

THE PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF HEREFORD,
WEOBLEY, HR4 8QS AND
ST.BEDE THE VEN. KINGTON, HR5 3DW
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF YEAR C
THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

"AS MOSES LIFTED UP THE SERPENT IN THE WILDERNESS,
SO MUST THE SON OF MAN BE LIFTED UP" -JOHN 3:14



THE PARISH

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Finance Cttee: Joanna Helme, Pat Roberts, Peter Hereford, Patricia Stuart, Charles de Rohan..

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

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NEW Zoom ID 356 505 3411. Passcode: x55Ftu

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK OF YEAR C

Sat.Sep. 13 **Mass of Holy Cross** K'ton. 6.00

John Cochrane.

JOHN COCHRANE DIED PEACEFULLY AT HOME AT 6.30pm. in presence of Amoi his wife

Sun. 14 **Mass of Holy Cross**

Mass- Weobley.10.30Z

Int: John Cochrane R.I.P.

Mon. 15 Mass, Weob. 10.00. *Our Lady of sorrows*

Morning prayer each day 9.40, courtesy of Zoom

Tues 16 Mass,Weob.10.00. *SS.Cornelius+Cyprian*

Wed. 17 Mass,K'ton.10.30 *S.Hildegard of Bingn*

Thur. 18 NO Mass

Fri. 19 Mass, Weob. 4.00. *SS.Theodore+Adrian*

Sat. 20 **Mass of Ord.Sun.25th.6.00pm. K'ton**

Sun. 21 **25th. Sun.of the Year. Mass 10.30**

Next week:HOME MISSION SUNDAY (*evangelii gaudium*.- *Special 2nd collection*)

URGENT PRAYERS

For political and social peace in the U.S.A.

For permanent peace between Sudan and Dafur.
And between India and Pakistan.

For the immediate release of remaining Israeli Hostages. That the political leaders of Israel and members of Hamas will begin to obey God's fifth commandment: "Thou shalt not kill". For the survival of Gaza and the native Palestinians and that these peoples may have food, freedom and the right to decide their own future,

That President Trump will observe the rights of Ukraine and Gaza to their own territory.

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

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, Claire Burrows, Sarah Murkin, Roger Nichols, Bill Davies, Kath Morgan, Ann Clarke, Julia Evans. John Cochrane, Tricia Carter.

For parishioners, relatives and friends recently dead: Sheila Mundy, John Cochrane.

We remember those of our parish whose anniversaries occur at this time: Maria Pantano (M.'59), Sylvia May Rouse (M.'84), Louisa Cheney (T.'70), Winifred Jones (T.'94), Isabel Margaret Pettit (Th.'55), Thomas Neill (Th.'96), Albino Carini (F.'76).

For King Charles III and Queen Camilla. May they always set the highest standards of leadership for our country. We also pray for our government, especially our Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer and his cabinet. May they govern with integrity following the religious beliefs and social needs of our country. And we pray for the leaders of all the other countries of the world, esp.President Zelenski of Ukraine and conversion of the Russian leaders.

KEEP PRAYING FOR LIFE

1. Against our ever-relaxing abortion laws.
2. for the defeat of the proposed Assisted Suicide bill.(Local M.P.s: Ellie Chownes voted in favour of the Bill. Jessie Norman against. **Work on Ellie Chownes. House of Lords vote: 33% for, 67% against.**

15 MINUTE DAILY PRAYER HAS STARTED. PLEASE COME AND JOIN US IN PERSON OR ON 'ZOOM'. Our ipads afford us a great new opportunity in a rural parish to carry out the wishes of The Acts of the Apostles and of Vatican II, that the faithful should join together for daily prayer. Just down-load a programme called 'UNIVERSALIS' that day. PRAYER IS FUN. NEW ZOOM ID: 356 505 3411. Passcode: x55Ftu

SERMONETTE – THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF YEAR C – FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

FIRST READING from the Book of Numbers (Ch.21, vv.4b-9)

In the earlier books of the Old Testament both good fortune and ill-fortune are blamed on God. He called the Israelites out of Egypt where they were miserable and in slavery. He promised them a new land but, being next to Egypt, it was largely desert, with little water or vegetation. The people grumbled to Moses against God who had led them out of Egypt. Now they faced starvation. A plague of snakes appeared to make matters worse. Now the people who had complained begin to plead with Moses to intercede with the God they had blamed. It all makes perfect sense. The Lord inspired Moses to raise a bronze symbol of a serpent. Those who looked at it were healed for their obedience. This is the origin of the serpent on the apothecary's or pharmacists signs today.

SECOND READING from the Letter to the Philippians. (vv.9-17)

This text is a high point in Paul's theology (belief). It is not that his view of who Jesus was was only his. It was forming in the nascent church and in the other writings but Paul is the most explicit. To most of the new community there was no reason to believe that Jesus was much more than a wonderful teacher and healer "whom we put to death" but who mysteriously rose again. In different ways and at different times it was revealed to Peter, James, John and others that Jesus was also the long-awaited Messiah, a man somehow imbued with divinity. This extraordinary person who came to save us from evil was, instead, put to death by us in a largely unconscious act of total evil, a reversion to the first sin of Adam and Eve. But now "God (the Father) has exalted Him and given Him a name above all other names. To Him is now due all the honour given to the Father and "every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" – that is, God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL from the gospel according to John. (Ch.3, vv.13-17)

This text follows on from Jesus' mysterious statement to Nicodemus that "unless a man be born again he cannot enter the kingdom of God", to which Nicodemus is rightly baffled and retorts with the now standard phrase used about baptism by our Protestant and Pentecostal brethren who do not believe in infant baptism. Here Jesus prophesies his own death and resurrection by reference to the serpent in the wilderness. Belief in the Son of Man is what saves us from perishing and gives us eternal life. Just as God did not condemn his people to starvation and the snakes, so He gives us His only begotten Son that we may believe in Him as the Israelites came to believe in the healing power of the serpent symbol.

STOP PRESS: Coming up.

THE ALL-IMPORTANT PARISH BARBEQUE HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO NEXT SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST. 12.00 noon to 2.30ish, owing to threatened bad weather.

By kind courtesy of Anne and Mike Allen and Richard Snead-Cox of Broxwood Court we have been invited to use their 'Tapestry Room' with the actual barbecue outside. Details: please contact Frank: 07909.660 160 Salads and puddings needed on the day: please sign the notice in the church or contact Joan: 07528.676 760. NO TICKETS – JUST SIGN UP.

TINTERN SUNG VESPERS OF OUR LADY.

Owing to severe weather threatened, this has been CANCELLED.

MEET THE NEW MONKS, Saturday Sept. 20th. at Belmont Abbey. Come and meet the monks from St. Gregory's Abbey, Downside, who are now resident at Belmont Abbey. At Hedley Lodge from 10.00am.

DEANERY MASS at S.F.X. Hereford. Wednesday Sept 24th. 7.00pm. Please try to come. Lifts available.

GATES: UNFORTUNATELY I HAVE DECIDED TO CLOSE THE CAR-PARK GATES AT NIGHT, ESPECIALLY ON WEEKENDS. THIS IS BECAUSE CERTAIN PERSONS OF A PERAMBULANT DISPOSITION ARE TAKING IT UPON THEMSELVES TO CAMP DOWN ON APPARENTLY VACANT PROPERTIES. SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE: I HOPE IT WON'T LAST LONG. Fr. Simon