Weekly Prayers (Psalter Week 3) or use Lent Prayers p113)

Liturgical Colour: Purple **Remember**: Rosary in the Chapel at 1:45 (A1) today!

Monday 24th March

Today's Gospel

House points for anyone who can tell me what is happening in this photo, and how it relates to today's Gospel

"And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."

In this story, Jesus is reminding us of our responsibility to care for the outsider, for the marginalized. Jesus' mission was to all- not just to the '*in group*'. Sometimes when we reach out to the abandoned, we can find ourselves abandoned/cast out also. That doesn't mean we do not have a responsibility to care for them!

Let us pray: forgive us, Lord, for the times we have not listened to people with unwelcome messages, and instead have judged them by association, by their families or hometown or accents or clothes. Help us to trust in Your wisdom and compassion, help us to find peace, joy and strength. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Liturgical
Colour:
White

Remember: Holy Half Hour in the Chapel at 6pm today. Pop along for a few minutes of quiet prayer.

Tuesday 25th March

Today is the Feast of the Annunciation

Today is the 25th March. What event in the life of the Church do we celebrate exactly 9 months from now...?

Every time we have a reading about Mary, or a feast day which includes Mary, I feel obliged to 'defend' or explain the Catholic Church's teaching on Mary. We do not worship Mary! We venerate her, yes, we admire her, we look to her for guidance and we absolutely ask her to pray for us (but we *don't* worship her). The reason we do this is simple- God calls us all to perfection, we are all *capable* of perfection, but Mary is a heck of a lot closer to being perfect than any of us. So we continue to look to her as a role model. (Who is a role model in your life? How do you treat them? Don't say Cardi B, don't say Cardi B, don't say Cardi B.)

Today, let's celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation by praying the Hail Mary together, slowly, and being aware of the words. Let's realise that the first half of the prayer comes from today's Gospel, and the second half is simply a request that she pray for us, now and at the hour of our death...



Liturgical Colour: Purple **Remember**: Mustard Seed Bible Study Group continues today, A2, in the Chaplaincy!

Wednesday 26th March

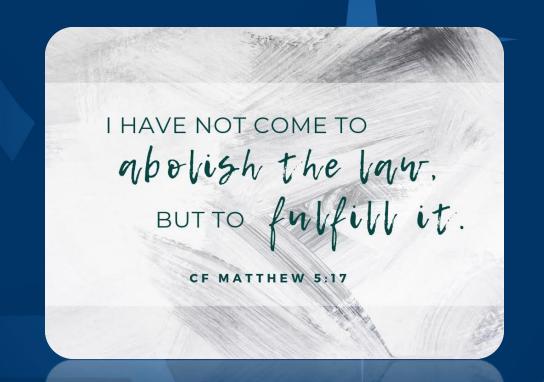
Today's Gospel

Matthew 5:17-19 (June 14, 2023) Gospel Reading & Reflection for Wednesday Year A | Law & Prophets – YouTube

The 3 minute video above does a great job of explaining what is otherwise a very tricky and challenging piece of Scripture. It quotes Pope Francis when he said:

"The commandments that God gave us should not be locked up in the airless vaults of formal observance otherwise, we are limited to an exterior, detached religiosity, servants of "God the master" rather than children of "God the Father".

We are invited to call God 'Father', not 'Sir'. Let's remember that this morning by praying together in the words that Jesus gave us: Our Father...



Liturgical Colour: Purple

Thursday 27th March Goodbye Everybody!



Wishing you all a happy, holy and restful Lent, Triduum and Easter season. Safe travels, wherever you go. And for the last time this term, let us pray:

Lord, grant us simplicity of faith and a generosity of service that gives without counting cost.

A life overflowing with Grace poured out from the One who gave everything, that we might show the power of love to a broken world, and share the truth from a living Word.

Lord, grant us simplicity of faith, and a yearning to share it. Amen.