



WHO IS THE GREATEST?

(MARK 9:30-37)

Christ and the disciples, façade of Monestir Monastery of Montserrat, Barcelona

After the experience of the transfiguration, Jesus and his companions continue their journey through Galilee.

Jesus' public ministry there is over: he will now instruct his disciples privately, beginning with his second teaching about his coming suffering and resurrection, and, as usual, they fail to understand the mystery of the cross as the unfolding of God's plan. They even seem to be moving into a state of wilful ignorance, being reluctant to ask questions.

The disciples' lack of understanding is heightened when we learn that they have been arguing among themselves about who is the most important. This provides the opening for Jesus' subversive teaching which we find throughout the Gospel versions about rank and status. Illustrating the lesson by introducing a child is not for sentimental effect: in the society of Jesus' time, a child did not represent innocence or the like, but rather someone who had no rights, no social standing, was totally dependent on others. There is nothing to be gained by being kind to someone who is, in effect, a "non-person". Jesus has called the Twelve apart from the wider group of disciples and directed this teaching at them in particular. Jesus puts his arms around the child, thus showing that this "non-person" deserves care and respect. Mark introduces the theme of treating Jesus well (or badly) in socially insignificant persons with the phrase "in my name", and welcoming Jesus means welcoming the one who sent him. ■

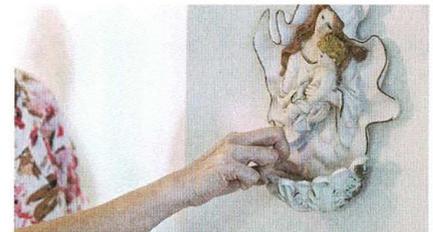
REFLECT

It is interesting that Jesus' teaching on humble and disinterested leadership is directed specifically at the Twelve, members of his inner circle. Given the social attitude to children of his day, his example of a child as being especially worthy of respect is nothing short of revolutionary. The Gospel presents us with values and principles which we are supposed to apply to our own times and circumstances. If a child represents a non-person in the society of Jesus' time, who fits that category in ours and what is our attitude towards such people? Who are our leaders most concerned about?

We might take comfort in Mark's description of the disciples and their difficulties in understanding Jesus and his message. In today's Gospel reading, their mistaken arguing about rank offers an opportunity for them to learn an important lesson from Jesus. The important thing about mistakes is that we should learn from them, not that we should not make them in the first place. The biblical picture of the people of Israel was that none of their repeated failures was the last word: God was always prepared to give them another chance. Even the disciples' ultimate abandoning of Jesus in Gethsemane was not to be the final scene in the story, as Mark's very writing of his Gospel shows. Our knowledge and understanding of Jesus is deepened by our questioning what we believe: the opposite of faith is less likely to be doubt than certainty, where there is no room for mystery. ■

DO

Make the Sign of the Cross and ask for the courage to keep asking questions about your faith.



LEARN

In the Synoptic tradition, Jesus makes three prophecies about his passion, death and resurrection.

The figure of Simon of Cyrene will illustrate Jesus' teaching on taking up the cross and following him.

A child, in the time of Jesus, was effectively a non-person, of no social standing.

SAY

**We adore you, O Christ,
and we praise you,
because by your holy
cross you have redeemed
the world.**

(from the Stations of the Cross)



HASLEMERE
HINDHEAD
CHIDDINGFOLD

Parish Bulletin



Sunday Obligation

We are mindful of the certain fact that the Covid-19 virus is still circulating in society. Vaccines provide genuine protection against the worst effects of the virus, yet we recognise the legitimate fear on the part of some who otherwise desire to gather for Holy Mass. It is our continuing judgement, therefore, that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God.

It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021.

In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.



Assisted Dying Bill

Earlier this year, a Private Members Bill on 'Assisted Dying' was introduced in the House of Lords by Baroness Molly Meacher, Chair of Dignity in Dying. The Bill is due its second reading on 22 October 2021, when there will be a full debate in the House of Lords. Our main concerns with the Bill can be summarised as follows:

- * Protecting the most vulnerable
- * The experience of other countries
- * Investing in care and not ending care

The Bill is almost identical in form to the 'Marris Bill', which was overwhelmingly defeated in the House of Commons in 2015 by 330 votes to 118. None of the serious concerns raised at that time have been factored into this new piece of legislation. To read more click [here](#).

What can you do?

If the bill is successful it will allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live, assistance to commit suicide. The Catholic Church teaches that this represents a crime against human life, we cannot directly choose to take the life of another, even if they request it. The Bishops therefore urge you to PRAY this Bill is defeated, WRITE to Peers and MPs expressing concern about this proposed legislation and SHARE our resources and those of our allies, in the weeks ahead with family and friends, especially via social media.

Holy Cross Convent: 01428 641568 / Fr David Murphy 01428 652904

Guidance on how to write to politicians can be found [here](#): Resources, which will be updated in the weeks ahead, can be found [here](#):



Mass Intentions

It can be a wonderful gift for those you love. Please, consider having a mass intention for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. Use one of the small brown envelopes (these can be found at the back of all churches). Please print clearly the name, date and telephone contact number and put in the collection plate, hand to Fr Irek or use the online facility on our website.



September Jubilarian's

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



Masses in September

There will be no weekday masses until Thursday 30th September at Our Lady of Lourdes and the church will be locked during the week.



Migrants and Refugees

The 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2021 is celebrated on 26 September - the last Sunday of the month. The Holy Father has chosen the theme 'Towards an ever wider "we"'. The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It's always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers. More information [here](#).



Deanery Mass

Deanery Mass for those who have died 3 - 29 November, various locations. The last twelve months have been challenging for people across our community. Bishop Richard is offering a special Station Mass in each Deanery for all those who have died this year, with the first Mass taking place in Lewes Deanery on 3 November. Please [click here](#) to find out more.



Animal Blessing

Arundel Cathedral Animal Blessing Service, Saturday 2 October, 2.30pm Bring your pets to Arundel Cathedral's popular Animal Blessing Service. The service will be followed by tea in the Cathedral Centre afterwards with animals

and their owners very welcome. The events will support Medical Detection Dogs, a charity training dogs to support people with life-threatening health conditions, saving lives and helping the NHS by keeping people out of hospital. Book [here](#).



Donations

Our diocesan church family includes more than 80 parishes, offering spiritual enrichment and support at every stage of our lives. Our churches depend on cash donations from offertory collections for 50% of their income on average, in some cases this reliance can be as high as 90%. Many parishes are struggling financially. At this difficult time you can -

if you are able - provide support to our Parish by donating on our Parish Website [here](#).



Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed from Friday 17th September until Monday 27th September.

***My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You
into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite myself
wholly to You.
Never permit me to be
separated from You.
Amen***

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 19th September —Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 pm (Sat)	SA	For Parishioners Ints.
9:00am	ST	
9:00am	HX	
11:00 am	OLL	

Monday 20th September—St Andrew Kim Taegon

9.30am	HX	NO MASS
10:00am	OLL	

Tuesday 21st September—St Matthew

9.30am	HX	NO MASS
10:00am	OLL	

Wednesday 22nd September – Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 25

9.30am	HX	NO MASS
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Thursday 23rd September - St Pius of Pietrelcino

9.30am	HX	NO MASS
10:00am	OLL	

Friday 24th September — Our Lady of Walsingham

9.30am	HX	NO MASS
10:00am	OLL	

Saturday 25th September – Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 25

9.30am	HX
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Sunday 26th September —Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 pm (Sat)	SA	For Parishioners Ints. Thanksgiving Int. Mary Perera
9:00am	HX	
9:00am	ST	
11:00 am	OLL	

Confession on Saturdays by appointment, tel.: 01428 643877

Please pray for:

The sick:

Lily Sheppard, Daphne Thorneycroft, Alan Tomkins, Olwyn Leather, Livvy Miller, Louise Reeve, Frances Greenwood, Maria Campbell Payne, Patricia Reidy, Alice May, Linda Donald, Maura and Anne Murphy, Tish Watkinson, Liz Jupp, William Leeper, Jo Allen, Jane Adolph, Carmel & Roland Murray, Teresa Marshall, Rosa Costantini, Sebastian Codlin, Lucy O'Donnell.

Please pray for Ernesto Gabuya who died this week and remember his wife Malinda.

The Deceased:

Danny McNally, Joan Boyle, Alan Davey, Stuart Quinnell, Jack Kerrigan, Eileen Mary Ellis and Maureen Lepowska

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord
for ever.

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, who founded all the commands of
your sacred Law
upon love of you and of our neighbour,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.
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 2:12. 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

The godless say to themselves,
"Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since
he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the law
and accuses us of playing false to our
upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he himself
will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will
take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of his
enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.
Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have his
word for it."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 53

Response:

The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.
O God, hear my prayer;
listen to the words of my mouth. (R.)
2. For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.
They have no regard for God. (R.)
3. But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. (R.)

SECOND READING James 3:16–4:3

A reading from the letter of St James.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition,
you find disharmony, and wicked things of
every kind being done; whereas the wisdom
that comes down from above is essentially
something pure; it also makes for peace,
and is kindly and considerate; it is full of
compassion and shows itself by doing
good; nor is there any trace of partiality or
hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work
for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit
in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between
yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the
desires fighting inside your own selves?
You want something and you haven't got
it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an
ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight
to get your way by force. Why you don't have
what you want is because you don't pray
for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is
because you have not prayed properly, you
have prayed for something to indulge your
own desires.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his
disciples made their way through Galilee; and
he did not want anyone to know, because he
was instructing his disciples; he was telling
them, "The Son of Man will be delivered
into the hands of men; they will put him to
death; and three days after he has been put
to death he will rise again." But they did not
understand what he said and were afraid to
ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he
was in the house he asked them, "What
were you arguing about on the road?" They
said nothing because they had been arguing
which of them was the greatest. So he sat
down, called the Twelve to him and said,
"If anyone wants to be first, he must make
himself last of all and servant of all." He then
took a little child, set him in front of them,

put his arms round him, and said to them,
"Anyone who welcomes one of these little
children in my name, welcomes me; and
anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me
but the one who sent me."

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

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,
the offerings of your people,
that what they profess with devotion and faith
may be theirs through these heavenly
mysteries.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have laid down your precepts to be
carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your
statutes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously raise up, O Lord,
those you renew with this Sacrament,
that we may come to possess your
redemption
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.