

Prayer for Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour out your power upon all your children in the Middle East. Let hatred be turned to love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation. Grant that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces and peace and justice be experienced by all. Amen

Gracious Mary, Mother of God and Our Lady of Kiev, we humbly ask for you to intercede for the people of Ukraine, for the people, their government, and all who suffer because of war. Be with them as you stood beside your son at Calvary. Give them strength and courage through faith, hope and justice. Grant, through your prayers, that peace may come to that troubled land. Amen

Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all. Amen

Prayer for Our Parish

Loving God, all you desire is our wholeness and wellbeing. We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time. We grieve for precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened. We ache for ourselves and our neighbours, standing before an uncertain future. We pray: may love, not fear, go viral. Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good. Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity. Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence, for you, the God who does not abandon your people. Amen

FOR THE SICK AND DECEASED OF OUR PARISH

We pray for the sick of our parish both at home and in hospital, in particular Pat Quinn. For those who have died, especially Cynthia Pitt and all those whose anniversaries of death are at this time and those known only to God. We pray for those affected by the war in Ukraine, the Middle East and the Venezuelan Earthquake.



PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

101 Belmont Rd, Hereford, HR2 7JR

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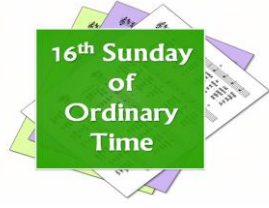
Parish email: hereford@cardiffmanevia.org

Charity Number 242380

Safeguarding Reps: Jan Winter & Leigh Brazewell
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Our Lady's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher: Mrs Aga Przybylska
Telephone: 01432 274814

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2026

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		10:00am	All who work on the sea
Sea Sunday		6.30pm	Pro Populo
Monday 13th July		9.30am	Victims of Venezuelan Earthquake
Tuesday 14th July	Feria	9.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 15th July	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass
Thursday 16th July	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass
Friday 17th July	Feria	9.30am	School Leavers
Saturday 18th July	Memoria of Our Lady	10.00am	Exposition and confessions
		11.00am	Mass: Peace
		10:00am	Valerie Domalik RIP
		6.30pm	Pro Populo

Mass Times

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no Mass on Thursday Evening 16th July
Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Collection at Our Lady's for Week Ending 5th July

Last week's Statistics

Attendance: (Numbers are approximate) 244

Plate Collection: £330.20

Hall Renovation Fund: £139.00. Thank you so much for your continued generosity.



Parish Quiz Night with Cold Supper

On **Saturday 25th July at 7.00pm** in the parish hall we will be holding our parish quiz night. Entry is £10.00 per person (£5 for children) with teams of up to six players. The price also includes a delicious cold supper. Tickets available after

Mass. Come along, have a great evening and enjoy each other's company.



Community Coffee Morning

Our monthly Community Coffee Morning will be held on **Tuesday, 14th July at 10.30am** in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome so do bring a friend or two! You will receive a warm welcome and even a piece of cake.

Lost Property

In the narthex there are several lost items including assorted umbrellas hats, jumpers, coats and even a baby's bib. If you have lost something like that in the last few weeks, please check if they are yours. Anything left behind at the end of this week will be disposed of.



Spiritual Matters

On the face of it the parable of the sower is straight forward and I think most of us understand what Jesus is trying to say. In the parable the seed represents the word of God which is scattered far and wide. It shows the generosity of God who scatters his word throughout the world and allows it to land in hearts that will receive it as well as those that won't. Yet while God's word is freely given to all, the response to that word differs significantly. We are presented with four different situations into which the word of God falls. In the first, the word is heard but not understood. It doesn't take root in the heart and so there is no faith. How many in our world hear the Gospel but do not allow it to affect their lives. In the second situation the word lands on rocky soil. Jesus equates this with the person who believes but quickly falls away when the going gets tough.

The third situation is one where the word does take root in the heart but the cares and worries of this world choke the life out of what little faith there is and eventually it is lost altogether. Faith is lost, not through indifference or neglect but through a lack of trust in the one who wants to give us so much more than we can ever dare ask for. In the final situation the word which God has sown lands in receptive hearts, where it grows and bears much fruit. Here is a person who has allowed God into their lives and is open to the prompting of the spirit. Faith has meaning for them, and they walk hand in hand with God regardless of the difficulties life may throw at them.

How many of us have gone through periods when our hearts have not been open to God's word or we have been indifferent to its message? How many of us have stood up for what we believe even at the risk of being ridiculed or attacked? How many of us have denied our faith to avoid confrontation or even embarrassment? How many of us have allowed the cares and worries of life get in the way of our love for God? How many of us have trusted in the lure of riches rather than placing our trust in him who loves more than we can ever know or understand and who wants to pour out his blessings on us if only we would let him. *Louise Bowen*



Summer Holiday

This week the children finish school for the long summer holidays. We'd like to wish them and the teachers a restful break so that they may return in September raring to go. Let us also pray for those children who are leaving Our Lady's to go to the 'big school'. May they continue to 'aspire through the love of Jesus they may have life and have it to the full.'