

Homily

31 Sunday (A)

5 November 2017

“Remember, remember the 5th November.
Gunpowder, treason and plot!”

Back in 1605 we Catholics were definitely the enemy within. A group of radicalised young Catholics wanted to blow up Parliament and blow up the King.

God is rather cross with us in today’s readings as well – especially the priests, the leaders, the people in charge.

“You do not listen.”

“You have strayed from the way.”

“You have destroyed the Covenant” – the special relationship with God – you have ignored it and broken it.

“I’m going to send a curse on you”, says God. This is scary stuff.

We priests like to think that we are important. Being treated as important, having the best seats and having a special title and greeting.

We like to throw our weight around and keep control of everything. And, it’s not just priests – it’s teachers and headteachers, deacons and catechists as well – indeed anyone who thinks he is rather important.

So, what is the message?

“Hope in the Lord....set your soul in silence and peace.” Only God can save us. Only God can make us happy.

It’s not being powerful that matters, or being clever or successful. What matters is setting our souls in silence and peace.

“Remember the 5th November.....”

Hope, silence and peace.

Fr Michael