

**THE PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF
HEREFORD, WEOBLEY, HR4 8QS AND
ST.BEDE THE VEN. KINGTON, HR5 3DW**

FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER



Jesus the true vine - ikon

Parish Priest, Fr.SimonMcGurk,O.S.B.
St Thomas' Presbytery, Weobley HR4 8QS-
Tel. 01544 318 325. Mob.07442.075303.
email (Parish & Pers.) sjsmcgurk43@gmail.com
New Parish-Archdiocese email: simon.mcgurk@rcadc.com
Safeguarding Rep. Joanna Helme. 01432.760816
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Patrick Lobo (Belmont Abbey) on
07568 669 300 or 01684.574658
Parish Councillors: Fr.Simon, Joanna Helme, Karen
Lampitt, Sarah Nichols, Frank McNally, Charles de Rohan,
Tricia Carter. *Hon.Secretary*, Kerry Poole,
Finance Cttee: Joanna Helme, Pat Roberts, Peter Hereford.
Accounts: Keith White.

The Website:www.thomasandbede.com Go to the
website, and click on 'Contact'. Tricia Carter now manages
the website (01568.708723). triciacarter2691@gmail.com

COVID & FLU: Please take all normal precautions,
Weobley Mass will continue to be Zoomed.
Zoom ID:768 558 1521 and Password:1rZ7LU

5th. WEEK OF EASTER

Sat.Apr.27 Mass of Sunday, Kington 6.00pm.

Mass for healing of Roger Nichols

Sun. 28 5th. SUN OF EASTER

Mass, Weob. 10.30Z –

Mon. 29 Mass, Weob. 10.00Z.-S.Catherine,Siena
Fr. Simon away the rest of the week

Tues. 30 Mass. Weob. 10.00Z – No Mass

Wed.May 1 Mass, Kington. No Mass

Thur. 02 No Mass-

Fri. 03 No Mass

Sat. 04 Mass of Sunday, Kington 6,00pm.

Sun. 05 6th, SUN. OF EASTER

Mass Weobley 10.30am.Z

**PRAY FOR THE PEOPLES OF ISRAEL AND
GAZA**

May peace reign in Jesus' own country

**Pray for lasting peace in the Ukraine and a change
of the Russian mind, especially the church.**

PLEASE PRAY for AFGHANISTAN and IRAN
struggling for humane government and basic rights
for women, especially Afghanis seeking sanctuary
in Britain.

For Peace in the Arabian Gulf.

FOR ALL BOAT MIGRANTS that they may have
love, justice and shelter according to their real
needs.

**The people and country of Haiti and all relief
efforts.**

**We pray for those of our parish or known to us who
are sick or in need of special prayers:** John and
Vicky Tanner, Graham Vaughan, Melita Denaro,
Vivian Brooke, Pat Walls, Sheila Mundy, Catherine
Williams, Claire Burrows, Sarah Murkin, Tom
O'Brien, Roger & Sarah Nichols.

**For any parishioners, relatives and friends recently
dead:**

**We remember those of our parish whose
anniversaries occur at this time:** Arthur Shirley (M.),
Charlotte Lane (T.'53), Robert Doyle (T.'66), Mary
Hughes (T.2012), Mary Rennell of Rodd (W.), Antony
Edwards (Th.'88), Olwen Gregorie (Th.'88), Robert
Riddell (Sa.'65).

**For King Charles III and Princess Kate at this time
of concern over their health.** May our King always
set the highest standards of leadership for our country.
We also pray for our government, especially our Prime
Minister, Rishi Sunak. May they govern with integrity
following the religious beliefs of our country. And we
pray for the leaders of all the other countries of the
world, esp.President Zelenski of Ukraine **and for
conversion of the Russian leadership.**

The people and leaders of Gaza, Israel & Yemen.

"HORIZONS OF HOPE" Unfortunately our speaker , Dr.
Mary Powell, was unable to come on account of Novo-virus.
At the last minute, Fr. Gregory, Tanzanian priest standing in
for Fr. Brendan, gave an excellent illustrated talk on the
church in his country. **Next talk: "Is the Stranger still
welcome". Megan Knowles of Jesuit Rescue Service.**
at Belmont Abbey, Thurs. May 18th.10.30am..

CHARITY EVENING AT BROXWOOD COURT

**An inspiring talk was given by Arthur Denaro on the role
of our army in humane leadership and promoting peace.**
Excellent Afghan mean followed.

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION OF OUR LADY

**Wed. May 15th, 2024. 9.00pm. in the grounds of Belmont
Abbey. Light refreshments for purchase at Hedley Lodge
from 6.00**

PARISH RETREAT DAY, at LLANGASTY,
Monday June 17th. led by Fr. Alex Kenyon OSB.
Morning refreshments, 2 talks, Lunch, Quiet time
in beautiful house and scenery, Tea. All for £38.00

**NEXT SUNDAY: EMERGENCY CAFOD APPEAL TO
ALLEVIATE TOTAL FAMINE IN THE SUDAN.**

SERMONETTE – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS READINGS

FIRST READING from the Acts of the Apostles (*Ch.9, 26-31*)

We are familiar with the story of Saul's conversion on the way to Damascus but how was it when this murderous fanatic tried to approach the community God had called him to join? We see today how Barnabas, a recent convert trusted by the community, takes Saul in hand and introduces him, explaining all about his conversion. It must all have been a great shock to the disciples but Saul is accepted. Allowing for a time lag, we next see him and Barnabas going around "preaching fearlessly" until he comes up against a group of Greek convert Jews, the "Hellenists" who, as converts can be, "holier than thou" and who deeply resent Saul's defection. So some disciples hustle Saul away to safety.

Our text ends with a telling paragraph: that "the churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria (but not Jerusalem) are left now in peace, building themselves up, living in fear of the Lord and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit"

SECOND READING from the first letter of John (*Ch.3. vv.18-24*)

Last week, John told us that we are children of God and therefore, if we obey His voice we will benefit from His love. Today, he enters upon the subject of conscience (latin) or *syneidesis* (greek, the language John wrote in) meaning 'thinking with God's mind'. A "quiet conscience" is a mind which is in harmony with God. John implies that our conscience rises up in revolt if we are going against the mind of God. God is greater than our conscience and He knows everything, including our own conscience, so if we are acting in accord with His mind we need not be afraid of God's presence. We can often equate a troubled conscience with 'feeling or not feeling bad about something'. Politicians use it frequently. Donald Trump uses it. What they mean is that they have come to square their actions with their own ultimate will. John tells us that a good conscience is revealed when we are trying to live the life of God's commandments: believing in the name of Jesus Christ and loving one another, not somebody else's wife or husband and then brazening it out.

GOSPEL according to John (*Ch.15, vv.1-8*)

This is another sermon from Jesus, using the very familiar horticultural language of His day. For many reasons the vine was an especially loved plant and normally singularly fruitful. But like all fruit trees, it has to be pruned in order that it may bear fruit. The sermon is daunting because it challenges us to bear fruit, "fruit that will last". The most effective mode of pruning is the word of correction and of education. As soon as the branch is lopped off it ceases to bear fruit and is only fit to be burned. Jesus is applying this analogy to himself. He has come from His Father to show us how to bear fruit. If we don't listen then we become dessicated and useless. If we remain faithful to Jesus and to His word, then we will bear much fruit.