



# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING

THE PRESBYTERY, 4 LORDS CROFT, AMESBURY, WILTS., SP47EP

**PARISH PRIEST:** Rev Saji Mathew  
saji.mathew@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office Telephone: 01980 622177  
Website: Amesbury.cliftondiocese.com  
**PARISH MOBILE 07412604880**

## WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING

We welcome visitors, family and friends to our Mass today.  
We are glad you are joining us today.

### THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR- A-2023

**FROM THE DESK OF FATHER SAJI-ALL HALLOWS EVE** A young boy for Halloween dresses himself up as Rocky in boxing gloves and satin shorts. Shortly after he receives chocolates and snacks from his neighbour down the block, he returns to the same house. The woman who answers the door asks, “Aren’t you the same Rocky who was just here?” “Yes”, the young boy replies, “but now I’m the sequel.” As there were five sequels to the original Rocky movie, there have been countless sequels to the day labelled Halloween; however, like the Rocky movies, Halloween has changed through the years, but holds a tradition that captivates children and adults. A number of countries around the globe celebrate Halloween which is one of our nation’s largest commercial holiday after Christmas. It is projected that our country is going to spend 8.2 billion pounds on Halloween this year, which includes chocolates, costumes, decorations and doodads. Only Christmas gets consumers dipping into their pocketbooks in this manner; some people even dress up their pets in costumes. The infamous phrase that is connected to Halloween, “Trick or Treat” is believed to have originated from the English between the 16th and 18th century; however most believe that Halloween originated in Ireland. Halloween is an entertaining day; a festival of countless traditions that vary by geography; it is a special treat especially for children; yet, it is also a treat for adults who attend themed parties as well as retailers who stock up on an assortment of adult and children’s costumes. As a young “trick or treat” you may be able to recall rushing home from school on Halloween to dress up in a costume, and journey through the neighbourhood to accumulate countless treats. The intent of Halloween is to generate a day of fun, imagination, creativity and enjoyment. One of my present joys of Halloween is to witness children who are so proud of their costumes march in the school parade or strolls through the neighbourhood. It has been a custom for the past several years that many Schools joining in Halloween which displays costumes that are inventive, fanciful, and unique that range from super heroes to celebrities. Many staff members do likewise. The important factor with Halloween is not to spoil it with inappropriate costumes that easily suggest violence, cruelty, indecency, or outfits that glorify lifestyles that should not be praised or imitated.

The word Halloween is a shortened form of “All Hallows Eve” which is the day before All Saints Day. Hallow is the word for “holy” that we say in the Our Father, as the prayer begins, “Our Father who art in heaven, hallow be thy name...” Pope Gregory III paved the way for Halloween to fall on October 31 when he declared the Feast of All Saints on November 1, and dedicated a chapel in St. Peter’s Basilica to “All Saints.” Approximately 200 years later, the Feast of All Souls came into the church calendar, which was designated as a day for remembrance and prayers of the faithful who had died. So November 1 was the feast of the people in heaven; and, November 2 became the feast of those good people believed to be in purgatory. However, people feared those thought to be in a state of eternal punishment (Hell), which initiated the tradition to hand out pots and pans to generate noise so the “damned” would know they were not forgotten and refrain from causing violence or trouble. Although Halloween began as a localised celebration, Pope Gregory IV extended its observance to all in the 9th century. Today some of the family traditions for Halloween is to carve a pumpkin and place it outside the house. The Irish brought that tradition which originally began with a turnip as people hollowed out the turnip and placed a lighted candle inside to scare off the evil spirits. As the Irish came to several countries, a pumpkin was substituted for the turnip since it was much larger. As this Tuesday marks another Halloween on the calendar, it is a delightful way to observe the amusement that the day offers to children as well as adults who capture it with pictures, videos, and costume gatherings. Have a terrific weekend. Enjoy today’s warm weather. BE BLESSED AND BE A BLESSING

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** I love you, Lord, my strength.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

**WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING!** We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors attending public Mass. Whether you are just passing through or looking for a spiritual home, we pray you find Christ the King inviting and spiritually uplifting. If you are attending Mass on a regular basis, we encourage you to register with the parish. Please call our parish office and start the conversation! To our visitors, we hope you enjoy your stay here in Amesbury. Our church is always open to you, your family, and friends. pax et bonum (peace and all good)

**PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS AND GENEROSITY** A big thank you for all your generous donations, which are greatly appreciated. If anyone would like to transfer to standing order or bank transfer, this would help to simplify our banking procedure. The Parish bank details are: Name: Christ the King Church, Amesbury, Bank: NatWest Account number 66286638 and Sort code-52-10-03. If you wish to remember the Parish in your Will, further information is available from the Parish Office.

**CONFIRMATION** - If you have a child that has just completed Year 8 (going into Yr 9 or above in September) and you wish to enrol them in the next programme, the deadline is February 2024.

**ON THE WAY CATECHESIS ON THE EUCHARIST** The **Institution Narrative** By way of the Multiplication of the Loaves in the desert and the Bread of Life Discourse, our Lord anticipates his institution of the Eucharist. Those events catechise us in advance for what he will do at the Last Supper. Every Sacrament was instituted by Christ himself. But we know when, where, and how he instituted the Eucharist with greater clarity than we do about most other Sacraments. Four texts recount of the Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper: Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20, and 1 Corinthians 11:23-34. The first written is the last passage in that list, written by Saint Paul and not one of the Evangelists. It merits our attention as the most ancient account of the Eucharist. Paul begins by emphasising the divine authority of what he teaches: “For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you.” This is no mere human practice that he is handing on but what the Apostle received from the Lord himself. That is a sobering truth about the Eucharist — that It is a gift received by the Church not as her own possession but as a charge entrusted to her by Christ. So, Paul calls attention to his faithful transmission of what he received. Indeed, although the Shepherds of the Church may change certain elements of the liturgy, they are ultimately servants not masters of the Eucharist. The Apostle continues: “that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over...” At the risk of trying your patience, let’s pause over these words as well. Saint Paul is not simply giving us the date and time of the first Eucharist. The when and the what are deeply united. The handing over of his Body in the Eucharist is profoundly united with his being handed over for Crucifixion. There is a deep union between the Last Supper and Calvary, the table and the Cross. The Lord Jesus “took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’” We have here the fundamental elements of Mass, the nucleus of our worship. Everything else in our liturgy — the readings, music, vestments, incense, candles, etc. — is all to enhance our participation in this act. Note that, as at the multiplication of the loaves and fish, the first thing Jesus does with the bread is to give thanks. The Greek word for “giving thanks” is Eucharist. What the Church has received from the Lord and handed down for millennia is the perfect act of thanksgiving, the Son’s own act of thanksgiving to the Father. The Mass is many other things besides thanksgiving, but we should linger on this one fundamental description of it. In Psalm 116, the Psalmist asks, “How can I repay the LORD for all the great good

done for me?” (The entire Psalm is worth a reading as the context is significant: the Psalmist sings as one who has been delivered from death.) The question is fundamental for each of us. How can we thank God sufficiently? Given our weakness and his generosity, how can we fulfil our duty to thank our Creator and Saviour? Knowing both our indebtedness and our weakness, Jesus has offered himself as man’s perfect act of thanksgiving to the Father. And he has given us the Eucharist so that we can participate in that Thanksgiving.

**VISIT TO WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL** being organised by Salisbury Catenians on Wednesday 15 November. Places still available, please contact Steve via email: carrivick79@gmail.com or phone 07887 988123.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT!** The sixth seminar was held last Friday and featured a talk by Deacon John Proctor on ‘Mission and Growth’. The talks will continue on the first Friday of the month after the evening Mass at St Osmund. The next talk will be given by Father Anthony on ‘Prayer’, Friday 3 November.

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS** Please do all you can to encourage priestly and religious vocations. Your prayers and support make a difference.

### MASS SCHEDULE STARTING FROM 28TH OCTOBER 2023

**SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER MASS AT 6.00PM ANN COCKRELL, RIP**

**SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER MASS AT 11.00AM MARIA CHAMBERS (INTENTIONS)**

**MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER ADORATION AT 9.00AM AND MASS AT 10.00AM RESHMA LOUIS (BIRTHDAY INTENTIONS)**

**TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER ADORATION AT 9.00AM AND MASS AT 10.00AM KERRIE, RIP**

**WEDNESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER ALL SAINTS DAY (HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION) ADORATION AT 9.00AM AND MASS AT 10.00AM AND 6.30PM**

**THURSDAY 2ND NOVEMBER ALL SOULS DAY ADORATION AT 9.00AM AND MASS AT 8.30AM (HOLY SOULS) AND 10.00AM (HOLY SOULS) AND 6.30.PM (HOLY SOULS)**

**FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER ADORATION AT 9.00AM AND MASS AT 10.00AM SUE BRADWELL (INTENTIONS)**

**SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER MASS AT 6.00PM BABY MATEUS SOUSA (IN THANKS-GIVING TO GOD)**

**SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER MASS AT 11.00AM JOHN AND MARIA COCKING (55TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN THANKS –GIVING TO GOD)**

**DEAR PARISHIONERS,** The Solemnity of All Saints is celebrated this Wednesday, November 1. It is a holy day of obligation. Please mark your calendar to assist at Holy Mass. The Church summons us to celebrate this day in order to remind us that the goal of life—holiness—is not the concern of a privileged few, nor does it pertain only to Christians of the past. It is a call to every Christian of every age, a challenge that is current for anyone who desires to follow the Lord. Pope Benedict said, “Holiness...never goes out of fashion! We shall honour all the saints—those who have been “canonized” and all those who now enjoy the vision of God in heaven. Reading the lives of saints we discover that they experienced the same difficulties and weaknesses that we do, but they succeeded in meriting the crown of sanctity. Reading the lives of saints is made so much easier now with various on-line sites. If we were more familiar with the saints, we too might become more faithful, more loving, more Christian! As they inspire us by their lives, may they also intercede for us before the throne of God, as our friends and advocates. If you haven’t read the life of a saint in a long time, why not begin again? Happy All Saints Day!



**ONE EXTRA HOUR** A newly ordained priest stood at the church door greeting parishioners as they filed out of mass one Sunday morning. Most of the people were excited about the new priest and very generous in telling him how much they liked his homily, except for one man who said, “Father, that was a very dull and boring sermon.” A few minutes later, the same man appeared again and said, “I do not think you did much preparation for your message.” Only moments later the man came back a third time and said, “You really blew it, you didn’t have much to say. Did you notice how many people fell asleep while you were preaching?” Finally the young priest could not stand it any longer and whispered to his deacon, “Who is that man who keeps talking to me?” “Oh, don’t let the guy bother you” said the deacon, “All he does is go around repeating whatever he hears other people saying.” One thing that all preachers experience somewhere in their lifetime is a member of the assembly sleeping during a Mass; especially throughout a homily. This weekend most of our nation gets an extra hour of sleep as clocks are pushed back one hour as the British Summer Time ends. I always welcome the extra hour of sleep as it provides greater energy for Sunday liturgies. In countries this was chosen as the changeover time since it brought less disruption to life. This weekend also invites people to take part in the “Change your clocks, Change your batteries” campaign elsewhere in countries that renders encouragement to install new batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Have you ever fallen asleep in church? I imagine that most people would answer yes to that question aware that if it hasn’t happened as an adult, it may have occurred as a child. People fall asleep in church for an assortment of reasons that include tiredness, room temperature, boredom, daydreams, or the rhythm and length of a preacher’s words. My philosophy with “sleepers” is to lull the “under two crowd” into a sweet dream while the reversal holds true for the “over two” crowd. I recall a comic strip of a man falling asleep in church while sitting with his young son and wife. The man’s son says to his mom, “I believe dad is taking the day of rest a little too far.” Dozing off during a homily has roots in the scriptures. In Acts 20:9 there is the story of Eutychus, a young man, who sank into a deep sleep and fell off the window during a sermon by Paul; there is also the passage in the Gospels where Peter, James, and John doze off when they were supposed to watch and pray. If you find yourself falling asleep at the slightest opportunity to relax, perhaps you are overworking and need to evaluate your pace of life. In an article titled, When It Comes To Sleep, One Size Fits All, October 27, 2018 Wall Street Journal, Susan Pinker states, “Sleep, demonstrates that adults everywhere need 7 – 8 hours a day in order to be mentally limber. When we habitually stint on those hours, higher order cognitive processing such as the ability to see complex patterns and solve problems is compromised.” Many dedicated people overload their days with a poundage of activities that becomes the norm. This could be harmful in that it may lead to burnout; or an unhealthy quality of life that is acted out in a negative manner upon people that are loved both at home or the workplace. Getting more sleep requires the will to say, “No” to over demanding requests that saps out energy in a capacity that leads to cranky, tense, and irritable behaviour. Saying “No” may be difficult for hard working, goal oriented people who are often called upon for specific tasks due to their dependability and desire to serve. Yet, sometimes priorities need to be reset within the demands of a day so that life is experienced without tiredness. I pray you enjoyed the one hour of extra sleep this weekend; however, if life steers you into a habit of falling asleep at inopportune times or makes you agitated, cranky, or annoyed at the slightest irritation that comes your way; perhaps you need more sleep. Remember, if people really love and respect you, the word “No” will never damage a stable relationship, but engender confidence to give greater importance to the amount of sleep that is needed each day.

**ALL SOULS DAY - DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS.** Every year, cultures around the world commemorate the dearly departed in various unique ways. Among these traditions, the Catholic Church observes the Day of the Dead, a poignant celebration that intertwines faith, love, and remembrance, and closely aligns with the Church's teachings on purgatory and the souls awaiting their entry into heaven. Contrary to popular belief, the Day of the Dead isn’t singularly a Mexican tradition. While Mexico's "Día de los Muertos" is the most internationally renowned version, many Catholic countries have their distinct customs for remembering the dead. The core of this observance rests in the Catholic calendar, specifically on All Souls' Day, which falls on November 2nd. All Souls' Day, which follows All Saints' Day on November 1st, is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven. The Day of the Dead traditions, therefore, emphasise prayers for these souls, helping them through their period of purification in purgatory and aiding their ascent to heavenly glory. All Souls Day and Purgatory: A Place of Purification Purgatory holds a significant place in Catholic eschatology. It is seen as a temporary state where souls undergo purification, making amends for their venial sins or for the temporal punishments of sins that have been forgiven. It's not a place of eternal damnation, but rather a step on the journey toward the joyous embrace of God in heaven.

The souls in purgatory, while assured of their salvation, benefit immensely from the prayers of the faithful on Earth. While practices differ by region, many of the customs associated with the Day of the Dead are rooted in the idea of aiding souls in purgatory. Attending Mass and offering it for departed loved ones is a common practice. In places like Mexico, families construct altars with photos, mementos, and favourite foods of the deceased. These altars, or "**ofrendas**," are not only an act of remembrance but also a symbolic gesture of feeding and taking care of the souls as they journey. Many visit the graves of their loved ones, cleaning the tombstones and decorating them with flowers, candles, and sometimes even music. Praying the rosary, novenas, and other specific prayers for the dead, like the "**Eternal Rest**" prayer, are vital components of this observance. In essence, the Catholic Day of the Dead serves as a beautiful reminder of our transitory nature on earth and the enduring bond of love that transcends death. It's a celebration of hope, love, and the eternal promise that every soul, with the grace of God and the prayers of the faithful, will find its way to eternal joy.

**IN MEMORIAM** Please remember in your prayers those who recently died and for all the deceased members of our family and parish, the souls in purgatory and those who died in service of our country. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. Amen.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** - If you have a Child that has just completed Year 2 (going into Yr 3 or above in September) and you wish to enrol them in the next programme, the deadline is October 2023.

**RED BOXES 2023:** Through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries we are helping the Universal Church in reaching out to others in their desperate need. It is time for you to return the Red Mission Boxes to the Church in the coming weeks. Please make sure your name and address is written on the sticker at the bottom of the box. Please leave the box in the sacristy – not in the church porch – and you can pick it up again a week later. Thank You! God bless you!

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** at Christ the King will occur at 11am Mass. The liturgy is for children in Year 3 and below, please note children younger than school age need to be accompanied by an adult.

**FLOWER DONATIONS** Last week, flowers for the Lectern and ambo were kindly donated by Sue Bradwell. Thank you and God bless you

**MASS OF REMEMBRANCE** The Mass of Remembrance, our parish’s annual Memorial Mass, is to remember and pray for those who have died during this past year. This Mass is on Thurs., Nov. 2, at 8.30am, 10:00 am and 6.30pm. All are invited to participate in one these Masses. Nov. 2 is a special day in the Church’s liturgical year to pray for all of the deceased. It is a day of special prayer for all those who have died. We pray that those souls in need of perfection may swiftly pass through their purification and come into the presence of God. It is a grace of the Communion of Saints that we can have this special relationship of prayer with those who have departed this life. May they be purified of any temporal punishment due to sin and not remitted during their earthly lives. This state of purification is called Purgatory. The Old Testament tells us that “God is a consuming fire.” Through analogy, we can understand this purification process when we consider how fire purifies precious metals, such as gold or silver, by removing the impurities that may be within them. We can pray for the souls in Purgatory that they may enter God’s presence in heaven. While they cannot pray for themselves, they can pray for us here on earth. The Communion of Saints refers to the saints in heaven, the souls of the deceased in Purgatory, and the Church here on earth. We are connected wonderfully with others in this Communion of Saints. We pray for all who have died, that they may be purified in Purgatory and enter the happiness of the Beatific Vision in heaven. The Book of Remembrance will be in the church near the baptismal font and Paschal candle during the month of November in memory of our beloved dead. All are invited to bring the names of loved ones who have died in the Holy Souls envelopes which will be placed in our Book of Remembrance with faith in the resurrection that Jesus promises us.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK** What neighbour do I know who is in need? What can I do for them, even if it’s just something simple?

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST**, This coming Wednesday, Nov.1 is the Solemnity of All Saints, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Feast of All Saints, liturgies at the parish are at 10.00 and 6:30 p.m. Next week Thursday, November 2 is our annual Mass of Remembrance at 10:00 a.m. This is a lovely liturgy with names of parishioners and family members of people in the parish who have passed on the past years are being remembered with a lighted candle and their name verbalised in the prayers of the faithful. The liturgy gives all an opportunity to walk with God through personal grief and loss. Thus, please be sure to check the Mass schedule and the additional Masses on Wednesday and Thursday as we strengthen our love of the saints in heaven and our beloved departed ones who are in the process of purification. All are invited.

**FISH AND CHIP SUPPER WITH FIREWORKS AND BINGO SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER AT 7.00PM**- Following our successful Fish and Chip Supper in the previous years, we will yet again be holding our parish annual fish and chip supper on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm. Don’t forget to put your name down this weekend for the Fish and Chip supper with fireworks, raffle and bingo on Saturday 4th November after the Vigil Mass. Tickets are on sale now and need to be bought in advance. The cost is £12 per adult and £7 for children.

**NEVER FEEL DISAPPOINTED WITH YOURSELF** Having strong self-esteem is essential to overcome any challenge in life. When the mind becomes doubtful about its abilities, it easily loses hope and gives up on itself. Sometimes, when we are unable to achieve what we want, we feel incapable. If people around us are un-supportive and bring up our weaknesses, it can further create self-doubt in us; we may feel unworthy and just end up giving up on ourselves. Believe you can do it, accept your weakness but look into ways to improve yourself. As long as you have your own support and you work on making yourself better, you can make anything possible. Accept yourself, Improve yourself but never give up on yourself.

**DEAR PARISHIONERS** This Saturday, October 28, the Church celebrated the Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles. As with so many of the Apostles, there is little we know about their personal lives – just about their faith and their courage. Both were martyred, tradition says in Persia or Armenia. Simon is usually identified as the “Zealot” – possibly to distinguish him from the other “Simon” among the Twelve, Simon Peter. Or perhaps he was indeed a member of the Zealot party. The Zealots were a political group in 1st century Palestine who vigorously opposed the Roman occupation of their land. They sought to encourage their countrymen to actively resist the Roman forces, some to the point of armed force. The Zealots are mentioned by the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus, in his account The Jewish War. As a Roman sympathiser, Josephus depicts the Zealots in a very poor light. He notes that Judas of Galilee, who began the movement in 6AD, condemned Jews who paid the Imperial tax as traitors and cowards. Armed warfare broke out in 66AD, which resulted in the Roman siege of Jerusalem and destruction of the Temple in 70AD. This Apostle was also referred to as the “Canaean” not because he was from Cana in Galilee but because “Canaean” was another term for Zealot. Whether Simon was in fact a member of the Zealot party is uncertain, but he certainly would have had to reassess his participation in active resistance to Roman rule when he became a disciple of the one who declared that the peacemakers would be called the children of God and who urged his listeners to render to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s. Other scripture scholars interpret “Zealot” as one who was zealous in his commitment to the Law of Moses – hardly a fault. Such zeal was attributed to Jesus in the cleansing of the Temple and the dramatic expulsion of the moneychangers: Zeal for your house consumes me (Ps. 69). In regard to Simon, the matter is unresolved – and that perhaps is fodder for thought. Are there times when our commitment to the truth might provoke us to justifiable anger and active opposition? The Christian disciple must live in the real world and practice the gospel in the context of the nuances of politics, economics, education, and commerce. Sometimes we can’t just “go along” with others just to “get along” with others. “Tolerant” can’t become another word for “value free.” The martyrs knew the price of commitment to the truth. So do our brave men and women serving in our military in the defence of liberty and justice. We might consider our own commitment to the protection of innocent life. There are no simple answers to complex situations.

The commemoration of Simon the Zealot might prompt some serious thought on the thorny problem of living in an imperfect world without abandoning our faith or our responsibility to our neighbour. The other Apostle whose feast we celebrate along with Simon is one, again, about whose life we know very little, but whose name is hardly unfamiliar: Jude, or as he is sometimes referred to, Jude Thaddeus. We do know that he was the brother of James the Less. Biblical scholars believe that his mother was “Mary the wife of Clopas” who stood with the Virgin Mary beneath the cross on Calvary. He is certainly not Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Christ. His given name in Aramaic was probably Judas, but he is referred to as Jude or Jude Thaddeus to distinguish him from the traitor. There is scholarly dispute whether he is, in fact, the author of the epistle that bears his name. He preached the gospel in Edessa, Turkey, and joined the above-mentioned Simon in Persia, where they both received martyrs’ crowns. Jude has often been invoked as the patron of the impossible, of desperate cases. Tradition says that because of the likelihood of confusion with Judas Iscariot, petitioners would have to be nearly hopeless to turn to him in prayer. I am familiar with Jude from the myriad of novena pamphlets that often litter the church. They promise that the prayer “is never known to fail,” as long as the prayer is recited a required number of times for a specific number of days and the petitioner leaves copies of the novena in the church. I do not think any prayer’s efficacy is due to the number of times it is recited, nor the particular days on which it is offered. That can turn prayer, which is supposed to be an expression of faith in God’s free gift of grace and trust in His providence, into mechanical manipulation (read here, “magic”) by specifying certain numbers or days required for that prayer, and then the prayer is “never known to fail.” Not so. It is God who is never known to fail, not our technique.

**A PRAYER EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD KNOW** Eternal rest grant unto N., O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May he/she rest in peace. Amen. May his/her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**CONFESSIONS/SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** In the Sacrament of Penance, the love and mercy of the Lord Jesus is made manifest in the forgiveness of sins, thereby reconciling the penitent with God and with his Church. Confession is every Saturday from 5.00pm-5.40pm or by appointment.