

Saint of the Week—S Charles Borromeo.

Charles Borromeo was Archbishop of Milan from 1564 to 1584 and a cardinal. He was a leading figure of the Counter-Reformation. He combated against the Protestant Reformation together with St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Philip Neri .

At the parish meeting there was a desire to see what the weekly collections were amounting to. So here we have the total for the four weeks of October.

FIRST COLLECTION £674.00

SECOND COLLECTION £405.48



ATHERSTONE CHORALE
Friday 29th November,
7.pm
A selection of
Christmas
Carols and
Winter inspired music
here at
St Benedicts Catholic
Church Admission Adults
£6.00

MASS ATTENDANCE IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019

5/6	89	13/14	94
20/21	80	27/28	99

MEN'S BREAKFAST ON MONDAY
A.M. & LADIES AFTERNOON TEA
ON MONDAY P.M.

It's great news that our hall is used to provide a free men's breakfast for men who are alone or isolated in any way. The same Big Lottery funding is paying for Ladies Afternoon tea on Wednesday afternoon. Would you be someone who could benefit from a good breakfast and a chat with other fellas? Ladies I'm sure you would like a chat with afternoon tea each week. Or perhaps you know a neighbour who could benefit?

Altar Servers & The Guild of S. Stephen

S. Benedict's has a long tradition of Altar Servers—anyone from year 3 school upwards including adults can serve at Mass. Please let Fr. Paul know and we can arrange some training sessions.



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered on Tuesday 30th June 2020 by Bishop William at 6.30pm at S. Benedict's.

November—Month of the Holy Souls

is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life, but have not yet attained the joys of heaven. S. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise. Please use the envelopes at the back of Church, write the names of your deceased loved ones and hand it to Fr. Paul.

Parish meeting Fr. Paul wishes to thank everyone who came to the two meetings. They were very helpful and informative . Our first monthly parish meeting will be in November, look out here for the date. Meanwhile the parish needs someone who has book keeping experience to help with church accounts. Another person willing to run the gift aid scheme. A minute secretary for the meeting would be a great help too.



Prayer for the Sick & Housebound

May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration.

The sick... please pray for the sick and housebound in particular Sandra, Grace, Val and John who all need our prayers at this time.

The new website.

The address is www.saintbenedictsrcatherstone.com

Is now live. The webmaster is new to this venture so expect mistakes and be understanding! He will try and keep it updated. Thank you. A parish webmaster to run and develop our new website would be a great bonus. Any volunteers?

The Induction of Fr. Paul as Parish Priest will place on Friday 22nd November at 7pm.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY We really want to see the children coming to Mass each week and the children's liturgy is there to help and encourage them. It is for Infants and Junior school children. We need more parents to volunteer to support the catechists.

REFLECTION God does not love us *because* we repent, or *when* we repent. God loves us, and so gives us the grace to repent — endlessly.

Instead of pushing his way through and demanding his rightful place on the street, however, Zacchaeus does something one might expect of a child: he climbs a sycamore tree to get a better view. The sight of a wealthy, powerful, and decidedly *short* wealthy man struggling to pull himself up into a tree must have been quite a sight for the people whom Zacchaeus taxed for his riches. This never fails to make me smile, at least a little bit, and it probably made those who noticed it smile at the time, too.

But what happens with this good humour? Jesus sees Zacchaeus in the tree and greets him with love and friendship, telling him to “come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house.” At those words, Zacchaeus “received Him with joy” — as one might expect from a child who has climbed a tree to see his father arrive home from a long journey. At that point, Zacchaeus confesses his sins publicly and pledges to repent and redeem himself — because Jesus has chosen to come to his house.



As a tax collector — as *chief* tax collector — Zacchaeus would have been among the worst of the oppressors within the community of Israelites. Tax collectors got rich by overtaxing their fellow Judeans and keeping the difference. Small wonder that the crowd began grumbling that this miracle-working rabbi would choose to stay with Zacchaeus rather than offer a remonstrance of him in public. Their unhappiness would not have been just that Zacchaeus was a sinner in the abstract, but that Zacchaeus had spent years sinning against *them* in reality. They hoped for retributive justice, not an offer of hail-fellow-well-met to their tormentor on the procession into Jericho..

And yet, justice is exactly what Jericho’s people received — through the mercy of Christ. Jesus enters into Zacchaeus’ house (or makes clear that’s what He intends), and Zacchaeus comprehends his sinful nature and repents of it. He promises to make good on the damage he’s done to his neighbours and act justly from that day forward, and Jesus declares him reconciled to the Lord. Only through Jesus’ insistence on coming into Zacchaeus’ house has both justice and mercy been delivered..

The Lord smiles on us and offers us mercy and joy — and allows us to be instruments of His mercy and justice according to His will, and maybe — just *maybe* — the first step along that way is to laugh a little, mostly at ourselves and our own pretensions.

31st. SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Yr C)
VIGIL MASS 2nd. November 2019 4.00 pm
SUNDAY MASS 3rd 2019 9.30 am

MASS THIS WEEK

Monday	4th	S Charles Borromeo	NO MASS	
Tuesday	5th	Feria	Mass 10 am	Priest’s Intention
Wednesday	6th	Feria	Mass 10am	Holy Souls
Thursday	7th	S Willibrord	Mass 10am	Christopher Brennan Sp Int
Friday	8th	Feria	Mass 10 am	Jim Besolo (sick)
Saturday	9th	Vigil Mass	Vigil Mass 4 pm	Debbie Burnett (sick)



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Fr. Paul **will be** in the confessional Saturday 11.30 to 12 noon during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament . Confessions before the Vigil mass between 3.30– 3.50 pm
 At other times by arrangement. If you can’t manage a Saturday then ask Fr. Paul.

Next Week—32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)
VIGIL MASS (7th) 4.00 pm SUNDAY (8th) MASS 9.30 am

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