

St Wulstan's Parish

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Parish Secretary Claire Bailey



SOLEMNITY OF JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE 24th November 2019

Today's Scripture Readings PMB pp. 167 - 169 PRF p. 68 EP 3 p. 27

2 Samuel 5: 1-3 After the death of Saul in battle, David had been anointed King of Judah at Hebron. Now the tribes of Israel ask him to be their king also. So Israel and Judah become a united kingdom and David moves from Hebron to Jerusalem.

Colossians 1: 12-20 God the Father "has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son, whom he loves".

Luke 23: 35-43 The "good thief" stands for all of us who, from the crucified and risen Christ, "gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins".

AWARD OF BENE MERENTI MEDAL TO PATRICIA SOPER On behalf of Archbishop Bernard, Canon Brian McGinley will invest Patricia Soper with the *bene merenti* medal awarded by Pope Francis. A brief account of why: in 1969/70, on the departure of John Lowe, briefly our music director from the time that St Richard's Prep School moved away in 1968, the Parish Priest, Dom Everard Faulkner, decided that St Wulstan's did not need a choir and that the congregation should sing all the music. The organist, a Mr Lambert, member of the Nicholson (organ builders) family, did not agree and also departed. Some parishioners complained and, after a visitation by Abbot Wilfrid Passmore of Downside, Patricia offered to play the organ. The Ward family had moved into Kirklands and Anne Ward, a primary school teacher at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Worcester, led a small ladies' choir who sang downstairs to encourage the congregation. The next parish priest, Fr Joseph Coombe-Tennant, encouraged the choir to move back upstairs and include some male voices. Patricia chose the music in consultation with Anne and continued to play the organ. When Tony Lawley, a former chorister at Westminster Cathedral, retired to Birtsmorton, he took over from Anne as conductor of the choir. Patricia continued as organist and music director. When Tony became too ill to carry on, she continued in her double role. Angela joined the choir in 2006/7 and, after a few years, took over the conducting. For some years she and Patricia played the organ on alternate weeks until, in 2013, I asked Patricia to let Angela take over, both as organist and music director. Patricia withdrew with characteristic graciousness and continued to sing in the choir under Angela's direction. For the continuance of our musical tradition from 1969 until 2013, more than anyone else, though always supported by Denise, Patricia is responsible.

Traditional Latin Mass at 3.15pm.

WEEKDAY MASSES Mass on Monday (Latin) and on Friday at 9.30am.

ANNUAL RED WEDNESDAY MASS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH, organised by Aid to the Church in Need, will take place at Holy Trinity, Ledbury on Wednesday 27 November at 11am, followed by refreshments. All welcome. Please wear something red to show support for persecuted.

THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES have declared 2020 to be **YEAR OF THE WORD**. The Year starts on the First Sunday of Advent (1 December). The Bishops ask us to consider how we celebrate, live and share the Word of God. I now have some YOUCAT (Youth Catechism) Bibles for sale at £20 which offer an explanatory and painless way into the Holy Scriptures of Old and New Testament. An inspection copy is in the sacristy.

Confessions every Saturday 4.15-4.45pm. (please come to Sacristy).

Pray for Harry Bradbear who died recently, for John Bilsborough, John Crowe, Pat Higgins, Paul Hothersall, Rosemarie Kay, Christopher Kouwen, Andy McGowan, Les Miller, Pauline Mills, Peter Onions, Nicholas Ratcliff, Raymond Turner and Ellen Verdult, who are unwell/housebound.