Corpus Christi & St. Herbert's

PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY
NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST – FR LAWRENCE IMOISILI CM

CHADDERTON & HOLLINWOOD

THE WORD THIS WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR C **20 March 2022**

"The man who thinks he is safe must be careful he does not fall." This is the theme of this Sunday: it underlines the need for repentance, which is the focus of our Lenten journey in Year C. Jesus, in the Gospel, uses two recent events in order to illustrate his point about sin and repentance - there is a price to be paid for sin, but there is a way of avoiding it: if we repent, we will have salvation and a new and real freedom. This idea is emphasised in the parable, where we see a tree not being condemned immediately, but given a chance to change and produce fruit. So are we. This links in with the two other readings, which also talk about escape - the escape of Israel from Egypt. This is to be a warning for us, as Saint Paul says: if we are Christians, we must live as Christians, and be aware of the need to watch our lives and the direction they are taking.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, help us never to abandon your ways. As you have loved and shown us your mercy, may we sincerely express our love for God by loving our neighbour and being merciful to them. Jesus, King of Divine Mercy, we trust in you.

2. READINGS

First: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15 - Moses and the burning bush - God's promise to deliver them. I am who I am - this is my name for all generations.

Psalm: Psalm 102 - The Lord is compassion and love / My soul give thanks to the Lord / It is he who forgives your guilt / The Lord does deeds of justice / The Lord is compassion and love.

Second: I Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 - Remember how the people under Moses were guided by a cloud - the one who thinks he is safe must be careful not to fall.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 - Repent or you will perish - the parable of the fig tree, giving it one more chance.

3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE – REFLECTION ON THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT: This Sunday, the third Sunday of Lent, is also St. Herbert's feast day. St Herbert was an Anglo-Saxon priest and hermit who lived on the small St Herbert's Island in Derwentwater, Cumbria. St Herbert was altogether a man of prayer. His life of solitude allowed him to spend time in prayer and pass his days in devotion to God.

Prayer is an important part of Lent as we encounter God through prayer. We can communicate with God personally or by praying together which unites us as a community. By offering prayers for the relief of others we are sharing their burdens.

During this time of unrest and war in Ukraine, let us reflect on some of the words in Pope Francis' Prayer of Peace

Pope Francis' Prayer of Peace

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. … But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: 'Never again war!'

Lord, of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace.

Amen.

Stay with us, Lord on our journey.

4. ST HERBERT'S FEAST DAY: – 20 MARCH 2022: I would like to wish you all a very happy feast day to all parishioners. St Herbert pray for us.

5. BAPTISMS: We welcome into the Divine Mercy Parish community Hugo Colin Hovington, Cian John Cooper and Rowan Francis Cooper, who were baptized last Sunday at St Herbert's Church.

6. HOPE IN THE FUTURE – HOLY HOUR PRAYERS FOR PEACE: Bishop John will lead a Holy Hour to pray for peace in Ukraine at the Cathedral this Sunday, 20 March at 2:30pm. Parishioners are welcome to join in this time of prayer either in person or online at https://salfordcathedral.co.uk/

7. CAFOD – FAMILY FAST DAY LENT APPEAL: Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Lent Appeal. Your generous gifts will ensure that CAFOD's local experts, like Sister Anthonia in Sierra Leone, can support families with training in growing and making healthy food so that children can grow up big and strong. You can still donate on the CAFOD website www.cafod.org.uk/lent to raise vital funds to tackle extreme hunger and its causes. Thank you.

8. DAILY CONFESSIONS DURING LENT AT THE HIDDEN GEM: During the Season of Lent a priest will be available each day for confession and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's, the Hidden Gem, Mulberry St. Please consult the Hidden Gem parish website (hiddengem.me.uk) for the times of confession (there is an hour in the morning each day and also an hour in the afternoon on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays).

9. ALTAR SERVERS AT ST HERBERT'S: We hope to have Altar Servers back in St Herbert's Church for Easter. If you wish to do this role (need to have made 1st Communion), please come to the meeting in St Herbert's on Monday 28th March at 6pm or contact me, Trish, on 07947 660389.

10. GIFT AID ENVELOPES: This year's new envelopes can be collected from the back of each church this weekend.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 376; Offertory: 557; Communion: 538, 681; Recessional: 307.

ST HERBRT'S: Entrance: 513; Offertory: 148; Communion: 334, 419; Recessional: 131.

11. CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2022: Dear Students (and Parents), I have the great pleasure of inviting you onto this year's Confirmation preparation programme. Our hope is that you and your family will grasp this opportunity, leading to a wonderful celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation at 3pm, Saturday, 4rd June 2022, the vigil of Pentecost, at St Patrick's Church, Oldham.

The team has remained realistic in terms of planning the programme. Determined to avoid 'tuition overkill' the programme consists of: one (very important) introductory meeting for parents, followed by six two-hour sessions for the Year 8 candidates. The sessions are also open to those didn't get the opportunity last year for whatever reason.

Please give candidates name and parent/Carer's details to your Parish Priest before **Monday, 4th April**.

Wednesday 6th April: Parents Meeting (6-7pm),
Wednesday 13th April: 1st Student Session (6-8pm)
Wednesday 27th April: 2nd Student Session (6-8pm,)
Wednesday 4th May: 3rd Student Session (6-8pm)
Wednesday 11th May: 4th Student Session (6-8pm)
Wednesday 18th May: 5th Student Session (6-8pm)
Wednesday 25th May: 6th Student Session (6-8pm) All meetings will take place at St. Edward's Church, Lees. Fr Callum Brown.

12. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: This week our youngest children in Corpus Christi, Duckling Class, joined Kingfisher Class to lead the Lenten Mass in Church. Their theme was 'The Fishers of Men' with special mention of St Patrick on his feast day.

We also held our parent consultation days for families. It was lovely for the teachers to spend time with families, share the wonderful work their children have done and to discuss the progress they are making.

13. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE: We pray for the retired priests of our Diocese, in thankfulness for their lives of devoted ministry. May they continue to know the joy of the Lord as their strength.

14. SUNDAY SMILE

Three boys in the school playground were bragging about their dads. One said, "My dad's a musician. He scribbles a few words, calls it a song and they pay him £50." "So what!", said the second boy, "my dad's a poet. He scribbles a few words, calls it a poem and they pay him £100." "That's nothing," said the third boy, "my dad's a vicar. He scribbles a few words, calls it a sermon and it takes four people to collect all the money!"

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY:	Both churches closed.
TUESDAY:	**Corpus Christi:** Stations of the Cross at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.30 pm.
WEDNESDAY:	**St Herbert's**: Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
THURSDAY:	**Corpus Christi**: Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am
FRIDAY:	**St Herbert's:** Stations of the Cross at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
SATURDAY:	**Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 5.00 pm; Mass at 5.30 pm
SUNDAY:	**Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am
	St Herbert's: Private Prayer 10.30 am; Mass at 11.00 am

CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS ON REQUEST

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo

Special Intentions: Sr. Agnes, Colette McLoughlin, Special Intention Mass.
Lately Dead: Generosa Flores
RIP: Lily Kearns
Anniversary: Anna Rolfe (1st anniversary), Harry Lawless, Tony Robinson

PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish:
David Roberts, Agnes Conroy, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, Jack Clark, Jean Allen, Dorothy Buckley, Tony Mulherin, Nora Hickey, Sheila Cavey, Nancy Pinto, Mrs H Fallas, Anthony McDermott, Beryl Henderson, Jean Winterbottom, Maxine Bennett, Dominic Boardman, Angela Fairgrieve, Cath Carrol, Jack Hulme, Peter Wooldridge, Nikki Winnard, Pauline Powell, Phillip Lees, Andrew Lees, Mrs Lewandowski, Mary O'Connor.

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ARE YOU…

New to the Parish?
Know someone who is sick or in hospital?
Can you help the parish or us you?
Like a visit from the priest?

Please speak to Fr Lawrence after mass or at any convenient time.