

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year

Welcome to you all out there from the Parish of St Patrick's and beyond. I am thinking of you each day and praying for all your intentions and families during this time of lockdown. Hopefully our Churches will be opened shortly for Prayer.

The theme of the liturgy this Sunday is DO NOT BE AFRAID. Every human being knows fear, today Jesus shows us that fear need not dominate our lives.

Jeremiah in the First Reading Ch20: 10 – 13 begs God to grant him peace from the enemies who are whispering against him. The Gospel this Sunday Matthew Ch10: 26-33 Jesus urges us not to fear: in the Father's sight the very hairs of our head are numbered.

3 kinds of fear that commonly trouble human beings.

1<sup>st</sup> – Hidden Fear. One we cannot and will not share with others. Fear about our health, our sinfulness, our loved ones.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Kind of Fears. Dangers from outside, fear of war, the breakdown of Law & Order, fear of growing violence

Finally – Fear that we are small and insignificant, so un-important, we feel lost in the immensity of the universe.

Lost as a drop of water in the ocean.

Jesus says there is no need to be afraid as he has told us.

You are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

Jesus is our friend, even to the shedding of his blood – He promises He would take away our final fear. The fear what awaits us beyond death. He tells us He will speak up for us before the Father, acknowledge us as His friend and so guarantee us a place in that home where all tears are wiped away and all fears finally disappear.

### **RE-OPENING CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER - VOLUNTEER STEWARDS NEEDED**

We are working towards our church being open for private prayer only from Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020. The days and times will be Sunday's and Thursday's 10am – 12pm.

Are you able to help?

As a parish, we need to gather a group of volunteer stewards. Two or more stewards are required to be present when the church is open. Stewards cannot be in either the high or moderate risk

categories and must be aged 18 -70 years or if under 18 years, to be accompanied by an adult. The

categories are set out here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higherrisk/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/>

What's involved?

Volunteer Stewards are asked to offer your time for a period of 1 - 2 hours, per fortnight (or more if you wish).

You will be asked to:

1 - sign a declaration to say you are not in a high or moderate risk category and you are over 18 or accompanied by a responsible adult. This declaration will be held by diocese.

2 - supervise the church which includes ensuring guidance on social distancing, one-way route, etc is followed; and only if queues are building up to ask people to leave church, after a suitable time.

3 - undertake regular light cleaning of surfaces including door handles & plates, benches and toilet (if used) and keep record of this, held at church.

If you can help, please email the office directly at [office.stpatrick.leeds@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:office.stpatrick.leeds@dioceseofleeds.org.uk) or contact the parish office on 0113 2482851 as soon as possible. Thank you.

The diocese requires us to have a rota as part of the "sign off" agreement and we cannot re-open without this.

Thank you.