us aspire to do things that might seem beyond our ordinary capacity.

Jesus then uses a parable to describe what is expected of servants. The situation he depicts would have been familiar to his audience, a medium-sized farmer who can afford to employ a single worker as a kind of jack-of-all-trades. The work would have included working in the fields and also helping around the house. It would be unthinkable for someone who employed such a servant to prepare the servant's dinner and wait on the servant at table. It would have been the other way around. Jesus applies the parable directly to his disciples. They have no right to expect special treatment for doing what is expected of them – they are simply servants of the Kingdom of God.

We could say that today's Gospel is about two of the basic attitudes that should characterise the disciple of Jesus. The first is the need for a strong faith and trust that won't be daunted even by things that look impossible. Saints are people who don't take no for an answer when they face great obstacles. The second is the need for an attitude of humility that doesn't expect to be thanked simply for doing what is required. It is the direct opposite of the attitude of the Pharisee who expected public recognition for every act of piety. ■

SAY

Repeat the words of the apostles in today's Gospel. Say slowly and prayerfully: "Lord, increase our faith."

PRAY

God gives faith to all who ask for it. Pray for the light of faith and for the strength to live out its implications.

LEARN

Real faith is not just assent to a list of teachings. It is belief in a person. It is a deep relationship with God who is revealed to us in Jesus.

The gift of faith is the greatest treasure one can possess.

To live the Gospel is to do our duty.

REFLECT

Sometimes we can be tempted to think we deserve credit for doing our Christian duty. We go to Mass regularly, we contribute financially to the Church, we say our prayers, we try our best to live the Gospel every day. We consider ourselves to be good Catholics. So, when we think of all those who have fallen away from the practice of the faith, or have lost the faith altogether, we might conclude we deserve recognition, some kind of reward. Surely, God is mightily pleased with us and will thank us for our faithfulness.

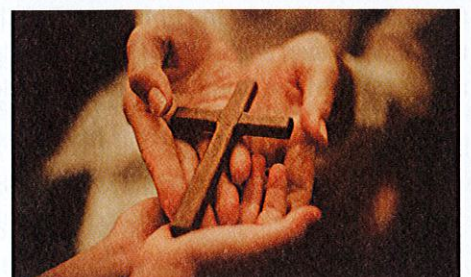
But what does Jesus say in today's Gospel? "When you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

What Jesus is saying is simple but not very comforting. No worker, no teacher, no student, no parent expects special recognition simply for doing what is expected of them. The same applies to his followers. He is reminding us that we are merely servants, and therefore should never expect a special reward or honour or bonus or pat on the back for doing what as Christians we are called to do anyway. We shouldn't expect to be congratulated simply for fulfilling our baptismal promises. It's like rewarding someone just for turning up for work.

Jesus is reminding us that we have received something precious, to be treasured – the gift of faith. This is no ordinary gift. To live a life of faith is merely to do our duty. That will bring its own rewards. ■

DO

Think about what your faith means to you. Why do you continue to practise your faith when so many others have given it up? What difference does it make to your day-to-day living?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the abundance of your kindness
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,
pour out your mercy upon us
to pardon what conscience dreads
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.
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 Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

A reading from the Prophet Habakkuk.

O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?
Or cry to you 'Violence!'
and you will not save?
Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

And the LORD answered me:
'Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so he may run who reads it.
For still the vision awaits its appointed time;
it hastens to the end – it will not lie.
If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

'Behold, his soul is puffed up;
it is not upright within him,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R. 7c. 8a

*R: O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'*

1. Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise. **R.**
2. O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 1:6-8. 13-14

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy.

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God.

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL 1 Peter 1:25

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of the Lord remains for ever
and this word is the good news that was preached to you.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: The Apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' And the Lord said, 'If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Will any one of you who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, "Come at once and recline at table"? Will he not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterwards you will eat and drink"? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray,
the sacrifices instituted by your commands
and, through the sacred mysteries,
which we celebrate with dutiful service,
graciously complete the sanctifying work
by which you are pleased to redeem us.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.*

Or

*Though many, we are one bread, one body,
for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, almighty God,
that we may be refreshed and nourished
by the Sacrament which we have received,
so as to be transformed into what we consume.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



St Patrick's Church
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Wellington
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THE BEACON

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Our Lady of the Rosary
& St Luke's Church
Church Road, Trench
TF2 7HG

5 OCTOBER 2025

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST					3 rd Count
Sat	4th	17:30	Joyce Patricia Sarojini Ponnuthurai 1 st Anniversary		St Patrick's
Sun	5th	08:45	Mass in Polish		St Patrick's
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time		09:00	Paul Hopkirk / Rosemary Mavenka - Harvest Festival Family Mass		Our Lady's
		11:00	František Krejčík RIP / Brian Lewis RIP		St Patrick's
		12:30	Baptism – Zachary Rogowski		St Patrick's
Mon	6th	Ferial			
Tues	7th	Our Lady of the Rosary			
		12:00	Dot Hall 1 st Anniversary		St Patrick's
		19:00	Joan Ashcroft & Marie Kavanagh Anniversary		Our Lady's
Wed	8th	Ferial			
		12:30	Requiem Mass for Mary Harlow		Our Lady's
Thurs	9th	St John Henry Newman, Priest and Doctor of the Church			
		19:00	Gay & Peter Kendrick		St Patrick's
Fri	10th	Ferial			
		09:30	Flora Quest RIP		St Patrick's
		18:00	Mass in Polish		St Patrick's
Sat	11th	17:30	Luciya Malani Fernando 3 rd Anniversary / Brian Lewis		St Patrick's
Sun	12th	08:45	Mass in Polish		St Patrick's
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time		09:00	Pauline Heyes (Health)		Our Lady's
		11:00	Griff & Mary-Jo Renshaw Golden Wedding Anniversary		St Patrick's
		13:00	Baptism – Leo Matthews		Our Lady's

SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

RIP: Mary Harlow (Funeral on 8 October at 12.30pm at Our Lady's) and **Flora Quest**. We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

BAPTISMS: Forms are available from the porch. Please hand your form to Fr Ravi. The next session will be on **25 October** at 12noon at St Patrick's.

Weekly Offerings: Total: £1444.37- Standing Orders £737.25 (£560 Gift Aided), Envelopes £309 (£243 Gift Aided), Loose Plate £360.12 (Not Gift Aided). Dona - £38 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



Please scan this QR code to donate to your parish online. You can register your card for gift aid to be added to every donation

ROTAS

Sat 5.30: W: Gail & Gay **EM:** Anne D **C:** Magg & Gail **Next Week: W:** Appurwa & Pansilu **EM:** Sherrel **C:** Nigel & Bernadette
Sun 9: W: Kevin & Joel **EM:** Francis **C:** C, C & F **Next Week: W:** Laura & Elias **EM:** Phillip **C:** Bruce & Mick
Sun 11: W: Marvellous & Melody **EM:** Moira **C:** Moira **Next Week: W:** Oluchi & Adrian **EM:** Stephen **C:** Diane & Collette

Refreshments after Mass every Sunday at OLoR . and First Sunday of the month at St Patrick's.

FOREIGN COINS: Please add your foreign coins to the buckets in the porches.

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.

HARVEST FAST DAY APPEAL

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call **0303 303 3030**.



You can also **text CAFOD to 70560** to donate £10.

Please stay for a bacon roll or samosa after 9am Family Mass at Our Lady's and, if you can, bring something for the foodbank collection.

On the **Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary** on Tuesday 7th October we will start the Rosary at 6:40pm and Mass will begin at 7pm, Please stay for refreshments following Mass

ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL : There are spaces in Reception and years 1, 2 and 3. If your child is currently attending another school in the area—or if you know of a family looking for a high-quality, nurturing learning environment—we would be delighted to welcome you for a visit. This is a wonderful opportunity to see our school in action and discover what makes it such a special place to learn and grow. Please contact the school office to arrange a tour or to find out more. We look forward to hearing from you!

Graeme Hawes - Executive Headteacher

CHRISTMAS PARISH LUNCH: Sunday 30th November at Hadley Park Hotel - 2 courses - starter & main -plus mince pie & coffee. To book please contact Pauline Hoyle 07954 683359. Cost If paying in cash or direct into Our Lady's bank account is £25.95 per person. To pay by card or via Dona online system will be £26.50 per person to cover transaction charges. Payment is due before 1st November.

MONTHLY FRIDAY AFTERNOON TEA: Starting on Friday 10th October at 2pm, we will host a monthly Afternoon Tea at Our Lady's. We will be offering a Traditional afternoon tea of sandwiches/savouries and sweet treats.

Donations of a minimum of £3 will be gratefully received. Numbers will be limited to 24 as we start this new venture - so don't delay to add your name to the list in the porch and let us know your dietary needs. if you can help please speak to choir members Dianne, Pauline, Suzi or Denise .

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2026: Holy Communion enrolment forms are available from the porches at church. Please return by 30th November.

MONTHLY ECUMENICAL GATHERING: Monday 13th October at 1pm at Holy Trinity Oakengates. The theme for October gathering is "Our understanding of the Psalms"

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2026. A preparatory meeting will be held on **Monday 13th October at 7pm at OLoR**. Resources for 2026 have been devised by women of Nigeria. We'd very much like people of Nigerian descent to join us in preparing and hosting the service next year. Please come and find out more and/or contact Pauline Heffernan: email paulineheffernan60@gmail.com or 07721 785224.

BINGO EVENING FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER 2025 at Our Lady of the Rosary & St Luke's Church Trench at 7pm. Bingo tickets 20p.a game. Ticket £5.00 to include Fish Goujons and chips supper. Primary school children £2. Please bring your own soft/wine drinks. Tea/Coffee and squash will be available and included in the ticket. 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.

LOST PROPERTY: Please check the lost property in the porch at St Patrick's. Anything left by 26th October will be disposed of.

TOWARDS BUILDING MEANINGFUL PARISH STRUCTURES FOR OUR LIFE AND MISSION TOGETHER: If you would like to help in any of the four ministries or to volunteer for a leadership role in them, please let Fr Ravi or Moira know by **Sunday, 19 October 2025**, clearly indicating your preference(s). We look forward to having preliminary meetings in November and to hopefully introduce the Ministry teams and the Pastoral team to the wider community on the first day of the new liturgical year (Advent).

Faith-Formation (Catechesis): Sacramental preparation (Baptism, Forgiveness, Communion, Confirmation, Matrimony), Scripture study, RCIA, Foundation Governors, Newsletter updates, Displays etc.

Faith-Celebration (Liturgy): Sunday and weekday masses, Altar servers, Readers, EMHC (Eucharistic ministers), Children's liturgy, Music, Choir, Reconciliation Services, Ushers, Funerals etc.

Faith-Action (Service): Groups and Associations, Ecumenism (Churches Together), Inter-Faith, Bereavement, Cleaners, Flower arrangers, key holders, Socials, Fundraisers etc.

Faith-Stewardship: Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Finance, Maintenance and Parish Office.