

# Sunday Message

## THE WORD

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A • 8 February 2026 • Psalter Week 1

### SALT AND LIGHT

MATTHEW 5:13-16



In this passage, Jesus tells His followers that they are the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." Salt was valuable in Jesus' time – not just for flavour, but for preserving food. When He calls us salt, He means we are meant to bring goodness, preserve what is right, and add something special to the world.

Then Jesus calls us light. Light drives away darkness and helps people see clearly. We are to shine God's love and truth into the world through our words and actions.

But Jesus also warns that if salt loses its taste, or if a light is hidden, it's no longer helpful. This reminds us to keep our faith alive and active – not hiding it or letting it grow dull.

Finally, Jesus encourages us to let our good deeds shine so others can see them and praise God. Our faith isn't just for ourselves; it's a gift meant to bless others and bring glory to God.

This passage invites us to ask: How am I being salt and light in my daily life? Am I sharing God's love and truth with those around me? ■

#### DO

Today, look for one small way to brighten someone's day – with a kind word, a smile, or a helpful action – and remember that even little acts of love can shine God's light.



#### SAY

Lord Jesus,  
you call us to be salt and light in  
the world.  
Help us to bring your love and  
goodness to those around us.  
Keep our faith strong and our  
hearts shining bright,  
so others may see you through us.  
Amen.

#### REFLECT

**H**ave you ever tasted food that's completely bland? No salt, no flavour? Imagine if that's how we showed up in the world – dull, unnoticed, and without impact. Jesus tells us we are *the salt of the earth* – not just to exist, but to bring life and flavour to everything we touch.

And what about light? When was the last time you used a torch to find your way in the dark? Light is not just helpful – it's life-saving. Jesus says we are the light of the world, called to shine bright in places where people feel lost or afraid.

But here's the challenge: salt that loses its saltiness and light hidden under a bowl do no good. Are we sometimes hiding our faith? Are we holding back the love and kindness God wants us to share?

Today, think about one way you can add a little "salt" or "light" to your world. Maybe it's a kind word, a listening ear, or a simple act of generosity. Whatever it is, trust that even small things can make a big difference. ■

#### LEARN

We are called to be like salt and light – to bring goodness and hope into the world, not just for ourselves but to help others see God's love.

**ENTRANCE ANTIphon**

*O come, let us worship God  
and bow low before the God who made us,  
for he is the Lord our God.*

**COLLECT**

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. 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** Isaiah 58:6-10

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord:

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of wickedness,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover him,  
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?  
Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up speedily;  
your righteousness shall go before you;  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.  
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'  
If you take away the yoke from your midst,  
the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,  
if you pour yourself out for the hungry  
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,  
then shall your light rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be as the noonday.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Psalm 112(111):4-5. 6-7. 8a. 9. R. 4a

**R:** *A light rises in the darkness for the upright.*

Or **Alleluia.**

1. A light rises in the darkness for the upright;  
he is generous, merciful, and righteous.  
It goes well for the man who deals generously and lends,  
who conducts his affairs with justice. **R.**
2. He will never be moved;  
for ever shall the upright be remembered.  
He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart, he trusts in the Lord. **R.**
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear.  
Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His might shall be exalted in glory. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

I, when I came to you, brothers and sisters, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** John 8:12

**R:** *Alleluia, Alleluia.*

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

**R:** *Alleluia.*

**GOSPEL** Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

'You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

O Lord our God,  
who once established these created things  
to sustain us in our frailty,  
grant, we pray,  
that they may become for us now  
the Sacrament of eternal life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIphon**

*Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,  
his wonders for the children of men  
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,  
and the hungry he fills with good things.*

Or

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for  
righteousness,  
for they shall have their fill.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, who have willed that we be partakers  
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,  
grant us, we pray, so to live  
that, made one in Christ,  
we may joyfully bear fruit  
for the salvation of the world.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



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King Street  
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TF1 3AP

# THE BEACON

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Safeguarding: Moira Shrimpton M: 07540 723614

Parish Office: The Presbytery, King Street, Wellington, TF1 3AP E: [ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com) T: 01952 – 242423

Sat	7th	17:30	Bryin Eastlake, Charles Eastlake (RIP) 1st Anniversary	Wrekin College Chapel
Sun	8th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Mary's, Madeley
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		09:00	Our Parishioner's	Our Lady's
		11:00	Harry Gaughan (RIP)	Wrekin College Chapel
Mon	9th	<b>Ferial</b>		
Tues	10th	<b>St Scholastica</b>		St Patrick's Meeting Room
		12:00	Geraldine Motuzzi	
Wed	11th	<b>Ferial</b>		Our Lady's
		12:00	Michael Povey RIP	
Thurs	12th	<b>Ferial</b>		St Patrick's Meeting Room
		19:00	Carla Molina RIP	
Fri	13th	<b>Ferial</b>		St Patrick's Meeting Room
		09:30	Emily Sajin	
Sat	14th	17:30	Katie Gaughan & Family	Wrekin College Chapel
Sun	15th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Mary's, Madeley
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		09:00	Derek Mullinder (Anniversary Mass)	Our Lady's
		11:00	Rose Mary Walsh & Family	Wrekin College Chapel

## SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSON)

30 minutes before Masses

## RIP:

We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

## BAPTISMS:

Forms are available from the porch.

Please hand your form to Fr Ravi.

**Weekly Offerings:** Total: £1602.86- Standing Orders £705.87 (£542 Gift Aided), Envelopes £299.15

Loose Plate £567.84 (Not Gift Aided). Dona - £30. We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

## Bank details:

SRCDT 234025  
St Patrick Wellington  
Sort Code: 30-15-52  
Account Number: 54546760

SRCDT -234025  
Our Lady & St Luke Telford  
Sort Code: 30-15-52  
Account Number: 54582160



Please scan this QR code to  
donate to your parish  
online. You can register  
your card for gift aid to be  
added to every donation

## ROTAS (W, EM, C)

**Sat 5.30:** Vince & Veronica, Sherrel, Nigel & Bernadette **Next week:** Appurwa & Pansili, Gay, Anne & John

**Sun 9:** Katrina & Ria, Phillip, Bruce & Mick **Next week:** Elias & Laura, Rita, Laura & Edith

**Sun 11:** Oluchi & Adrian, Ewa, Diane & Collette **Next week:** Shamroon & Carmen, Jarmila, Kate & Geraldine

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

18<sup>th</sup> February 2026

10am: St Patrick's School (Parishioners welcome)

12 noon: Our Lady of the Rosary & St Luke

6pm: Mass in Polish – St Mary's Madeley

7pm: Wrekin College Chapel



## DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY NOTICE

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

**Livestreams will not be available during the refurbishment of St Patrick's**

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)

## **BISHOP MARK'S PASTORAL VISITATION:**

The Pastoral visitation of a bishop is a time of grace for any parish community. Bishop Mark will be visiting the Parish of Our Lady and St Patrick to encourage and support us in our mission. He will visit St Patrick's on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March and Our Lady of the Rosary and St Luke on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Bishop Mark will be visiting the two primary schools attached to our parish around these dates. Please keep this intention in your prayers.

## **1906 - 2026 - 120 YEARS OF ST PATRICK'S**

In preparation of the 120 years celebration St Patrick's will be undergoing refurbishment and will be temporarily closed from **2<sup>nd</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March** whilst the works take place.

The refurb will cost in the region of £25,000. Anybody who feels able to contribute towards this cost should let Fr Ravi know. Any donations can be given by cheque made out to St Patrick Wellington or paid directly into St Patrick's account (SRCDT-234025 St Patrick Wellington. Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account No. 54546760) and you should use the reference REFURB.

## **JUBILEE MASSES:** at St Patrick's Church

**Tuesday 17th March** at 7pm a special Reunion Mass for all those who have attended St Patrick's Primary School and BRJ. There will be refreshments afterwards in the meeting room.

**Saturday 21st March** 5:30pm, Mass will be dedicated to our deceased parishioners and priests who have served the parish.

**Sunday 22nd March** 11am Mass of Thanksgiving presided over by Right Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Shrewsbury.

## **WREKIN COLLEGE CHAPEL**

St Patrick's weekend Masses between 2<sup>nd</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March will take place at **Wrekin College Chapel, Sutherland Road, Wellington, Telford, TF1 3BH** at the same times as usual. Ash Wednesday Mass on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7pm, will also be held there. We return to St Patrick's church for regular masses on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March.

**RCIA:** Any adult wishing to be baptised or received into full communion in the Catholic Church are invited to participate in our faith-formation sessions every Thursday, starting with Mass at 7pm. They are invited to the Rite of Election at Shrewsbury Cathedral on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 2.45pm.

## **DESIGN A BOOKMARK COMPETITION**

We are inviting our young people to show off their creative talents. The theme is "OUR PARISH". Primary and secondary age categories. The 2 winners will get a small prize and their bookmark reproduced and distributed to parishioners. See poster for details.

**Deadline for return entries 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Friday 6th March, 11am at Wombridge Church, Wombridge Road, TF2 6HT. Based on resources produced by Nigerian women. All are welcome. There is also a free Parish lunch in the adjacent Parish Centre from 12.30pm that day: Attendees are very welcome to come along but numbers will be appreciated in advance. If you're intending to come to lunch - please let Pauline Heffernan know:- [paulineheffernan60@gmail.com](mailto:paulineheffernan60@gmail.com) or 07721 785224

## **LOURDES ROADSHOWS**

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Management Committee invites you to drop in to our roadshow to learn more about joining our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2026, as we celebrate our 75th annual

- **Saturday 07/03/26** - Saint Patrick's, Wellington, Telford, TF1 3AP - 12.30pm - 2pm

## **ECUMENICAL SERVICE - FEBRUARY**

Will be held on Monday 23rd February at 1.00pm at Holy Trinity Church Wrockwardine Wood, Church Road, TF2 7AH. There will be a Lenten theme. All are welcome to come along. For more information, please contact Pauline on 07721 785224 or via email [paulineheffernan60@gmail.com](mailto:paulineheffernan60@gmail.com)

## **NEW FOR LENT**

A course based on N T Wright resources: Faith Working Through Love.

Discover the wisdom of St Paul in directing early church communities to be models of Christian living. What can they teach us today, as we seek to live more fully, to serve others. Meet Christians from North East Telford: 4 Mondays in March: starts 2nd March: 1.30 - 3pm. Wrockwardine Wood Church, Church Road, TF2 7AH.

Please contact

Pauline Heffernan 07721 785224 or [paulineheffernan60@gmail.com](mailto:paulineheffernan60@gmail.com) OR  
Kerry Debenham on 01952 615367 or [admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk)

If you're not available during the day but are interested in evening sessions, please contact Pauline or Kerry for information.

## **LENT EXPLORE SESSION**

Sunday 22nd February, 1-3pm at Our Lady's Church, for young people aged 10-16

We are very fortunate to have Clare Williams coming down from the Diocesan Youth Mission Team to lead a session with our young people. There will be games, activities and a chance to explore some things about Lent. Please message or ring Carol so we know numbers 07722708402

## **NEWSLETTER NOTICES**

Please email any notices for future newsletters to [ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com) by 4pm on a Wednesday