



PARISH OF ST GEORGE

Parish Administrator: Father Humphrey O'Connor

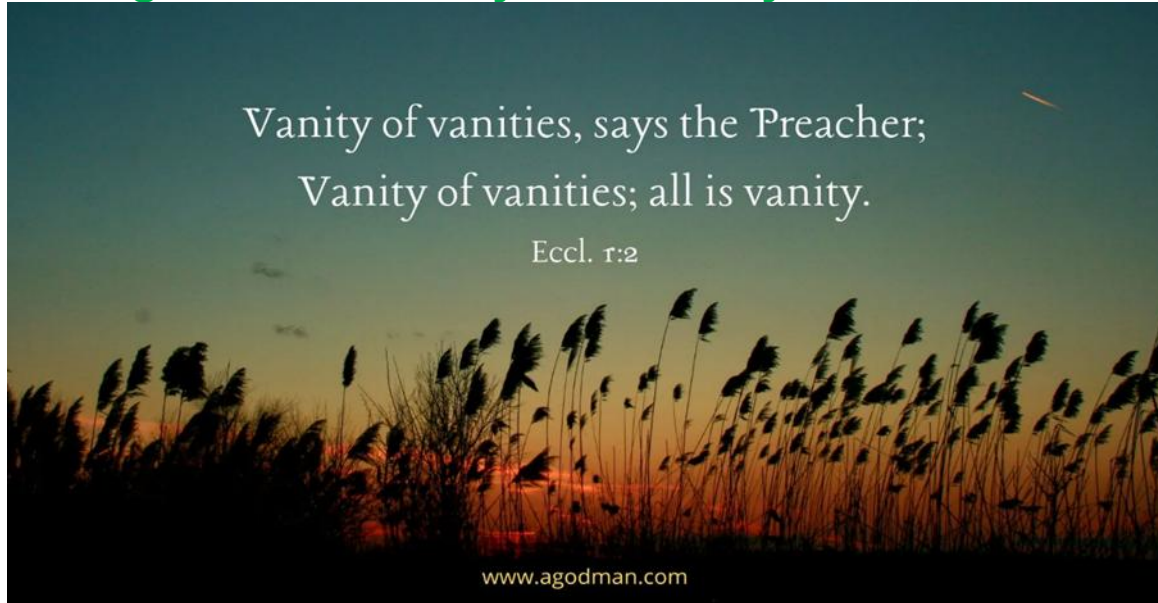
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SUNDAY 3rd August 2025 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C



The **First Reading** from the Book of *Ecclesiastes* discusses the problem "What value has this earthly life for man?" As a whole the book consists of a series of observations on various aspects of life, knowledge, pleasure, wisdom, human striving, ambition: none of these can bring true happiness, which is why they all appear as vanity.

The **Second Reading** from St. Paul to the *Colossians* in which he urges the converts to keep their eyes on Christ with whom they have been raised up to a new spiritual level or status. They must no longer be mixed up in the sinful things of this earth. They died to all this when they died with Christ in baptism.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 12:13-21*. Jesus was surrounded by a large crowd to whom he was giving wisdom. Some men in the crowd asked him to arbitrate in a family dispute. This Jesus refused to do. This interest in property gave him the occasion to teach his hearers, and all of us, in a very effective parable, the relative value of this world's goods.

The lesson of this parable is obvious to all, and it is perhaps as difficult to put into practice as it is obvious. To be in this world and not of it, to collect the necessary goods of this world by honest labour and yet remain detached from them, to possess but not be possessed by worldly riches, is an ideal to which our weak human nature responds very reluctantly.

Many Christians, by God's grace, however, do perseveringly respond to the challenge. They earn and use the goods of this world, while at the same time they keep God's laws and earn wealth for heaven. Some renounce even the right, which is theirs, to possess the necessary things of this world, by taking on themselves the vows of religion. Thus, they set themselves free to devote their whole time and energy to the service of God and neighbour. Others, and they are of necessity the more numerous, have to own the world's goods in order to provide for themselves and their dependants, but, while so doing, they never let their temporal possessions come between them and The Lord. To do this is not easy, but God's helping grace is always available to the willing heart.

There is still a third group—those who resemble the foolish man described in the parable. Like him they are so enmeshed and ensnared in their desire to collect good things for their earthly life, that they forget that at any moment they may have to leave this earth and all they possess in it. They have allowed their possessions, large or small, to become the prison-houses of their hearts and thoughts. In their mad rush for earthly treasure, they give themselves no time to stop and think of the really important thing in life, namely, that soon they must leave this world and all it holds dear to them. But it is not the departure from this world that is to be feared. Rather, it is the arrival at another for which they have made no preparation.

<u>Readers</u>	Sat 6:30	Sun 09:30	Sun 11:00
	Jo Williams	Frankline Somtochi	Roma Ajit

If you wish to join the Reader's Rota, please complete the form in the porch.

Confession is available before each vigil & Sunday Mass, before 6:00pm Mass on Friday & upon request

Sat 2 nd Aug	6:30 PM	(OM: Sts Eusebius/P Eymard) 6:00PM Rosary	Rep – Immaculate Heart
Sun 3 rd Aug	9:30 AM	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
	11:00 AM		Fr Thaddeus Opera
Mon 4 th Aug	10:00 AM	M: St John Vianney / Adoration 6-7PM	Fr Gerard McGuinness RIP
Tue 5 th Aug	10:00 AM	OM: Dedi. Basilica St Mary Major / A. 6-7pm	The unity of the Church
Wed 6 th Aug	No Mass	F: Transfiguration Of The Lord	
Thu 7 th Aug	10:00 AM	OM: Sts Sixtus & Companions/Cajetan	Fr Mario Dorado RIP
Fri 8 th Aug	6:00 PM	M: St Dominic	The Carr family (L+D)
		Holy Hour	
Sat 9 th Aug	6:30 PM	(F: St Edith Stein) 6:00PM Rosary	Reconversion of Europe
Sun 10 th Aug	9:30 AM	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Unity of the parish family
	11:00 AM		Thanksgiving to Jesus for his sorrowful passion

Weekly Collection We wish to thank you all for your ongoing generosity in the upkeep of the parish.
 Sunday 20th July - £408.99
 Weekly Standing Orders - £112.00

The church will be opened/unlocked during daytime hours from 9:00AM to 5:00PM except on Wednesdays and when the priest is not around/local. All are welcome to drop into the church for quite prayer with the Lord truly present.

Mon & Tue of this week there will be an additional hour of silent Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

If there are any people, house bound or otherwise who would like the priest to visit, Fr Humphrey is very happy to call to see them. Please ring the parish phone and leave a message or send him an email.



"The fool in the Bible, the one who does not want to learn from the experience of visible things, that nothing lasts forever but that all things pass away, youth and physical strength, amenities and important roles. Making one's life depend on such an ephemeral reality is therefore foolishness. The person who trusts in the Lord, on the other hand, does not fear the adversities of life, nor the inevitable reality of death, he is the person who has acquired a wise heart, like the Saints." ...Pope Benedict XVI – Angelus 1/08/2010

"The rich man, clinging to his immense fortune, is convinced that he will succeed in overcoming death....Indeed, like all other men and women, rich and poor, wise and foolish alike, he is doomed to end in the grave, as happens likewise to the powerful and he will have to leave behind on earth that gold so dear to him and those material possessions he so idolised." – St Pope John Paul II 20 October 2004

PRAYER – Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to Yours and serve Your majesty in sincerity of heart. Teach us to lay up riches in heaven and may the prayers of St John Paul assist us in our daily struggles against the idols of the world. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, amen.

Our parish safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke