# The Catholic Parish of St Luke

Benyon Grove, Orton Malborne, Peterborough. PE2 5XS

# MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

What are you most excited about in your life right now?
What's your biggest achievement?
What are you most proud of?
Tell us about your wife / kids!
How do you spend your free time?
What are your hobbies?

Our meeting on Thursday 7th September was attended by eight.

Welcome to our newest member **Paul Mitchell** 

Our spiritual topic was:

"They left everything and followed him"
Some good debate and discussion on service to the church and community and the sacrifice needed to make a commitment.

The evening finished with supportive conversation and a variety of suggestions to progress the fellowship.

This was discussed over a Korma Curry Supper accompanied with a beer.

Cheers!

## An important Gospel Reading on Sunday 10th September 2023

Matthew 18: 15-20

'If your brother listens to you, you have won back your brother' —*This is a reflection on our fellowship.* 

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

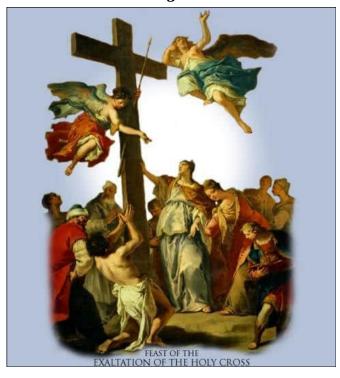
# NEXT THURSDAY'S MEETING **14th September 2023 at 7.30pm**

Spiritual Topic :

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

John 3:13-17

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved.



The Gospel for this Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross begins as Jesus is talking with Nicodemus.

Jesus tells Nicodemus:

"No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man, and just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up. Then everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

### Did Nicodemus understand what Jesus was saying?

### Or was he wondering what on earth Jesus was talking about?

However, Jesus continues:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world so that the world might be saved through him."

What a wondrous gift God and Jesus have given us and continue to give us!

The love God and Jesus have for us is beyond our comprehension.

On this feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, be invited to meditate on God's love for us.

Then also reflect on Jesus' gift to humankind.

He literally gave his life for us.

### However, do we truly appreciate his gift? Or do we simply take it for granted?

#### **Reflection:**

Good News: Jesus came to save the world, not to condemn it.

If there is a summary of the whole scripture, it must be this gospel passage especially John 3:16. No wonder this verse seems to be the most popular among believers. In fact, this verse can still be shortened into just "God's Love". Thus we can say that the bible is a novel or a story of God's love.

No one can indeed fathom the love of God. Man has turned away from Him yet He continued to chase him with love. Still, man continued in his rebellious ways. So He sent His only Son to suffer and die on the cross, the ultimate expression of His love. On that cross, sin and suffering was on full display. Yet on that same cross, salvation has come into the world.

We are invited not just to gaze upon the cross but to experience God's love and believe in His Son. It is the only way to be saved. On that wood, there is salvation. On that wood, the power of sin and death has been vanquished forever. That is why, no matter what suffering the world is in today, no matter what situation we are in, no matter what pain or malice or injustice we are experiencing, God's love will prevail.

Because of the cross of Christ, there is hope for mankind. There is hope for the world. There is hope for you and me. It is all because God's love is so immense. He gave His only Son to suffer and die so that everyone will be LIFTED UP to heaven and be reunited with the Father. We just have to believe.

Like Saint Paul, may we never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Galatians 6:14*)



#### SOCIAL SUPPER

Home made Vegetable & Lentil Soup with Bread Rolls

Home made Sausage Rolls and Veggie Pasties

Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks or Fruit Juice

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We look forward to meeting with you again THURSDAY 7.30pm Catholic Church of St Luke