

Sunday Message

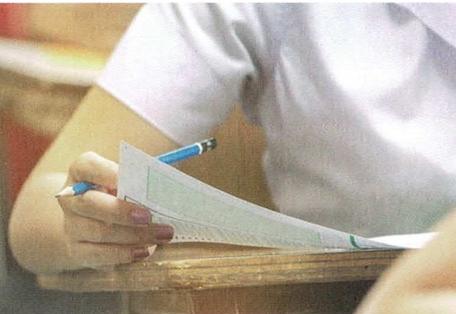
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 4 September 2022 • Psalter Week 3

WITH EYES WIDE OPEN

LUKE 14:25-33



We all know the importance of good planning. If you're doing an exam and have to answer five questions in two hours, you need to calculate how much time to give to each question.

If you're going somewhere by car, you need to ensure you have enough petrol, especially when travelling in the countryside at night.

It happened to me a few years ago. I headed west late one evening with the petrol tank less than half full. I told myself there was enough to reach my destination. But then, as the clock wound past midnight and forecourts closed for the night, the gauge on my dashboard kept creeping towards empty. I began to fret. I worried that the car would grind to a halt in the middle of nowhere, and I'd be stuck like an idiot in a crisis of my own making. All I had needed to do was top up the tank before I left, but I'd been too lazy. I had taken a risk. I crawled to my destination with the amber light flashing insistently.

Good planning is essential if we don't want to miscalculate and mess up. Good planning is what Jesus is talking about in today's Gospel. If you're going to follow him, he says, you need to calculate precisely what that means. You need to be clear as to what it entails. You need to know what you're committing yourself to because it won't be easy.

Being his follower will involve making tough decisions and hard choices. It will mean taking up your cross every day. It may even include laying down your life.

Jesus uses an extreme example to make his point. Choosing him, he says, means putting him before your nearest and dearest, even your own family. It means putting him first in everything, whatever the consequences.

Like someone building a tower or a king going out to war, we must calculate what we are getting ourselves into. We must approach it with eyes wide open. ■

REFLECT

For most of us, following Jesus doesn't mean risking our lives or going against our family. Still, putting Jesus first is risky because it means going against the grain. It means doing things that the cool people think are foolish.

Some time ago, a 16-year-old second-level student submitted an essay to our office about the challenge of being a young Catholic today. Sean wrote about going on a retreat with his grandfather and how it led to a deepening of his faith. He used to go to Mass until then but was a bit embarrassed about his religion. It wasn't a full-on commitment. Now that had changed. This is a section of his essay:

I returned home from the retreat refreshed and with a newfound determination not to compartmentalise my faith anymore, but to let it affect

everything I did. I wanted to bear witness to Christ, not by making grandiose declarations about religion – that only alienates others – but by humbly going about my business with a consistent prayer life in the knowledge that God will show the way.

I faced several challenges to my faith in the past year in school. After the retreat, I decided I'd never again fail to attend Sunday Mass. This had often occurred during school trips away where the group mentality amongst the students didn't entertain the idea of Mass on such occasions. I was too afraid to open my mouth on those trips, so I didn't go either.

But things had changed. My resolve was tested when our class won a trip to France. Two weeks before we left, I politely explained to the teacher that if I

DO

Calculate the cost of discipleship and measure it against your life right now; measure it against all you hold dear. Are you willing to stick your neck out for the Gospel? Are you all-in?

PRAY

Pray for Christians everywhere, especially those who risk their lives every day for the sake of the Gospel.



SAY

Lord, help me to follow you to the best of my ability. Help me to always put you first. Amen.

LEARN

The true disciple puts Jesus Christ and his teaching above everything else.

To follow Jesus faithfully is the wisest calculation any person can make.

Religion is not a hobby, a private concern – like golf or yoga or football. Everything we do must be at the service of God's kingdom.

couldn't attend Mass, then I couldn't go on the trip. Later, when the class heard we'd all be attending Mass in Paris, there was some grumbling directed towards me – thankfully, most of it in good humour. We ended up in Notre Dame, and although I couldn't understand a word, the mystique and beauty was something else. Even some of my friends admitted they'd enjoyed the experience.

During this past year, through God's grace, I've already gone from being afraid to talk about my faith to writing articles about it. To anyone who struggles with faith, I'd say, don't give up; keep persevering! Look for God with a courageous heart and an open mind, and you'll always succeed.

Sean calculated the cost of discipleship and was prepared to pay it. The challenge for each of us is to do likewise. ■



HASLEMERE
HINDHEAD
CHIDDINGFOLD

Parish Bulletin

Message from Fr Rajesh

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I would like to introduce myself to you all. I come from India, Odisha state, my home diocese is Rourkela (situated in the North East of India) and I was ordained a priest on the 6th of January 2008.

I have worked as the Assistant Parish priest in my home diocese Rourkela. I have also served in the school and in the Seminarian formation house. Then I spent a year of study at Leuven in Belgium. I have been in Bexhill as an assistant priest for the last seven years.

Bishop Richard has appointed me to serve alongside Fr Jonathan in Haslemere and in Godalming. I will take the lead in the day-to-day pastoral care of Haslemere, Hindhead and Chiddingfold.

I look forward to working together with Fr Jonathan and all of you.

I also look forward to getting to know you all. You are very much in my prayers, and I would ask you to keep me in your prayers. I can only promise you that I will do my best to serve you as your Priest. Please make a place for me in your prayers.

With my love and prayers for each of you,
Fr. Rajesh Minz

Welcome to Fr Rajesh

It is with great pleasure we welcome Fr Rajesh Minz who comes to us from Our Lady of the Rosary, Bexhill. We look forward to proclaiming the Good News together. Please do come and join us for coffee and cake after 11am mass on Sunday at Our Lady of Lourdes and meet with Fr Rajesh.

New Mass Schedule

There is a new weekly mass schedule so please look at the bulletin or the website to check times. There will often be a Saturday 4pm Vigil Mass at Holy Cross, but please check.

Haslemere Charities Fair

This takes place on Saturday 19th November (10am-2pm) and we have the opportunity of having a stall which could be used to raise funds for our charitable endeavours and raise our profile in the town. If anyone has any ideas and would like to volunteer to organise the stall, please get in touch with either the Parish office or Sam Dudley (07926176896)

First Holy Communion & Confirmation

If you are interested in your child or children taking part in our forthcoming First Holy Communion or Confirmation programmes please contact the Parish Office (haslemere@abdiocese.org.uk). Children for FHC must be 7 years old by 31st August of the year in which the course starts.

Confirmation candidates should be in school year 10 or above.

Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Annual Formation Day – Wednesday 14 September 11am – 3.30pm

There are still places available for the annual day of formation for grandparents which will be held at the St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley. This is always a wonderful meeting point and an opportunity for discussion. We are privileged to have Susan Longridge from the Sycamore course coming to share her findings on what encourages a return to faith. Refreshments will be available but please bring your own lunch. In order to manage numbers please book via the website or [contact](#) for further information.

Anniversaries Mass

Marriage Anniversaries mass – Saturday 8 October 11.30am

There are still places available for those who wish to join us for our annual Mass celebrating marriage. The event this year is going to be held at Arundel Cathedral and Bishop Richard will be presiding. If this year's anniversary is of particular significance for you please do book on the events section of the website or contact Katherine, our Marriage and Family Life Adviser E: Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk for further information. Booking is essential. Click [here](#) for more information.

Relics

Registration for this Autumn's St Bernadette Relic Tour is now open. The Relics of St Bernadette will be journeying to the UK for the first time this Autumn visiting 51 venues across England, Scotland, and Wales, including three venues in our Diocese:

- * St Dunstan's in Woking (21-22 October)
- * Arundel Cathedral (22-23 October)
- * Worth Abbey (23-24 October)

To ensure the comfort and safety of pilgrims, visitors are asked to register their attendance by choosing a dedicated time slot at the church or cathedral of their choice. You

can register your free place by visiting the Relic Tour website [here](#): To download a booking guide please click [here](#).

Please note that registration times are a guide only. People across our community will journey in prayer to visit the Relics. While every effort will be made to minimise waiting times, pilgrims may have to queue and are encouraged to include this possibility when planning their visit.

Ukraine Appeal

We would like to thank everyone for their donations to date. The Ukraine Appeal is ongoing so if you would still like to donate please do so either using the Digital Plate or through our [website](#).

Join the Parish Database

We ask that you take a few moments to go to the Website and enter your current personal details which will be included in the Parish Database. This will help us all stay connected and ease the Parish Office work. On the top bar of the Website on the far right click 'Contact' and then the option for 'Online Data Form'. Be sure to give permission for your details to be used by the Parish. For those without internet access please ask Fr Rajesh for a form to complete and he will enter the details on your behalf. For link to our website click [here](#)

September Jubilarians

Barbara Munro Thomson
Yoong Kwan
Stuart Broughton
Daphne Elizabeth Thorneycroft
Catherine Annunziata
Maricel D'cruzen
Mary Smith
Katherine Theobald
Ajish Chacko
Kathleen Hudnott
Nathan D'cruze
Michael Leigh

A Prayer for Ukraine

*Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them
and protect them.*

*We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom
to guide their choices.*

*We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.*

*May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people
of Ukraine
and for all the world.*

Amen.

Please pray for:

The sick: Fr Fergal McGuinness, Abigail Stafford Johnson, Michael Gaul, Livy Miller, Louise Reeve, Patricia Reidy, Linda Donald, Maura and Anne Murphy, Tish Watkinson, Liz Jupp, William Leeper, Jo Allen, Jane Adolph, Carmel & Roland Murray, Teresa Marshall, Alberto Costantini, Sebastian Codlin, Barbara Munro-Thompson and Betty Harding.

The Deceased: John Hale, Betty Manners-Clark, Walter Chudyk, Pamela May, William Martin, Maureen Allen, Collette Ardagh, Sister Elphege, Alice Carthy, Charlie Dodds, Joseph Fishpool, Charles Kenny and Hanna Hylton.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 4th Sept — TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4.00pm (Sat)	HX	All Parishioners
6.00pm (Sat)	SA	
9.00am	ST	
11.00 am	OLL	

Monday 5th Sept - The Passion of St John the Baptist

11.30am	HX
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Tuesday 6th Sept - Feria in Ordinary Time Week 22

10.00am	SA
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Wednesday 7th Sept - Feria in Ordinary Time Week 22

10am	ST
11.30am	HX

Thursday 8th Sep – Feria in Ordinary Time Week 22

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Friday 9th Sep - Feria in Ordinary Time Week 22

10.00am	OLL	Betty Bailey RIP
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Saturday 10th Sep — St Gregory the Great

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Sunday 11th Sept — TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4.00pm (Sat)	HX	All Parishioners
6.00 pm (Sat)	SA	
9.00am	ST	
11.00 am	OLL	

Confession on Saturdays by appointment, tel.: 01428 643877

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Wisdom 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom.
What man can know the intentions of God?
Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?
As for your intention, who could have learnt it,
had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 89

Response:
O Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to the next.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: "Go back, sons of men." To your eyes a thousand years

are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

2. You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
3. Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

SECOND READING Philemon 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. "If any man comes to me without leaving his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. "And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, 'Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish.' Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a

long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;

through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,
graciously grant that, through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine
majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly
Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great
gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

