## WELCOME TO THE

PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS KELVEDON ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL & ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE (Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, KwaZulu-Natal)

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## PARISH NEWSLETTER

21st October 2018

## TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF YEAR

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for many.

First Reading Is 53:10-11

Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22

Second Reading Heb 4:14-16 Gospel Mk 10:35-45



TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY: For us today 'sacrifice' is simply a way of describing a giving up of something we value - perhaps to help those in need or someone we love. It implies some kind of cost to ourselves but little more. In the time of Christ 'sacrifice' was a much more vivid concept. Most religions, including Judaism, involved sacrifice as a regular part of their worship – a way of thanking God, or to reinforce prayer with a gift, or perhaps to appease God's anger. It meant taking the life of an animal or setting aside some other foodstuff such as grain. In some cases the setting aside was marked by total destruction through fire. In others part was retained and shared as a sign of communion with God. In a world never far from hunger such a gesture meant a great deal. This was why when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the Temple they were permitted as poor people to offer two doves instead of a lamb. This idea of sacrifice runs through all three readings today. Isaiah speaks of the suffering servant who will offer his life in atonement for the people. In St Mark's Gospel Jesus hints at how this will be fulfilled in his self-offering on the cross – "Can you drink the cup that I must drink?" Christ is both the lamb of sacrifice and the High Priest of the New Covenant. From this week our second reading is taken from the Letter to the Hebrews which invites us to reflect on Our Lord's role as the Eternal High Priest. When we call the Mass a sacrifice we do so not because of the bread and wine we offer but because through these sacramental signs we are united, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with the one sacrifice Christ offered once on the cross two thousand years ago, and now in the eternal present of heaven.

**PRAYER NEEDS:** Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick and housebound.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember Basil Kentish, Esther Dunion, Mary Birch, Emma Allen, Tony McGoldrick, Anthony Conerney, Adele Strong, Desmond Moore, Bill Alderton, Danny Mullane, Peter Ponley and Elzbieta Morecka whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**MISSION SUNDAY:** Today is world Mission Sunday. It is a reminder that all of us are called to be missionaries in our own circumstances — especially in this Year of Faith — but also to help those working full time as missionaries elsewhere. For those who do not use Gift Aid Envelopes, special ones are available at the back of the Church.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE:** Many thanks to all who helped organise last Saturday's pilgrimage to Canterbury. It was a lovely occasion and we were blessed with fine weather. Take a look at the photos and a short video clip on the parish website.

**WE REGRET:** To announce the death of Mr Mike Gibson of Tollesbury. His funeral has been arranged for Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October in St Mary's Church, Tollesbury, 3.00 p.m. RIP.

FINANCE: Offertory collection for Sunday 14th October - £691.65.