

**PARISH OF BLESSED EDMUND SYKES**  
**Two Churches: St. Nicholas & Our Lady of Good Counsel**  
**Parish Priest: Fr. Eugene McGillicuddy**  
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**20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YR. A)**  
**17th AUGUST 2014**  
*Welcome to our Parish Celebration of the Holy Eucharist*



**SUNDAY MASSES**

**Saturday** St. Nicholas 6.00pm Sarah Deacy  
**Sunday** St. Nicholas 9.30am The People of the Parish  
Our Lady's 11.00am Maura Togher

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION LAST WEEK**

St. Nicholas & Our Lady's £740.79  
Thank you for your generosity,



**DURING THE WEEK**

**Monday** St. Nicholas 9.00am Pat Hanrahan

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEXT WEEKEND**

6.00pm T. Burton, K. Murphy  
9.30am S. Gibbons, P. Diamond, D. Cassidy  
11.00am J. Lumley, T. Curry, M. O'Toole

**NO MORE MASSES DURING THE WEEK**

**Saturday** No morning Mass  
Confessions: 5.15 to 5.30pm and at other times by request  
Vigil St. Nicholas 6.00pm Kevin & Michael Marmion

**READERS NEXT WEEKEND**

6.00pm To be arranged  
9.30am S. Flaherty  
11.00am E. Coates, C. Healey

**TODAY'S GOSPEL** - Jesus' initial reaction to the woman who is clearly desperate and seeking help not for herself but for her demon-possessed daughter. It is hard to understand why Jesus appears to simply ignore her plea for help. Jesus reveals the reason for his lack of response to the woman's need: 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Jesus' primary mission was to gather all the faithful together into God's kingdom so that they would become a people covenanted to God and each other and so be a light to the nations (Isa. 49: 1-6). He says: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs' (v.26). Jesus is drawing on a popular stereotype used by the Jews in contempt of Gentiles. He is continuing his theme of his mission to minister to the Jewish nation. In her response the woman reveals no resentment, just profound faith: 'Yes Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters table' (V.27). Identifying immediately her 'great faith' Jesus duly rewards her with her daughter's healing. We must ask the Holy Spirit to keep increasing our measure of faith. As Blessed John Henry Newman once said: I may love by halves, may obey by halves; I cannot believe by halves; either I have the faith or I have it not.

**COFFEE EVENTS** - There are two coming up in the near future: 5/6<sup>th</sup> September for St. Nicholas Tanzania Fund (we would be grateful for baking) and 11/12<sup>th</sup> October for CAFOD.

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED THIS WEEK** - None

**300 CLUB** - £20 273 L. Brooks, £10 239 Brian Smith, £5 347 Shevlin, £5 17 Steve the bus driver.

**SUMMER TIME** sees quite a few changes in our Mass comings and goings and attendances. Our priest takes his annual Summer holiday and we are very grateful to our supply priest - usually Fr. Gerry - who comes along to help us out. A big drop in our weekly Mass collection is also very noticeable. If we want to attend Mass during the week we find ourselves searching for a morning Mass. This is not a grumble but just another way of filling the Sunday Bulletin !!!!

**Thought for the week**  
**Act as if what you do makes a difference,**  
**it does**

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