

Acts 13:14. 43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga until they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to the synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas and in their talks with the Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them. The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. The Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked on some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium, but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Psalm response:

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him singing for joy. **R/.**
2. Know that he, the Lord is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.
R/.

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. **R/.**

Apoc. 7:9. 14-17

I, John saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language, they were standing in front of the throne and front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.

*Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!*

John 10: 27-30

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,

and no one can steal them from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'



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Parish Priest Fr. John O'Donnell

Sunday 12th. May 2019
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Eucharistic Prayer 2
Psalter Week 4 - Weekday Series 1

SAT. 5.40 Rosary
11th. **6.00 pm.** Mass People of the Parish
St. Mary's C of E Parish Church Horncastle

SUN. 9.40 Rosary
12th. **10.00 am.** Mass Private Intention

MON. Easter Feria
13th. 9.40 Rosary
10.00 am. Mass

TUES. St. Matthias
14th 9.40 Rosary
10.00 am. Mass

THURS. Easter Feria
16th. 6.40 Rosary
7.00 pm. Mass

FRI. Easter Feria
17th. **10.00am.** Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary

SAT. Easter Feria
18th. 9.40 Rosary
10.00 am. Mass

Sunday 19th. May
Fifth Sunday of Easter

SAT. **6.00pm.** Mass Private Intention
18th. St. Mary's C of E Parish Church, H/castle

SUN.
19th. **10.00 am.** Mass People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Woodhall Spa - Sat. 10.30 am. - 11.00 am.
Horncastle Sat. 5.30 pm. - 5.50 pm.
or on request.

Baptism : By arrangement with the priest.

Marriage: Six months notice - at least.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Maureen Cummins, Elizabeth Johnston and those whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Finance:

Envelopes: £181.50 Loose: £186 Standing orders: £78.92
Total: £446.42 Thank you.

Collection this weekend for the Clergy Formation Fund

£1026.72 was the amount donated last year by the holders of Red Boxes. The donations sustain our brothers and sisters serving vulnerable and marginalised people throughout the world. Jacqueline Stevens is our parish representative should you wish to take a Red Box home.

May Procession - Sunday 19th. May - the rosary procession around the grounds of Our Lady & St. Peter, Woodhall Spa will begin in the church at 3.00pm.
It will be followed by light refreshments in the hall.

Advance notice: June, a month of Celtic Spirituality led by Father Ted Mullen IC.
Saturday's 2-4.30 First two sessions June 1 & 15 : Third session Retreat Day June 29th.

Centering Prayer & Contemplative Meditation: Open to All

We meet from 7.00pm till 9.00pm, on **Tues. 7th. & 28th. May** then every 1st & 4th (not 5th) Tuesday of each month, at the **Lions Den, 26A, Silver Street, Coningsby, LN4 4SG. Free parking** available in Silver Street Car Park. Coming out onto Silver Street, driveway entrance to Lions Den bungalow is across the road, between Ginger Cow Coffee Shop and Doctor's Surgery.
"Come and see!" (Jn 1:39,46;4:29)

"Churches Without Walls" : Programme.

We are exploring "Centering Prayer", "Lectio Divina", and "The Cloud of Unknowing", in relation to each other, leading into a **silent** session of "Contemplative Prayer".
"Intercessory Prayer" may be offered, **on request.**
Deacon James' email: james.hunter200@btinternet.com

Catholic paper snippets:

- In a letter to priests and deacons in his Diocese, Bishop John Toal of Motherwell has said: The funeral Mass is an important moment of prayer and faith after the death of a loved one – but it is not the appropriate item for eulogies, which are better suited for the funeral reception afterwards. At the heart of the funeral liturgy, and therefore its strength, is the proclamation of the forgiveness of sin through the life, death and resurrection of Christ thereby offering hope and consolation to those who mourn. *All the papers (12/4)*
- Peruvian authorities are investigating the death of a 71 year-old De La Salle brother, Paul McAuley, whose burned body was found in a home he founded for indigenous students attending college. Responsible, also, for founding a school for low-income children in a shanty town, Br. Paul was an environmental activist. *All the papers (12/4)*
- Pax Christi called for the ceremony at Westminster Abbey marking 50 years of British nuclear weapons on patrol at sea to be either cancelled or changed to a service of repentance. The General Synod of the Church of England had already called on the Government to back the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Director of Pax Christi, Theresa Alessandro, said, 'We echo the words of Pope Francis regarding nuclear weapons: The threat of their use as well as their very possession is to be firmly condemned. *The Catholic Times (12/4)*
- Pope Francis commenting on conflicts in Syria, Yemen and Afghanistan said, 'A country that produces and sells weapons has on its conscience the death of every child and the destruction of each family,' referring to Europe and the United States. *The Catholic Times (12/4)*
- Jeremy Hunt has said the Government will use its Aid budget to ensure countries 'make progress on religious freedom' as a new report highlights the persecution of Christians around the world. 80% of people suffering for their religious beliefs are Christian according to the report. *The Catholic Times (12/4)*
- In March, President Obrador of Mexico, newly appointed, asked for an apology from Spain and the Vatican for the abuses committed during the 16th century conquest of his country. In response, Fr. Hugo Valdemar, an official in the Archdiocese of Mexico City, said that Spanish missionaries had 'brought the greatest thing we Mexicans have; faith in Jesus Christ, and therefore access to eternal salvation.' The Spanish had suppressed 'the diabolical barbarism of human sacrifices and the darkness of idolatry' whilst preserving the best of indigenous culture. *The Catholic Herald (12/4)*

Thought for the week:

It is important not to confuse divine union with human perfection.
Divine Love has no trouble loving imperfect things! That is just our human problem.
If God could only love perfect things, God would have nothing to do.

Richard Rohr OFM