International English-speaking Catholic Community, Parish of Luxembourg Notre-Dame 34 rue des Capucins, L-2011 Luxembourg tel: (+352) 661 127 962. Em: parish@catholic.lu

Thought for the week: 'The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment, and to thank the Lord for all that he gives us' "Le secret du bonheur est de vivre instant après instant, et de remercier le Seigneur de tout ce qu'il nous donne". Ste Jeanne Beretta Molla

Christmas Masses:

Sun 24 December: 11am Mass - <u>Belair</u>; 6.30pm Mass - <u>St Michel</u> (first Mass of Christmas)
Mon 25 December: 11am Christmas Day Mass - <u>Belair</u>. Please note - no evening Mass.

Sat/ Sun 30 -31 December - Weekend Masses as usual

Sat 6 January: no vigil Mass in English (Mass in French at 18.00 in Garden Chapel at St Alphonse).

Sun 7January: 11am Mass Belair; 6.30pm Mass St Michel.

UPDATES: www.catholic.lu - Parish Office - Please contact the office for all enquiries: (+352) 661 127 962 / parish@catholic.lu Office hours are 08:30 - 12:30 Mon - Fri.

Weekend Masses: Saturdays (Vigil Mass) 7.30pm, Sundays 11.00am and 6.30pm.

Livestreaming of Mass: The Sunday 11.00 Mass is live-streamed via our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stalphonseluxembourg/live

Advance notice for Confirmation programme: the next programme will start Feb 2024 for young people at school who will be at least 16 years old by 30 June 2025. More information in January.

Children's liturgy at the 11am Mass. Children of 3 years and above leave at the beginning of Mass with the catechists and return for the offertory. Parents are welcome to accompany their children.

Christian Meditation group: The group meets on line and in person - all are welcome. For further information telephone Marcella: 691435788.

Gift of Remembrance in a Mass: A number of Christmas Mass Bouquet cards (& Mass cards for other occasions) are available from the parish office, tel: 661 127 962.

Tea and coffee after Belair Mass: Please join us for refreshments after Mass: all donations received go to the Ilula Orphanage Program.

Baptisms and marriages: If you would like your son/daughter baptised, or you are planning to get married (please give at least 4 months notice for weddings), please contact the parish office.

Mass sheet - Please take home your copy of the Sunday Message.

Donations to the English-speaking Catholic Community: Please consider making a donation via bank transfer or even better, set up a monthly direct payment: Friends Engl. Cath. Comm. LU10 0019 5155 8196 2000.

Donations can also be made via your mobile using Digicash (payconiq) Thank you for all your donations - your generosity is much appreciated.



MASS SETTING: Mass of St Alphonse

OPENING HYMN: Christ, be our Light

 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
 Longing for hope, many despair.
 Your word alone has pow'r to save us,
 Make us your living voice.

- 3. Longing for food, many are hungry, Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, Shared until all are fed.
- 4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless, Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, Walls made of living stone.
- 5. Many are the gifts, many the people, Many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, Making your kingdom come.

Psalm 84: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy



PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS: Gift of finest wheat

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat, come give to us O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice; so when you call your family Lord, we follow and rejoice.

COMMUNION I: Shepherd me, O God

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

- God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
- Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

COMMUNION II: Open my eyes, Lord

- 1. Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see your face. Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see
- Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear your voice. Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear
- 3. Open my heart, Lord, help me to love like you. Open my heart, Lord, help me to love

RECESSIONAL: Guide me, O thou great redeemer

1. Guide me, O thou great redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty, Hold me with thy powerful hand; Bread of heaven, bread of heaven Feed me till I want no more; Feed me till I want no more.

- 2. With joyful lips we sing to you, our praise and gratitude, that you should count us worthy Lord, to share this heavenly food.
- 3. Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured? Do not one cup, one loaf declare our one-ness in the Lord?
 - Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
 - 4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.
 - 5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.
 - 4. I live within you, deep in your heart, O love I live within you, rest now in me.

And the first shall be last, and our eyes are opened, and we'll hear like never before. And we'll speak in new ways, and we'll see God's face

2. Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through: Strong deliverer, strong deliverer; Be thou still my strength and shield; Be thou still my strength and shield.

