

PARISH OF ST GEORGE

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FATHER THADDEUS OPARA

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time

February 11th 2024

GOSPEL : Mark: 1:40-45



Jesus' identification with the leper:

According to some Fathers of the Church, one reason Jesus promptly responded to the leper's cry in today's Gospel story, ignoring the Mosaic Law prohibiting touching a leper and thus becoming ritually unclean, is that Jesus identified himself with the man's condition. Jesus dramatically identified himself with the sufferer in the total rejection and isolation waiting for him. The irony here is that Jesus risked becoming "unclean" Himself in order to make the leper clean. Just as he stretched out his hand to the leper and touched him and made him whole, Jesus stretched out his hands on the cross to make us whole. He touched the leper thus bridging the gap between what is clean and what is unclean, identifying himself with all lepers, with all who are ritually or socially unclean and isolated and with all of us sinners who are spiritually unclean and have no way to change our condition except through His sacrifice and mercy. Thus, He became "unclean" in the eyes of the law that we might be made clean. He allowed himself to be rejected by his family and people so that those who are separated from God might return to him and be healed.

LIFE MESSAGE

1) We need to trust in the mercy of a forgiving God who assures us that our sins are forgiven and that we are clean. We are forgiven and made spiritually clean from the spiritual leprosy of sins when we repent of our sins, because God is a God of love Who waits patiently for us. The only condition required of us is that we ask for forgiveness with a repentant heart. We are sure to hear His words of absolution, "Very well – your sins are forgiven, and you are clean," echoed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

2) We need to tear down the walls that separate us from others and build bridges of loving relationship. Jesus calls every one of us to demolish the walls that separate us from each other and to welcome the outcasts and the untouchables of society. God's loving hand must reach out to them through us. Jesus wants us to touch their lives. Let us re-examine the barriers we have created and approach God with a heart that is ready to welcome the outcasts in our society.

The Holy Family Prayer

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

Amen

Anima Christi:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, Wash me.
Passion of Christ, Strengthen me.
O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.

Permit me not to be separated from you.
From the wicked foe, defend me.
At the hour of my death, call me and bid
me come to you.
That with your saints I may praise you
For ever and ever.
Amen



Mass Times

Saturday 10th February	6:30pm	For the departed Priests
Sunday 11th February	9:30 am 11:00pm	Lucy Maria Matthew Wilson
Monday 12th February	10:00am	J .C Opara
Tuesday 13th February	10:00am	The Sick
ASH WEDNESDAY 14 FEB.	10AM & 7PM	Parishioners
Thursday 15th February	10:00am	Sanctification of Priests
Friday 16th February	6:00pm	Vocations
Saturday 17th February	6:30pm	Souls in Purgatory
Sunday 18th February	9:30am 11am	Parishioners Parishioners

Sat 6:30pm	Sun. 9:30am	Sun. 11:00am
Hazel Spencer	Eileen Livesey	Liz Greaves

Say your daily rosary for peace in the world



Announcement:

There will be second collection this Sunday 11/02/24 for Priest retirement fund.

There will be Mass in Malpas this Sunday --11/02/24. Time : 6pm

Ash Wednesday will be this week --14/02/24 --The beginning of lent.
Masses 10am
7pm



Mass Offering for 21st January--£288.10
28th February--£281.92
4th February --£340.25

Standing orders-----£118.25

Confession is Saturdays 5-6pm, 30mins before and after mass and on request.

Our Parish Safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke