

GOSPEL REFLECTION.

The story of Zacchaeus in today's Gospel should challenge all of us. It makes us think of our sense of belonging-belonging to our nation, perhaps, our families, friendship groups, our Parish.

Do we define who we belong to - and therefore who belongs to us – in terms of excluding others? Are we welcoming, as Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus into his home and as Jesus welcomed Zacchaeus into his group of followers? We can easily fall into the trap of welcoming people who we happen to like, or have a certain bond with, or people we don't feel threatened by. But what about those we don't like? How do we reach out to them? If Jesus and Zacchaeus were not welcoming people, then today's Gospel would be very different indeed.

And like Zacchaeus, who after meeting Jesus promised to give half his money to the poor, how open are we to being transformed? Like Zacchaeus, can we acknowledge our own vulnerability, mistakes and imperfections? Are we willing to "climb a tree" to go out of our comfort zone to seek out opportunities to be renewed by God's love? The Gospel today reminds us that there is always a way back with God and that, as Jesus celebrated a meal in Zacchaeus' house; God celebrates when we turn back to him.

Sacramental Preparation 2023

This is a notice for parents of baptised Catholic children who are in Year Four or above if they wish their child to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to receive First Holy Communion, there will be an invitation to attend a preparation meeting in January 2023. More details will follow nearer the date.

Sacred Heart School Reception class applications 2023.

Families are warmly invited to come and tour the school. Please contact the school on 01942 767768 to book a place.

Christmas Fair.

Our Christmas Fair will be Sunday 20th November, to help with our stalls; we are looking for Raffle Prizes, 2nd hand toys, gifts, bottles for tombola. And any help if you are available.

Christmas Cards.

All the Christmas Cards, Calendars, Diary's, etc. are now for sale in the Repository shop.

St. Richard's Masses.

If you are requesting a certain date could you please put your name and contact details, hand it in at least two months in advance.

To email its temporary one (strichards13@gmail.com) this is until Fr. Paul is back.

Donations for Peru.

A few years ago Colette Burke was going to Lima to the Brother's who run a special school for boy, which she has done for a number of years. She has asked me if anyone can help with donations, she is returning in November. If you wish to contact her tel; 07877114534

DONATIONS TO UKRAINE.

To donate, text:

HELPUKRAINE to 70085 to donate £2.

HELPUKRAINE to 70450 to donate £3.

HELPUKRAINE to 70460 to donate £5.

HELPUKRAINE to 70470 to donate £10.

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

COVID RESTRICTIONS.

Face coverings are still strongly recommended at this time and the opportunity to sanitize hands, before and after Mass, should continue. We are keeping some parts of the church socially distanced for those who may feel vulnerable. Covid guidelines will continue to be reviewed by the Archdiocese.

Response to the Psalm....

"I will bless your name forever, O God my King."