

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

God's grace sets us free - from intolerance and prejudice and from everything that would keep us from following him. When Jesus made preparation to enter a Samaritan village he was met with opposition, no doubt because the Samaritans perceived that he belonged to the other party they were in dispute with. The Jews and Samaritans had been divided for centuries.

Jesus' disciples were indignant and wanted to see retribution. Jesus, in turn, rebukes them for their lack of toleration. Jesus had *set his face toward Jerusalem* in order to die so that Jew, Samaritan and Gentile might be reconciled with God and be made one in Christ.

When the Lord calls us to follow him he gives us the grace to put aside everything that might keep us from doing his will. Loyalty to Jesus demands sacrifice, especially the sacrifice of one's own will for the will of God. A would-be disciple responded by saying, *I must first go and bury my father*, that is, go back home and take care of him until he died. Jesus surprised his disciples by telling that they must not look back on what they have freely given up, but instead keep their focus clearly on the goal they have set for their lives, union and happiness with God in his kingdom. A ploughman who looked back caused his furrow to be crooked.

Likewise, if we look back our path will likely diverge and we'll miss what God has for us. When the going is rough or the way ahead looks uncertain, we are tempted to look back to the "good old days" or to look for "greener turf". Are we resolved to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and to "stay the course" in following him to the end?

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"United in conviction and united in love, with a common purpose and a common mind"
 Philippians 2:2

26th JUNE 2022 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE C) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 25th June	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 26th June	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 27th June	10:00am	Mass
Tuesday 28th June	10:00am 7:00pm	Mass Vigil Mass – Feast of Ss Peter and Paul
Wednesday 29th June Ss Peter and Paul	10:00am	Mass
Thursday 30th June	10:00am	Mass
Friday 1st July		
Saturday 2nd July	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 3rd July	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)

If Fr Simon is unobtainable and you urgently need a Priest please phone the parish mobile: **07548 222133** Please use this number for emergencies only i.e. where a priest is needed urgently.

200 CLUB DRAW
Winner: £40 Prize
This week – Mr Martin Beveridge

**WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB
AND HELP THE PARISH?**

Feast Day of St Peter and St Paul:
Vigil Mass on Tuesday 28th June at 7:00pm
Mass on Wednesday 29th June at 10:00am

Prayer for our Parish:

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish
and grant us a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word
and a new consecration to your service,
that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come,
through Christ our Lord.
.....
St Joseph pray for us

Gospel Luke 9:51-62

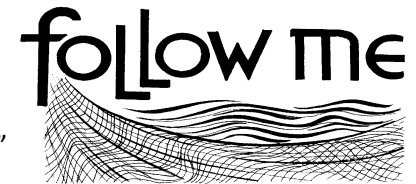


When it came close to the time for his Ascension, he gathered up his courage and steeled himself for the journey to Jerusalem. He sent messengers on ahead. They came to a Samaritan village to make arrangements for his hospitality. But when the Samaritans learned that his destination was Jerusalem, they refused hospitality.

When the disciples James and John learned of it, they said, “Master, do you want us to call a bolt of lightning down out of the sky and incinerate them?”

Jesus turned on them: “Of course not!” And they travelled on to another village.

On the road someone asked if he could go along. He said “I’ll go with you, wherever.” Jesus was curt: “Are you ready to rough it? We’re not staying in the best inns, you know.” Jesus said to another, “Follow me.”



He said, “Certainly, but first excuse me for a couple of days, please. I have to make arrangements for my father’s funeral.”

Jesus refused. “First things first. Your business is life, not death. And life is urgent: Announce God’s kingdom!”

Then another said, “I’m ready to follow you, Master, but first excuse me while I get things straightened out at home.”

Jesus said, “No procrastination. No backward looks. You can’t put God’s kingdom off till tomorrow. Seize the day.”

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi