

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

7th. WEEK OF THE YEAR C



“Love your enemies. Do good to them that hate you”

THE PARISH

Parish Priest, Fr.Simon McGurk,O.S.B.

St Thomas' Presbytery, Weobley HR4 8QS

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New Parish–Archdiocese email: simon.mcgurk@rcadc.com

Parish Councillors: Fr.Simon (President), Tricia Carter (Chair), Sarah Nichols, Frank McNally, Charles de Rohan, Julie Gander, Patricia Stuart.

Finance Cttee: Joanna Helme, Pat Roberts, Peter Hereford, Patricia Stuart. **Accounts:** Keith White.

Safeguarding Rep. Joanna Helme 01432.760816

Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Patrick Lobo (Belmont Abbey) on 07568 669 300 or 01432.265 177

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

SEVENTH ORDINARY WEEK OF THE YEAR`C

Sat Feb. 22 **Mass of Sunday,**
Kington 6.00pm. *int. Justin Neale*
Sun. 23 **7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Mass, Weobley 10.30Z
Int. Justin Neale
Mon 24 **NO Mass, Weob. – feria**
Tue 25 **Mass, Weob.10.00–feria**
Wed 26 **Mass 10.30, Kington – feria**
Thur 27 **NO Mass**
Fri 28 **Mass, 3.00pm, - feria**
Sat.Mar. 01 **ST. DAVID**
Mass of Sunday, Kington 6,00pm.
Sun 02 **8th. ORDINARY SUNDAY**
Mass Weobley 10.30am.

URGENT PRAYERS. Please pray for Justin Neale, second son of the late Margaret Neale, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour/aneurism last week and has been given one month to live. **Please also pray for his wife, Lilia and daughter Alicia,**

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the people of the United States and the World, especially the Ukraine and Gaza.

That the people of Gaza may have freedom and the means to decide their own future,
For the remaining Israeli hostages that they may be released immediately .

For the extinction of Hamas as a political organisation.

That our young people will be drawn away from the cult of knife-crime.

For Prince William and Princess Kate in their initiatives for the homeless and the deprived of our country.

PARISH INTENTIONS

For those in our parish or known to us who are sick or in need of special prayers: John & Vicky Tanner, Graham Vaughan, Melita Denaro, Vivian Brooke, Sheila Mundy, Claire Burrows, Sarah Murkin, Roger Nichols, Bill Davies, Alethea Lavington, Sarah Williams, Gaytree Wrigley, Catherine Gaynor, Kath Morgan, **Justin Neale..**

For parishioners, relatives and friends recently dead:

Pat Walls, Catharine Williams. John Richardson, Graham Simpson

We remember those of our parish whyose anniversaries occur at this time: Robert Brace-Hall (M.'54), Francis Quinlan (T.2005), John Daly (T.2013 (S.'61), Gwendoline Baggott (F.), Doris Longueville (F.'77).

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 new government, especially our Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer and his cabinet. 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.**

Thanks to the valiant crew who are making it work.

HUGE THANKS to our decoration and restoration team, principally Joanna, Kerry and Frank, for their work in getting St. Thomas' church so beautiful Also to the men of S.C. Joseph, decorators from Hereford for their excellent work.

COMMUNITY SHOP IN KINGTON

More huge thanks to those who manned the shop, provided and bought goods and raffle-prizes, who transported them and who helped in any way. We made (with all expenses paid) a record total of £1,484.51

CLERGY DEANERY MEETING this Monday, Feb.24th. at Our Lady's Church, 10.00. Any points you would like raised, please see Fr. Simon now.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER . March 7th. 10.30.
Details to follow.

A FEW MORE NEW MISSALS STILL AVAILABLE,

SERMONETTE

FIRST READING from the first book of Samuel (Ch.26, vv.2-25)

After the period of the Judges who followed Moses and Joshua, the people of Israel demanded a king like the other peoples around. Samuel, the last Judge, was directed by God to anoint Saul. All went well until young David came along, slew Goliath the Philistine giant and succeeded in many warrior exploits for Saul. Saul grew wildly jealous of David's success, amounting to paranoia. He tries to kill him but David takes up arms against him. In today's incident, David comes across Saul by night heavily asleep in his tent. David and his lieutenant, Abishai, remove Saul's spear and a pitcher of water and make off to taunt him at a distance. Abishai would have David run Saul through with his spear but David insists he has no right to kill "the Lord's anointed". This is an historical act of mercy to his enemy upon which Jesus speaks in his sermon today.

SECOND READING from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (Ch.15,vv.45-49)

Paul continues his dissertation on Christ's resurrection and our part in it. He makes a distinction between our earthly state as descendents from Adam and the heavenly state which we will put on in Christ and he makes an important distinction between the earthy man having a soul or life principle and the heavenly man living by the spirit of God. We start out "modelled upon the earthly man" but baptised into the Body of Christ, we become "modelled upon the spiritual man", thereby meriting to be with Him in the Kingdom of Heaven.

GOSPEL according to Luke (Ch.5, vv.1- 11)

Jesus continues his oration by an astonishing discourse on the Commandments. No matter how loud God speaks, we still filter out what we don't want to hear, such as "loving our enemies". Enemies to the Israelites (abstracting from their modern enemies) were not only those who threatened them physically and politically but also those who threatened their religious purity in the eyes of Yahweh. As we know from our recent reading of Old Testament texts, the Jews had suffered terribly in all senses at the hands of their enemies. But here was Jesus teaching love towards them. Nowhere in the Old Covenant is this teaching so clear, so Jesus' disciples would have been rightly astonished. Love of God and neighbour are absolutes, the only absolutes. For God, it is not enough to be just generally good to our friends. That is easy and carries no virtue. To give in full measure, not to judge, to always grant pardon: that is the only pathway to heaven. Your reward will be superabundant. (See the film, "The Railway Man". I have the DVD to borrow.)

STOP PRESS;

The Grand Priory of England, of the Sovereign Military Order of St. John of Jerusalem , of Rhodes and Malta will be holding a Day of Recollection at Belmont Abbey, led by V. Rev. Dom Alexander Kenyon, Prior of Belmont, on Saturday March 15th, 2025. Everyone invited. See Fr. Simon for application forms.

PARISH BRING AND SHARE LUNCH: SUNDAY MARCH 16th. 12.00-2.30. with quiz and raffle.

Proceeds to Kington Food Bank. Forms to sign in the churches for offerings of food.

Tricia Carter: 01568. 708 763. Mob. 07967.824 819

WEOBLEY LENT COURSE

Organised by Churches Together in Weobley

"THE STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION"

Led by Revd. Philip Harvey, Rector of Weobley.

Exploring the encounters with the risen Christ.

Every Wednesday in Lent at 2.30,

From March 12th.to April 9th.

In St. Thomas' Parish Room

ALL WELCOME!