



ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH, EWELL
Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Bamford
 Web Site: www.stclements Sewell.org
 307 Kingston Road KT19 0BW Tel: 020 8393 5572
St. Clement's Primary School: 020 8393 8789
St. Andrew's Secondary School: 01372 277881
 Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton
 Charity No. 252878



All Masses are now live streamed. Access via the Parish Website

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 24th September 2023 Psalter Week 1 Cycle A

Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Caroline Boore RIP
Sunday 24 Sept	8.30 am	All Parishioners
	10.30 am	Finula & Roy Fisher 60 th Wedding Anniversary
Wednesday	10.00 am	Wellbeing – Fergus Powell
Friday	10.00 am	Grazia Ventisei RIP

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 1st October 2023 Psalter Week 2 Cycle A

Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	James Thistlewaite RIP
Sunday 01 Oct	8.30 am	Carmen Vella RIP
	10.30 am	All Parishioners
Wednesday	10.00 am	Steven Davies RIP
Friday	10.00 am	Wellbeing – Mogan Tiecher
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	All Parishioners
Sunday 08 Oct	8.30 am	Carmen Vella RIP
	10.30 am	P P Varghese RIP

FEAST DAYS: 24TH – 30TH SEPTEMBER

Wednesday: St Vincent de Paul, Priest
 Friday: Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
 Saturday: St Jerome, Priest, Doctor

ANNIVERSARIES: 24TH – 30TH SEPTEMBER

Teresa Sparrow, Terence Wright, Eileen Ward. John Hennessy,
 Klemens van der Linden, Carmen Vella

COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Parish Funds - Eunice Onyeonoro Akomah

FEAST DAYS: 1ST – 7TH OCTOBER

Monday: The Holy Guardian Angels
 Wednesday: St Francis of Assisi
 Saturday: Our Lady of the Rosary

ANNIVERSARIES: 1ST – 7TH OCTOBER

John Abbot, George Henn, Catherine Reilly, Albert Holland,
 Herbert Hall

COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS:

CAFOD Family Fast Day

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday, 10.30 am – 11.00 am or by appointment

RECOVERY AND WELL-BEING: Please pray for: Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Jocelyn Bowen, Joseph Ewing, Martina Savage, Mel Alvarez, John Stratford, Shona Dane, Sheila Hall.

SEPTEMBER 200 CLUB WINNERS: Jim O'Reilly No. 137 £30 Anne Hannan No.227 £20 Congratulations!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

26th November – Winter Fair

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT, 14th October 2023: Our next Parish Quiz Night will be on Saturday 14th October at 7 pm in the church hall. Entry will be £1 and bring your own drinks. Teas, coffees, biscuits and nibbles will all be provided and there will, of course, be a raffle. Please sign up in the narthex for a sociable and fun evening. Any queries, please ask our quiz master Robin Hannan on 07810 647733.

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day 6th October: Talks will be given at all masses on the weekend of 30th September/1st October. Please take an envelope and donate to CAFOD's appeal to provide mobile medical aid in remote areas in Pakistan and elsewhere. You can also donate online at cafod.org.uk.

CONFIRMATION 2024: If you will be aged at least 15 by 31 August 2024 and attend mass regularly at St Clement's and would like to make your confirmation next year, please collect "an expression of interest" form from Father Graham. This is so we can gauge numbers before arranging the course. Forms should be returned to Father Graham no later than **22nd October 2023.**

DOES YOUR CHILD ATTEND A NON CATHOLIC SCHOOL? The parish runs a programme to help parents teach these children about their faith. If your child is at least 8 years of age, and you are interested, please contact Pauline Groves on 020 8394 0169

ST CLEMENT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS: Wednesday 11th October and Wednesday, 18th October. 9.30 am to 11.00 am. To book please call the school on 020 8393 8789. Further details please see notice board by entrance.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY is on 22 October this year. With that in mind, could all red box holders please return them to Church for counting. Any amount, however small is welcome. There will be a large red box left by the Sacristy for this purpose. The boxes will then be returned to the narthex of the Church for collection. Thank you, Fiona Perks (Local Secretary, Missio)

.A THOUGHT FROM A GREAT THEOLOGIAN AND BISHOP

"Time is a threefold present: the present as we experience it, the past as a present memory and the future as a present expectation."

St Augustine of Hippo

As individuals and as a community, we need to find a better balance. We need to find time to work and time to play – time to be together, time to pray, time to support each other, time to rest, time to take action and time to stop.

We are consuming the earth's resources at such a breakneck speed that stopping and taking a break becomes a meaningful action. Restoring, repairing, rewilding and reusing become radical statements of resistance. In this way, we can challenge the mainstream belief that having more is the main point of our existence on earth. We can commit to healing and repairing and resting and restoring, and, in this way, we begin to recreate right relationships with God, our neighbour and the earth.

As the bishops remind us:

Care for the earth is fundamental to the universal good, since the health, well-being, and very survival of all life depends on a healthy environment. The full human development of every human person both now and in future generations cannot be separated from the fate of the earth. (*The Call of Creation*, 5)

Linda Jones enjoys music, creative writing and walking in the countryside with her dog, Roque. She loves the Camino de Santiago and all its different routes and is interested in how contemplation brings about change.

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6-9

PSALM Psalm 144

RESPONSE The Lord is close to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:20-24. 27

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.**

Next Sunday's Readings:
Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32



www.rpbooks.co.uk rp@rpbooks.co.uk @redemptorist

REMEMBER, RETURN, REST AND RESTORE

In *The Call of Creation*, the bishops of England and Wales wrote:

We are following a way of life that disregards and damages God's creation, forces the poor into greater poverty, and threatens the right of future generations to a healthy environment and to their fair share of the earth's wealth and resources. This is contrary to the vision of the Gospel. (5)

This very strong statement – that we are following a way of life that is contrary to the vision of the Gospel – challenges us to respond urgently. Strangely, though, our response could be to do less rather than more!

As we celebrate this year's Season of Creation together, reflecting on our relationship with God, our neighbour, the earth and all other living creatures, we can also take the time to look back. During the Season of Creation in 2020, we were invited to "remember, return, rest and restore".

These words have a very different feel to the way we normally live. I have the sense that we are in too much of a hurry – so we don't always take the time to "remember" and learn from the past. We have forgotten that everything has a season – not just fruits and vegetables but also humans. We try to maintain the same hectic rhythm all the time instead of taking time to reflect and to contemplate – to "return".

We have forgotten the value and importance of "rest". It seems like an interruption rather than an opportunity. And perhaps we also forget that our relationships with each other and with the earth can be restored. We have the chance to "restore" the land itself and its climate so that we can live on together in peace.

The idea of contemplative rest sounds like a luxury to many of us. Perhaps you're a delivery driver racing around to drop off parcels, and your time is tracked. Maybe you work at a supermarket check-out, and every move you make is watched to make sure you're working at speed. Or you work in a call centre and must finish calls in a fixed time. If you are like many others, a day off simply becomes a day to complete other types of tasks: the washing, cleaning and shopping. Rest never makes it onto your never-ending list of things to do.

Yet for others, time stretches out and drags – another day to get through, a day of loneliness, a day without work or social interaction.

The Season of Creation



Linda Jones continues these reflections on the Season of Creation.



24 SEPTEMBER 2023

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK I

None of us has the right to deprive another of what they need to live. Yet, when we pollute the air or the water, we stop someone else from breathing clean air or drinking fresh water. Climate breakdown, caused by human activity, creates food shortages and hunger. It leads to drought and floods, as well as intolerable levels of heat.



We can see the impact of rampant inequality in the climate crisis and the environmental degradation of the earth. It is always the poorest that experience the worst effects because they don't have the resources to protect themselves.

So, what should we do? As the bishops say in the *Call of Creation*, "We seek the intercession of St Francis of Assisi in the necessary action that must take place at every level in Church and society" (3).

They understand that a simple and sustainable lifestyle can be a source of joy. This lifestyle means loving others and caring about the beauty of God's creation. It means creating a common home where all of us can flourish and live in peace.

St Francis made the connection between love of nature, neighbour, God and peace. May we be inspired to follow his example.

Linda Jones enjoys music, creative writing and walking in the countryside with her dog, Roque. She loves the Camino de Santiago and all its different routes and is interested in how contemplation brings about change.

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

FIRST READING **Ezekiel 18:25-28**

PSALM **Psalms 24**

RESPONSE **Remember your mercy, Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING **Philippians 2:1-11**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL **Matthew 21:28-32**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Remember your word to your servant,
O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Next Sunday's Readings:
Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43



www.rpbbooks.co.uk rp@rpbbooks.co.uk @redemptorist

SUNDAY BULLETIN



SIMPLICITY AND JOY

This week sees the Feast of St Francis (4 October). In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis tells us how much he is inspired by the life of this saint:

I believe that Saint Francis is the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology, and he is also much loved by non-Christians. He was particularly concerned for God's creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness... He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace. (10)

These words remind us of the relationships we have reflected on during this ecumenical Season of Creation: our relationships with God, our neighbours and nature.

Sometimes it feels easy to despair at the state of the world, the challenges of the climate crisis, the loss of biodiversity and the extinction of species. But St Francis shows us that a life of authentic and open-hearted love brings joy, not despair and misery. He cared for other creatures, nature, social justice and peace.

We cannot have peace if we do not care for our neighbour or the earth. The race to hoard resources in the hands of a very few, leaving others hungry, leads us towards conflict and not peace. Such extreme levels of inequality are unjust.

Jesus offers a different way of living, completely at odds with the exploitation of nature and other people, as Pope Francis reminds us:

When nature is viewed solely as a source of profit and gain, this has serious consequences for society. This vision of "might is right" has engendered immense inequality, injustice and acts of violence against the majority of humanity, since resources end up in the hands of the first comer or the most powerful: the winner takes all. Completely at odds with this model are the ideals of harmony, justice, fraternity and peace as proposed by Jesus. (*Laudato Si'*, 82)

It is our urgent task to promote peace and to work for it. Peace is not brought about by capitulating to the powerful but by seeking the common good. The common good is the good of each and every one of us. Each of us is created and loved by God, or, as Pope Benedict XVI said in a homily, "Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed. Each of us is loved. Each of us is necessary."

The Season of Creation



This week Linda Jones concludes her series on the Season of Creation with a focus on St Francis.



1 OCTOBER 2023

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK 11