

**Sunday 1st August 2021**  
**18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*First Reading Exodus 16:2-4,12-15*  
The Lord sends manna from heaven

*Responsorial Psalm 77(78):3-4,23-25,54*  
The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

*Second reading Ephesians 4:17,20-24*  
Put aside your old self and put on the new

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;

No one can come to the Father except through me.

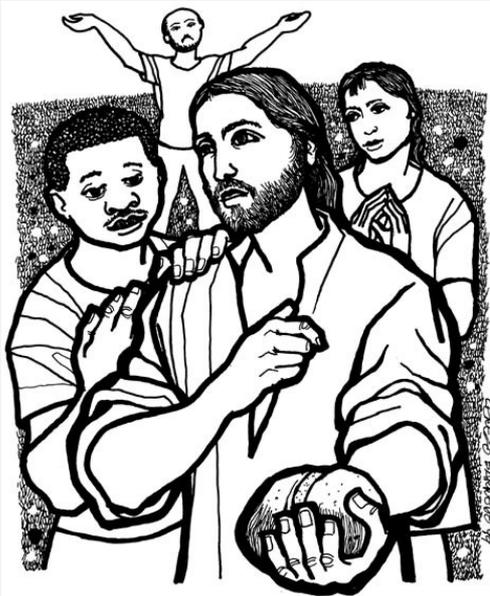
Alleluia!

*Gospel: John 6:24-35*

It is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven; I am the bread of life

*Children's Liturgy Online*

[www.strichardchichester.co.uk/social-children-families](http://www.strichardchichester.co.uk/social-children-families)



One of the newspapers showed a cartoon with a government official presenting a graph showing numbers on the rise. Our medal tally has doubled, it stated. If this trend continues, by mid August, everyone in the UK will be an Olympic champion. I am afraid that is unlikely to happen but at least we could take a look at the torch of faith carried by many of the athletes competing in Tokyo. We have already seen the whole spectrum of ways their faith manifested itself, from moments of glory as when Hidilyn Diaz from the Philippines stepped up onto the podium to receive her Olympic gold medal in weightlifting, with Our Lady's Miraculous Medal around her neck, as it had been during the competition, to times of stumbling under the weight of the cross of mental health issues, for American gymnast Simone Biles, who pulled out of the competition. Many of those Catholic sportsmen and women will go unnoticed, but they expressed what their faith means to them on many other occasions too.

Biles' fellow Catholic and gymnast Grace McCallum, who travels with a rosary and a cross from her grandmother, told Relevant Radio's Morning Air, "My Catholic faith has been such a huge part of my journey and keeps me grounded in who I am." McCallum said she prays before meets and practices, remembering her parents' advice to "compete for an audience of one," keeping Jesus Christ front and centre. She also prays the Prayer to St Michael right before hitting the mat, "to give me that last little bit of strength before I go up." "[My faith] makes me feel at peace, which is why I compete with a rosary and cross from my grandma when I travel," she said. Former Olympic athlete Rebecca Dussault, a cross-country skier who competed at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, told the National Catholic Register magazine that the realm of sport does not make many concessions for the lives of faithful Catholics and requires a lot of sacrifices, especially in the journey to the Olympic Games. "I had to get extremely resourceful," she said, sacrificing team meals on Saturday evenings in order to attend the vigil Mass because she had to compete on Sundays.

Dussault said it is important to have coaches behind athletes that understand their core values, especially in individual competition. "The fullness of the games just presents challenges," she said, wishing Mass had been more available for athletes in the Olympic Village. But she said the encouragement she received from Catholics who told her that they were praying for her was very helpful. Dussault said it was important to shine a light on the virtuous models in sports that are on display at the Olympics and for Catholic Olympic athletes to make their experience a gift to others. "The formation you receive as an athlete and as disciple in Christ is invaluable in this world that seeks so much comfort and escapism," she said.

"As an athlete, you can't be comfortable, and you can't escape. It gives you the ability for a really unique leadership. It calls us to give back and make sure that we're forming the next generation of athletes for Christ."

Reading these we may come to realise that the experience of the Catholic athletes reflects many aspects of our own lives. It is a daily struggle to live out our faith, and the making of sacrifices in order to safeguard the spiritual wellbeing of our relatives and to grow spiritually ourselves is no stranger to us. Let us remember the words of St Paul that "every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable". 1 Cor 9:25

*Fr Sebastian*

## Parish Merger Update

Bishop Richard has advised that he will consult the Council of Priests on the merger of our parishes in mid-September. If they assent, the canonical merger is likely to follow shortly thereafter. The canonical change will necessarily not bring many immediate changes on the ground. For example, we know that we will need to review the Sunday Mass times in due course but they should not need to change while Fr Maksym is in Selsey, as he expects to be until Spring 2022.

The Parish Pastoral Teams for the Parish of Chichester and Parish of the Witterings have been thanked for their dedicated service and the groups closed. Work is underway to replace them with a new team for the whole new parish, once the parish comes into existence.

On request from the diocese, the question of a merger date for the finances of the three parishes is being discussed. Once a target date for the financial merger has been decided upon, we will be able to share a rough outline of when each area of parish life will be reviewed.

To support the work of the Steering Group, represent their own church and help with communication with each community while there are no PPTs, a single representative from each church will be asked to join an ad hoc consultation group.

A new name for a new parish: As Bishop Richard explained when he visited us in June, combining the communities of the Parish of Chichester (St Richard's and Our Lady of the Assumption), the Parish of the Witterings and the Parish of Selsey will create a brand new parish. This new parish will need a name! A new geographical name is one option and a religious dedication is another: a patron for our whole new parish. E.g. Redhill parish's name is 'Nativity of the Lord' and Bexhill is 'Our Lady of the Rosary'. Bishop Richard suggested that we avoid anything geographical that sounds like a bus company!

Ideas so far include the Parish of...

Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Our Lady of Walsingham

St Wilfrid

St Richard

Divine Mercy

Our Lady's Dowry

Chichester and the Peninsula ('Manhood', unfortunately, would not be suitable)

Chichester and the Coastal Area

Chichester Harbour (unfortunately already in use by an Anglican benefice)

If you have another idea for a patron, please email Becky via [chichester@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:chichester@abdiocese.org.uk) by the end of August.

## Picnic in the Park

Saturday 4th of September '4-Churches' Picnic and fun day. (12:00 – 17:00). Tickets are limited, so they will be offered on a first come first served basis.

The event is in Almodington (near Birdham) in the lovely gardens of Stefan and Frances Bartkowiak. Some of you might remember the BBQ in the trees events held there in 2015 and 2016. It will be a Fun packed day with entertainment and games for both children and adults.

Tables and seating will be provided for guests to set up their own picnic. There will also be a cocktail bar for cocktails and Mocktails and an introductory drink is included in the ticket price. Further refreshments from the bar, also available.

We have one volunteer from each of the 4 churches who will be selling tickets for the event. For more information please contact your church representative:

- St Richard's, Sydney on [sydneytullett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sydneytullett@hotmail.co.uk)
- St Peter's, Linda on [Linda.jolly@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Linda.jolly@tiscali.co.uk)
- Our Lady of the Assumption Tina [christinadarby@virginmedia.com](mailto:christinadarby@virginmedia.com)
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Amy, [Chichester@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Chichester@abdiocese.org.uk)

or for more info please email Gio Grabowski at [mgrab0812@aol.com](mailto:mgrab0812@aol.com) or phone 01243670674

## Beginning Experience Weekend:

**October 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex.**

For those who find themselves single again following divorce, separation or bereavement.

Beginning Experience is a weekend programme to help you move from the darkness of your grief into the light of a new beginning. More details at [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com).

## Singing at St Richard's

The choir will start singing again at the 10am Mass from next weekend (8th August). Choir practice will start again next Thursday (5th August)

## Fighting Modern Slavery:

Click here for the latest edition of the Diocesan edition of Fighting Modern Slavery. Parish modern slavery awareness ambassadors are still needed. Information on the role is contained in the newsletter or contact [tessa.ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tessa.ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk)

([http://www.strichardschichester.co.uk/uploads/8/9/5/5/89552515/modern\\_slavery\\_newsletter\\_issue\\_4.pdf\\_july\\_2021.pdf](http://www.strichardschichester.co.uk/uploads/8/9/5/5/89552515/modern_slavery_newsletter_issue_4.pdf_july_2021.pdf))

## Red Boxes

We are now able to take in Red Boxes again. If you would like your box emptied, please take it to the parish office or phone Ann Greenwood (01243 783554), so that she can make an alternative arrangement.

**Canon Tom Treherne** Parish Priest: 01243 782343

**Fr Sebastian Paul** Assistant Priest: 01243 782343

sebastian.paul@abdiocese.org.uk

**Dc Jonathan Harman** Deacon

jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk

**Office contact details:** chichester@abdiocese.org.uk

01243 782343 / 07521 697117

### **St Richard's Church**

The Presbytery, Cawley Road, Chichester, PO19 1XB

### **Our Lady of the Assumption**

Fairfield Road, Bosham, PO18 8JH

### **St Peter's Church**

13 Church Road, East Wittering, PO20 8PS

stpeterswittering@gmail.com

**All latest info:** [www.strichardschichester.co.uk](http://www.strichardschichester.co.uk)

**Online Masses:** [youtube.com/c/StRichardsChichester](https://youtube.com/c/StRichardsChichester)

**Regular news and insight:**

<http://www.facebook.com/strichards.parish>

<https://instagram.com/st.richard.church.chichester>

**Urgent safeguarding issues:**

01273859708 [angela.mcgrory@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:angela.mcgrory@abdiocese.org.uk)

*Please pray for our sick parishioners:*

Molly Morgan, Paul Robertson, Paul Sorrell, Barbara Ruffles, Margaret Beazley, Paul Carney, Tony Mornement, Nicola Coutts, Susan Line, Ellie Butler, Jan Thorpe, Frank O'Donnell, Dennis Chiles, Kay Howlett, Rene Coutts, Michael O'Neil, Patrick Hill, Rita Rooke, Jenny Edwards, Walter Hoppe, Peter Habgood, Agnes Martin, Majella Taylor, David White, Nicola and Anthony Nageon De Lestang, Gerald McGregor, Jill Serna, Robin Bowker, Helena Denis, Tony Whiting,

*Please let the office know of any changes to be made*

### **Our Parish Offertory**

We are very grateful to all who are able to donate through standing orders, bank transfers and to support the offertory.

Restrictions still remain at masses on handing round the offertory baskets and for parishioners who normally donate this way, there are a number of options to continue regular giving:

1. Set up a standing order online
2. Make a single payment by online banking or by cheque
3. Make a donation through the Diocese JustGiving page

### **Donations via bank transfer:**

Reference: surname and offertory

Name: RCD A&B St Richard of Chichester

Sort Code: 40-05-20

Account No: 41076582

Name: RCD A&B St Peter's Wittering

Sort Code: 40-05-20

### **Donations via cheque**

Made payable to: St Richard's Chichester

Made payable to: St Peter's RC Church

### **Donations via Credit / debit card**

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ChichesterwiththeWitterings>

Date	Time	Church	online	Mass Intention
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July</b> St Ignatius Loyola	8am	St Richard's		
	6pm	St Richard's	✓	Sheila Brown RIP (Julia and Ziggy Janiec)
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	St Richard's		Kathleen and Thomas Richardson RIP (Sue and Pat)
	9am	St Peter's		Peter Jolly RIP (Linda Jolly)
	10am	St Richard's	✓	Health and wellbeing of Elwin Fernandes and Family
	11am	Our Lady		In thanksgiving for, and blessings on, Baby James Peavot
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	8am	St Richard's	✓	
	12noon	St Richard's		Blessings on Maggie and Michael Culver for their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (Mary Downy)
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	8am	St Richard's	✓	
	9.25-10	Our Lady		<i>Adoration and confessions</i>
	10am	Our Lady		
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> August  St John Mary Vianney	8am	St Richard's	✓	Intentions of Jan Edwards (Elaine)
	8-12	St Richard's		<i>Adoration</i>
	10-11	St Richard's		<i>Confession</i>
	6-6.45	St Richard's		<i>Adoration and Confessions</i>
	7pm	St Richard's		Sheila Brown RIP (David and Theresa Owgan)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> August	8am	St Richard's	✓	Anurika Fernando RIP (Goonetilleke Family)
	12noon	St Richard's		
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> August <b>The Transfiguration of the Lord</b>	8am	St Richard's	✓	Blessed Edmund James RIP
	10am	St Peter's		
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August</b>	8am	St Richard's		
	6pm	St Richard's	✓	John Whiting RIP (Tony Whiting)
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	St Richard's		Intentions of Zina Neagle (Elaine)
	9am	St Peter's		Marek Grabowski RIP (Gio Grabowski)
	10am	St Richard's	✓	In thanksgiving for, and blessings on, baby Freya (Mary and Martin Downy)
	11am	Our Lady		In thanksgiving and blessings on the baptism of Elijah Claridge (Marion and Nick)