



St Ralph
Sherwin

Today Rather Than Tomorrow

Monday 27th April

This week's theme is:

The Beatitudes

We gather with the Sign of the Cross.



BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT

WORD

From the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

“Blessed are those who know they are spiritually poor; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them! Blessed are those who mourn; God will comfort them! Blessed are those who are humble; they will receive what God has promised!”

Response

Let's think

The Beatitudes are some of Jesus' most important teachings. He taught them just as people were starting to follow him, they are how we should live and behave. The first three were all the opposite of what people thought a blessed person was. At the time they thought someone blessed by God was someone rich, happy and strong. Jesus invites us to be poor, that is to reject what the world sees as wealth. To mourn, that is to see the sadness of the world and not to ignore it. To be humble, is to not misuse your power over people. All these ways of living are rewarded greatly in heaven.

Let's talk

With the person beside you, pick one or more of these questions:

- How can we help end some of the sadness in the world?
- When have you used your talent, or power, to help someone else?

Mission Prayer

An opportunity for anyone to say what they would like to pray for today.

Lord Jesus,

Sometimes we can want complete control,
to be free from sadness, to be strong and rich,
teach us to trust in You and Your plan for us,
give us the opportunity this week to help others in need.

Amen



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Today Rather Than Tomorrow

Tuesday 28th April

This week's theme is:

The Beatitudes

We gather with the Sign of the Cross.



BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART

WORD

From the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God”

Response

Let's think

Today we have the next people who are blessed by God. The first group want righteousness, this is when everything is just, right and fair for all. Jesus says these people hunger and thirst for it. They see it as important as having food and drink. The next are those who forgive and help those in need. Some people see this as pointless, but Jesus says that those who are merciful will be forgiven too, and find help when they need it. The final one tells us that if we allow sin, hate or selfishness to grow in us it will stop us from seeing God. When we fill our heart with love for God and others, we will see him everywhere we look.

Let's talk

With the person beside you, pick one or more of these questions:

- Where in the world are people treated unfairly?
How can we help?
- Who is someone you need to forgive?

Mission Prayer

An opportunity for anyone to say what they would like to pray for today.

Loving God,

There are some many people in need,
there are people who treated unfairly, others who need to be
forgiven and others who need to be loved.

Open my eyes to see these people in need and show me what I
can do for them.

Amen



St Ralph Sherwin

Today Rather Than Tomorrow

Wednesday 29th April
Feast of: St Catherine of Siena

This week's theme is:

The Beatitudes

We begin with the Sign of the Cross.

WORD

*From the book of
Proverbs:*

‘Trust in the Lord with
all your heart, and do
not rely on your own
understanding.
In all things trust him,
and he will make
straight your paths.’



Be who God meant you to be
and you will set the world on
fire.

~ St. Catherine of Siena

AZ QUOTES

Response

Let's think

St Catherine lived out the beatitudes from a young age. By aged seven she decided to offer her life to serving God and loving his people. She would often give her family's food and clothes to the poor. She became one of the first religious sisters to travel round teaching and preaching; women of her time didn't normally do this at all. She stopped wars and even challenged the Pope to do a better job of leading the Church so he made her his greatest advisor. She is respected as one of the greatest Christian writers and teachers.

Let's talk

With the person beside you, pick one or more of these questions:

- St Catherine was an inspirational woman, which famous (or non-famous) women inspire you?
- What can we do to be like St Catherine in living out the beatitudes?

Mission Prayer

An opportunity for anyone to say what they would like to pray for today.

Lord Jesus,
St Catherine's lived out the beatitudes in so many different ways, she achieved far more than people thought was possible,
Give me faith to trust you and know that by living the way you want me to, I can have an incredible impact on the world.
Amen.



St Ralph
Sherwin

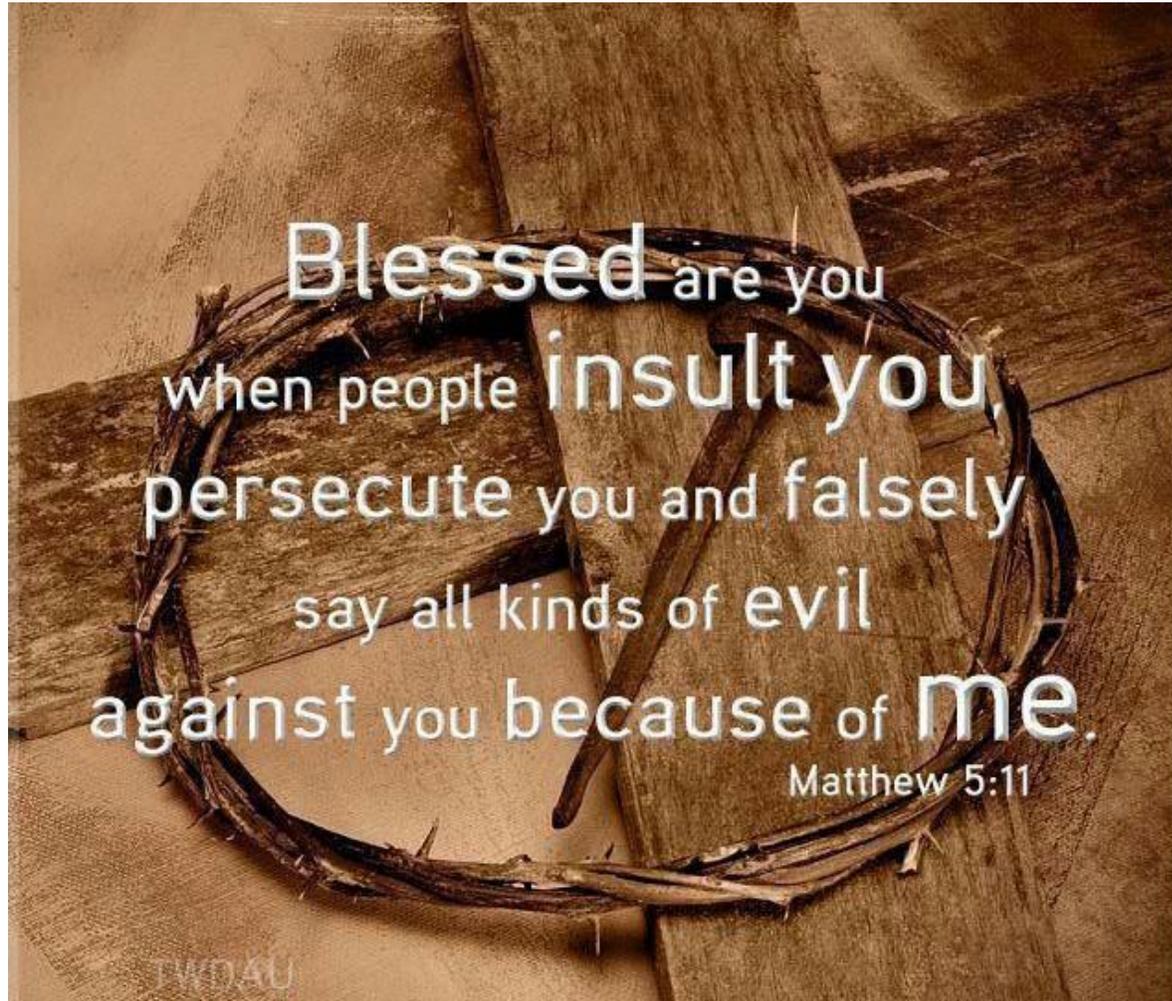
Today Rather Than Tomorrow

Thursday 30th April

This week's theme is:

The Beatitudes

We gather with the Sign of the Cross.



WORD

From the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew:

“Blessed are those who work for peace; God will call them his children! Blessed are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them! Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Be happy and glad, for a great reward is kept for you in heaven. This is how the prophets who lived before you were persecuted.”

Response

Let's think

All three of these beatitudes are about how we react to hate. It is quite easy to hold a grudge but harder to seek peace. It can be easy to give up when we are treated badly for doing the right thing. It can be hard to hold on to our faith and belief when we are made fun of. However when we keep going that is when we are most like Jesus. Being a peacemaker makes us a child of God, like Jesus. When we are treated badly for doing right we are like Jesus. When we hold on to our faith and don't give up, we will share in not only Jesus' struggles but in the joy of his victory.

Let's talk

With the person beside you, pick one or more of these questions:

- When have you acted as a peacemaker?
- What keeps you going when you feel like giving up?

Mission Prayer

An opportunity for anyone to say what they would like to pray for today.

Holy Spirit,
When we are met with hard times,
And we feel like giving up,
Give us the strength to keep doing what is right,
To ignore those who put us down and to know we are doing
your work.
Amen



St Ralph
Sherwin

Today Rather Than Tomorrow

Friday 1st May

Feast of: St Joseph the Worker

This week's theme is:

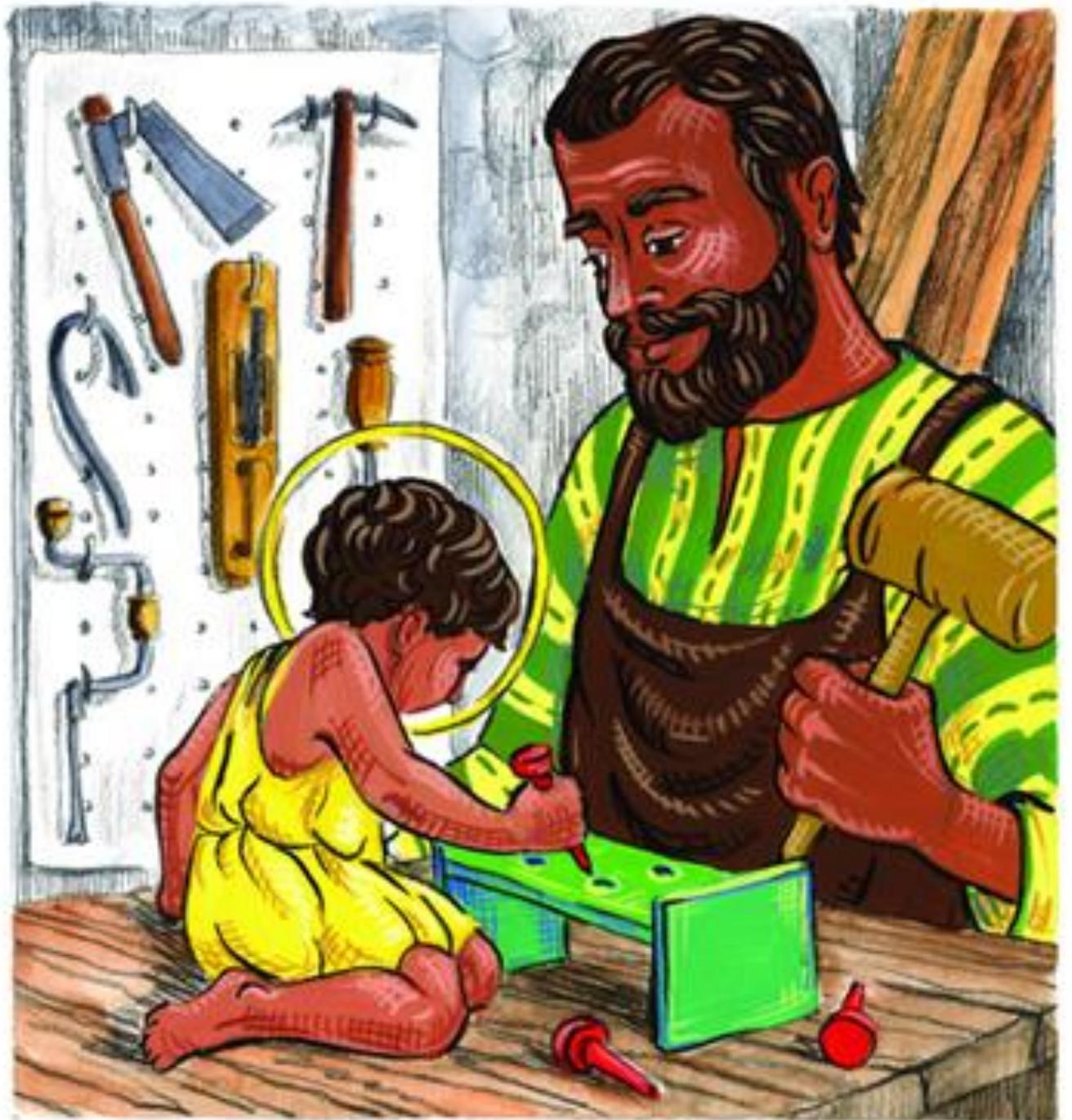
The Beatitudes

We gather with the Sign of the Cross.

WORD

*From St Paul's letter to the
Colossians:*

‘Whatever your work is, put
your heart into it as it were
for the Lord and not for
people, knowing that the
Lord will give you as reward
what he has kept for his
people. It is Christ the Lord
that you are serving’



Response

Let's think

Today we remember St Joseph as the patron saint of all workers. Joseph taught Jesus how to be a carpenter. Jesus spent more of his life as a carpenter than on his mission! Some people love their jobs, some people hate them, even at school we have work and tasks to do that we enjoy more than others. St Paul tells us that all our work is for God, he appreciates everything we do. The work we do today that is a struggle can be thought of as sharing with Jesus' work on the cross to save the world. We also remember all those key workers who put their lives at risk for us today.

Let's talk

With the person beside you, pick one or more of these questions:

- What tasks/work do you hate doing?
- What work would you like to do when you leave school?



St Joseph the Worker is one of the Patrons of our trust. St Joseph the Worker Parish in Burton, Our Lady and St Joseph Parish in Matlock and St Joseph's Primary in Matlock are all called after him. Happy Feast Day to them! We pray for them today and thank God for them.

Mission Prayer

An opportunity for anyone to say what they would like to pray for today.

Lord Jesus,

We offer all the work we do today to you,
The tasks we enjoy and the work that we find challenging.
Help us to know that all our work is in your honour,
Protect all key workers from this virus.

Amen