

BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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Ampleforth Abbey Trust – Registered Charity no: 1026493

Fifth Sunday of Easter 2nd May 2021

(Sunday cycle year B, weekday cycle year 1, psalter week 1)



“I am the true vine”

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot, at this moment, receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as being already there and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.

(St Alphonsus Liguori)

THIS WEEK

Sat 1 st May	10.30am	EBC	St Joseph the worker (memorial)
	6.00pm	Dorothy Hoole (Public)	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sun 2 nd	9.30am	Parish (Public)	
Mon 3 rd	No Mass today		Ss Philip & James (feast)
Tue 4 th	No Mass today		The English Martyrs (feast)
Wed 5 th	9.30am	Anthony and Barbara Phelan (Public)	Wednesday of Easter 5
Thu 6 th	9.30am	John Allsop	Thursday of Easter 5
Fri 7 th	9.30am	Holy Souls	Friday of Easter 5
Sat 8 th	10.30am	Fr Abbot's Intentions	Saturday of Easter 5
	6.00pm	Jim and Margaret Cullen (Public)	Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sun 9 th	9.30am	For the Parish (Public)	

This week					
Marshals					
Sat 1st	L & M Gardner	Sun 2nd	B Gore & T Greenwood	Wed 5th	L & M Gardner
Readers					
Sat 1st	G Kellett	Sun 2nd	C Snape		
Bidding prayers	G Hopkinson	Collection counters	P & J Kitchen		
Next week					
Marshals					
Sat 8th	L Lomax & M Sherry	Sun 9th	F Fordyce & G Kellett	Wed 12th	B Gore & A Haydock
Readers					
Sat 8th	L Lomax	Sun 9th	K Slater		
Bidding prayers	B Kellett	Collection counters	L & M Gardner		

Last week's attendances: Saturday: 42, Sunday: 34, Wednesday: 14
Thank you for the last week's collection of £567.77

Readings Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8.

How might our love be not just words and mere talk but something real and active as the letter of John suggests in the 2nd reading?

By keeping God's commandments, the letter goes on to say, and by loving one another.

We are often reminded, by those who give spiritual talks, that love is not so much about whether we *like* a person, rather more, it is an acknowledgment that we share with them the love of God.

But that sounds like mere words – it must be more than that as we remember from Maundy Thursday when Jesus left his disciple with the new commandment to 'love each other as I have loved you' and that requires action and not mere words.

And in today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of himself as the vine, his followers its branches and his Father the vinedresser. The love and care of the Father (the vinedresser) flows through the Son (the vine) and into his followers (the branches) who draw their life from it.

A certain amount of pruning has to be done – perhaps over years – before the branch can produce abundant fruit. Surely that alludes to the sufferings and martyrdoms which every true follower of Christ has to go through which, if united with Christ's own suffering and death, produce fruit.

The scary thing is Jesus' reference to every branch *in me* that bears no fruit, God, the vinedresser cuts away. That suggests Christians like you and me who bear no fruit.

How can we know whether we are producing the fruit before it's too late, since to bear fruit must mean more than just church attendance, or me celebrating Mass, or our contributions to the collection and remote charities.

I think the answer to that is only God knows.

What he does tell us is that if we remain in him and allow his words to remain in us, then we will be his disciples; but also to have the will and desire to love others and to express that through prayer. In other words, to do what we can and leave the rest to his grace.

This week's Saints

Philip of Bethsaida originally a disciple of John the Baptist before following our Lord and **James, son of Alphaeus**. He was condemned by the Sanhedrin and stoned in AD 62.

The English Martyrs (1535-1679) remembers the hundreds from all walks of life, martyred during the persecution of the English Reformation – St Edmund Arrowsmith being among them.

Our **Finance and General Purposes Committee** will meet shortly by Zoom. If anyone has any items for the agenda, please let me or one of the members know. Committee members' names are on the noticeboard.

With Prayers,

Fr Raphael

We have introduced a few **RESERVED PLACES** at the **right** rear of the church for those who find it difficult to walk all the way round at weekend Masses. Also reserved areas will be created on the **left** rear of the church for families with young children to provide a safer area for unmasked children.

KEEP GOING: Thank you for supporting our procedures to keep everyone COVID safe. Please continue to allow marshals to seat you in a place that keeps you safe and minimises the cleaning work that they have to do after Mass.

DURING MAY we will say a decade of the Rosary after Mass on Wednesday morning.

New **OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are now available. Please take your box from the porch and if you can deliver some close to where you live, that would be appreciated.

CAFOD "Reclaim Our Common Home" campaign: As well as giving direct help to disadvantaged communities around the world, CAFOD are also involved in campaigns to move the world to a more equitable and sustainable state. Their "Reclaim Our Common Home" campaign aims to put pressure on leaders to do what is needed to keep global warming to less than 1.5°C. Although the industrialised countries have contributed, and continue to contribute, most to the increase on greenhouse gases, it is the in developing world where some of the worst effects of the problem are felt. Pope Francis has acknowledged the gravity of the situation, and the CAFOD campaign gives us the chance to make a small contribution towards its remediation.

We are asked to sign a petition to the Prime Minister, ahead of the G7 meeting in June and the UN 'COP26' conference to be hosted in Glasgow this coming November. The petition asks the PM to ensure that world leaders show the ambition needed to limit global temperature rise to below 1.5°C, and to ensure that the position of those people worst affected by the crisis is at the heart of the agenda of the talks. There are copies of the petition at the back of church, which can be signed and sent, at no cost, to CAFOD. Please consider completing one and sending it off. Alternatively, the petition (and more information) is available online at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home>.

The petitions are at the back of church, along with leaflets and cards on a number of topics. Please feel free to take any of these away with you, but, to keep us Covid-secure, please do not return anything to the table, or leave it on the bench – take them home! Thanks in anticipation.

PLEASE PRAY for John Bullen and Sr Mary Higney RNDM (who assisted at St Mary's, Brownedge) who died recently, for those who are sick or housebound including Christina Noblett, Shelagh Mervyn, Anne Chadwick, Benedict XVI, Peter Malone and Fr Cassian Dickie OSB, as well as for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO OBTAIN BULLETINS, MASS SHEETS AND THE BIDDING PRAYERS from the repository at the presbytery door or from the website **as you have been doing** – single-use Mass sheets are available at the Public Masses.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANYTHING IN THE REPOSITORY – offerings etc can be posted through the presbytery letterbox.

IF YOU REQUIRE A PRIEST IN AN EMERGENCY and cannot contact me, please ring St Gregory's, Chorley – 01257 262462.

IF ANYONE IS ADMITTED to hospital and needs a visit, then please phone the ward direct and not the switchboard.

THANK YOU for the offerings received and an on-going thank you to those who donate by standing order. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, please get in touch with Jeanette Hindle at jeanettehindle@gmail.com.

If you would prefer to set up a standing order to maintain the upkeep of the Church, then please phone and I will give you the bank details.

DURING EASTER WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY FOR: New members of the Church, vocations, the right use of the media, the Church, human work.

MASS INTENTIONS/OFFERINGS are a way in which Christ's faithful may contribute in a particular way to the needs of the church and especially to the sustenance of its ministers...the faithful unite themselves more closely with Christ who offers himself as a victim thus deriving more abundant fruit from the sacrifice. *(From the notes to Canon 946 which explain the canon more fully)*

Mass intentions are always gratefully received but sadly I realize that many intentions cannot be offered at preferred times. However, as you know, from Tuesday to Sunday, I celebrate Mass and will endeavour to place your intentions as close to the day requested if not on the day itself.

A PRAYER TO ST SEBASTIAN

Saint Sebastian, guard and defend us, morning and evening, every minute of every hour,
and diminish the strength of that vile illness which is threatening us.

We put our trust in God, in our Lady and in you, holy martyr.

Be with us always and by your merits and prayers, keep us safe and sound and protect us.
Commend us to the Blessed Trinity so that when we die, we may have our everlasting reward:
to behold God in the company of all the Saints.

Amen.