

Our Lady Star Of The Sea Catholic Church

The Presbytery, 22 Devon Place, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4DR
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 'Love God, Love Learning, Love Life'

SOME MASSES LISTED BELOW ARE LIVESTREAMED

Date & Liturgical Celebration	Time	Mass Intention
Sunday 15th November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	For the Holy Souls For the Holy Souls Morgan Battey, RIP Anniversary (A L) Parish Community
Monday 16 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am	Nancy and John Morris, RIP Anniv. (E T)
Tuesday 17 th <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious</i>	9.30am	For the Holy Souls
Wednesday 18 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am	For the Holy Souls
Thursday 19 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am	For the Holy Souls
Friday 20 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am	For the Deceased Clergy of the Diocese
Saturday 21 st	No Mass Today	
Sunday 22nd November Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Solemnity)	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Parish Community Annie Stott, Birthday Thanksgiving (Fouracre Family) For the Holy Souls For the Holy Souls

CONFESSIONS: Saturday evenings from 6pm-6.15pm, and on request.

FACE COVERINGS AT MASS: In keeping with Welsh Government guidance, face coverings must be worn at Mass by adults and children aged 11 and over. The face covering may be removed in order to receive Holy Communion. By wearing a face covering you will be helping to protect others.

HOW TO PRE-BOOK SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE: To book a place at Sunday Masses, please contact **Madeline Ahearne** on phone or email (01792361194; madelineolss@aol.com) or send an email to the Parish email address mumbles@menevia.org. Please provide your name, the number attending Mass, and contact phone number when you book. This record will be held for 14 days solely for track and trace (COVID-19).

LIVESTREAMED MASSES: Masses are livestreamed from our Parish every day. For a link to livestreamed Masses please go to our Parish website www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk and click "Livestream" on the menu bar. You can also find us on **YouTube** by searching for **Our Lady Star of the Sea Mumbles**.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Wendy Graham, Annalisa Morgan, Catherine Morgan, Angela McGuinness.

NOVEMBER – PRAYING FOR HOLY SOULS: November is the month traditionally dedicated to praying for the Holy Souls. If you would like your deceased relatives, friends and loved ones remembered in a special way at each Mass during November, please put their details in one of the brown envelopes. They can be put through the letterbox in the Presbytery. If any of our household parishioners need any help with collection, please contact Maggie on 362212. They will be placed in front of the altar at each Mass in November. Anniversary Mass intentions will be shared with the list.

OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Our local Catholic Primary school is **St David's** on West Cross Avenue, a welcoming and happy school, where children are cared for and nurtured to develop, educationally, spiritually and emotionally. The contact details for St David's are at the top of this Newsletter - do get in touch to secure a place for your child.

st.davids.primaryschool@swanseaedunet.gov.uk or Phone on 01792 512212 or follow us on Twitter: @stdavidscps.

ONLINE DAY OF REFLECTION: An Online Day of Reflection will be held on Saturday, 21st November 2020. The reflection will be given by Rev. Fr. Jerome Ituah, OCD. The theme for the day is "The Lamb of God" in the Gospel of John'. Time: 11am to 1pm. To access the Talk on the day, please go to DOMSEC website www.domsec.org.uk and click "Livestream" on the top menu bar.

DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN: Sadly, abortion is currently available in the UK right up to birth for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. Some of our MPs across parties have come together

to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. Our Catholic faith teaches that life is sacred and it is to be protected from the moment of conception to the point of natural death (CCC 2258, 2270). For this reason, we are soliciting for the help of our parishioners in ending the abortion of unborn children with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot in the UK. Please visit www.standupandsmile.org.uk to email your MP asking them to support the Bill.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Peter Gregory Mason, Rev David Watkins, Anita Dewer.

Reflection for 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Putting the Grace of God to Use

As we approach the end of this liturgical year, the Church directs our attention to the coming of Christ. Christ reminds us that we shall give accounts of our lives to God at his second coming. We thank God for the grace of the Christian life through which we have come to share in his divine life.

God is at Work in Us: God, in his unfathomable wisdom, is always at work in the universe and in our lives (Jn 5:17). The Book of Proverbs beautifully describes wisdom as the precious pearl which God bestows on us. It is with this wisdom that we become productive in the world as we await the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, in the Gospel Reading, Jesus likens the kingdom of God to a man who, before setting out on a journey, gave talents to his servants according to their abilities.

At the time of Jesus, a talent was a coin worth about thirty (30) kilogrammes of precious metal. The huge quantity of talents symbolises the great amounts of graces and blessings we receive from God especially in the celebration of the sacraments of the Church. God's gifts are uncountable in our lives. The best response we can have towards these gifts is to show our gratitude to the giver of these gifts. We express this gratitude especially in the celebration of the Eucharist. The words of Eucharistic Prayer II are succinct in this regard. It says, "...giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence to minister to you". This gratitude is then brought to life when we put the grace of God to use in our lives. In the light of this, St Paul encourages us not to let the grace of God which we have received be in vain in our lives (2 Cor 6:1). We put the grace of God to use through the service we render to God and humankind.

It should be noted that the man did not give any specific instructions to his servants on what they were to do with the talents. However, the servants would have lived long enough with the man to have known what he expected of them. God has given us wisdom as one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:8). Through the life of the Spirit, we have come to know God's will and

we pray that his will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Our mission on earth is to produce fruits through the wisdom which God has blessed us with. This wisdom means that we should not hesitate to do what we know to be good. We have come to know the good through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amidst the difficulties we encounter in life, the Holy Spirit strengthens us to carry out good work for God and our human community.

It is also noteworthy that the man gave talents to his servants according to their abilities. God knows our abilities and he has blessed us according to what he knows we can manage (Eph 4:7; CCC 1936). For this reason, the spirit of God cleanses us of any form of jealousy or unhealthy competition in his house. This is because God has blessed each one with the necessary graces we need to be saved. With these graces, we are empowered to live our lives in service to God and humanity. The reward for our productivity in the service of God and humanity is then eternal life.

In addition, the time the man was away on a journey was the time the servants had to work and produce results with their master's talents. This period signifies our lifetime on earth during which God expects his gifts to be put to good use. As God's children, we are managers of his gifts (1 Pt 4:10).

Be Busy with It; Do Not Bury It: The third servant did not meet with the master's favour because he chose to bury his talents. This was like giving up on life and going into despair. We should rather go about doing good with God's grace in our lives while imitating Christ who is always doing good to us and through us (Acts 10:38). May the Spirit of God empower us to build his kingdom with the grace we have received. Amen.
