

*"Every day, as long as this 'today' lasts,  
keep encouraging one another" (Heb 3:13)*

**August 7 2022**

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Readings p. 121**

**Book of Wisdom 18:6 - 9**

The first reading shows us the importance of the Passover Feast in Israel.

**Hebrews 11:1 - 2, 8 - 19**

Abraham and Sarah are presented as models of people who lived by faith.

**St. Luke 12:32 - 48**

We are asked to stand ready, because we do not know when the Son of Man will return.

*"See that  
you are  
dressed for  
action and  
have your  
lamps lit"*



Nowadays, many houses have security systems. We can have our homes monitored, 24 hours a day, to make sure they are safe. The really advanced systems even allow us to tap into the cameras from our mobile phones. We don't have to stay awake all night in case someone tries to burgle our home – the system takes care of everything. There are so many technologies available whose focus is to help us be prepared for all eventualities; we have apps for everything from predicting the weather to alerting us to traffic delays.

There are no such luxuries in the parables. The men who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast cannot afford to sleep. They won't receive an alert to their phone when their master arrives home. They have no option but to wait up. In the short parable of the householder and the burglar, Jesus again emphasises the importance of 'standing ready.'

Of course, Jesus is not really talking about watchmen and burglars, or being physically prepared; he is talking, rather, about spiritual alertness. It might seem morbid, but ask yourself this: if you were to die tonight, would you be ready? Your answer might tell you something about the areas of your life that need work. Another way in which we can be 'ever-ready' is to be open to the Holy Spirit. When our hearts are alert and open, we are more likely to see God's goodness in those we meet, and be ready to welcome his grace into our lives.

We could not imagine being without our gadgets and apps and all of the things that make our lives easier. Valuable though they are, there is something more valuable – indeed priceless – at stake.  
Triona Doherty

**Today's Psalm  
Psalm 32**

Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own. Jesus speaks in the gospel of the blessing of being one of his chosen flock: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.'

We are a chosen people. Chosen to be. Out of the countless people who might have been conceived in my parents' loving union, one seed was fertilised. I was chosen to be. 'I thank you Lord for the wonder of my being.'

And chosen to receive the light of faith. As a cradle Christian I may not appreciate that faith is a gift of God's grace. The second reading celebrates the blessings that flow from faith. 'Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen.'

The psalmist leads us forward in joyful anticipation of further favours from God.

*Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May you love be upon us,  
O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.*  
Fr. Silvester O'Flynn. OFM Cap.

## St. Mary's Catholic Church, Euxton - Tel: (01257) 262665

Mass Intentions for w/c Sunday, August 7 2022

**Sun: 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8.30.am. Parishioners

10.30.am. Special Intention (JC)

**Mon:** St. Dominic

9.30.am. Private Intention (ML)

**Tues:** St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

9.30.am.: Special Intention(JT)

**Wed:** St. Lawrence Deacon and Martyr

9.30.am. Private Intention

**Thurs:** St. Clare

7.00.pm. Mary McKnight

**Fri:** Weekday

7.00.pm. Syd & Nellie Gerrard

**Sun: The Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary**

8.30.am. Parishioners

10.30.am. Anne Drinkwater

0771 942 7926 (only for emergency use)

### **Confessions**

At your request

### **On Admittance to Hospital or Nursing Home**

Staff need to be made aware by you: that you, or the member of your family, or the person you accompany, are Catholic, and require the services of the Catholic Chaplaincy.

**May I know you more clearly**

**Love you more dearly**

**And follow you more nearly**

**We pray for the Sick, especially the sick of the parish including Ryan Troop; Catherine Thompson; Maureen Beardsworth; Desmond Corman; John Bracken; and Jean Telford.**

Next Sunday – **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into heaven, is the dogmatically revealed truth of the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into at the end of her earthly life.

In the old days it could be sometimes tricky finding a **Catholic Church on holiday**, but the internet has changed all that. For those holidaying within the UK

[www.findachurch.co.uk/](http://www.findachurch.co.uk/) lists Church information on over 45000 UK Christian churches, with photo, map, description, contact details, and visitor information. Well worth a look.

Since 2009, over £75,000 has been raised to fund projects which benefit charcoal producers and their communities in Namibia. With support from Traidcraft, the workers and burners have decided themselves how they want to spend the money.

Look to the Co-op for Fairtrade charcoal and BBQ sets.

[www.coop.co.uk/our-suppliers/fairtrade/fairtrade-charcoal](http://www.coop.co.uk/our-suppliers/fairtrade/fairtrade-charcoal)

August is traditionally the month couples choose to get married. Relationships seem easy in the first flush of romance. Those who have been together a bit longer know that a good partnership takes work. Marriage Care is a national charity that helps couples and individuals to build and sustain strong, fulfilling healthy relationships, as well as providing counselling support in times of relationship difficulty. They've been doing this for 70 years this year! There are over 50 centres and more than 100 counselling locations across England and Wales. Find a centre visit [www.marriagecare.org.uk/](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk/)

“You can never get enough of what you don't need to make you happy. (Eric Hoffer)