

THE WORD THIS WEEK

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR C

3 April 2022

There is a logical development in the readings this Sunday: in the Old Testament, God asks us to look forward to the "new deed he will do", when he will put "water in the wilderness"; we then see the new deed, which Paul talks about, to be the "supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus", and sharing the "power of his resurrection"; so who is this Jesus, and how is he "water in the wilderness"? It is because he brings hope for the future and forgiveness of our sins, as the Gospel story relates. This Sunday's readings are there for our encouragement, to help us look forward to Easter, and the meaning of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection: that meaning is Reconciliation and a new creation (as we heard last week). We are driven on through Lent by a vision of the marvels that God has worked, and that God will work for us.

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: Isaiah 43: 16-21 - The Lord says ... I am making a road in the wilderness, ... rivers in the wild to give my chosen people water.

Psalms 125 - What marvels the Lord worked for us, indeed we are glad / When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage / Deliver us O Lord / They go out full of tears.

Second: Philippians 3:8-14 - Nothing can happen that will outweigh the advantage of knowing Christ my saviour - I have accepted loss of everything for the him.

Gospel: Luke 8: 1-11 - The woman caught in adultery.

3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Lent is a time for forgiveness and reconciliation. Last week the parable of the Prodigal Son reminded us of the Forgiving Father. God our Father constantly seeks us out to reconcile us to himself. Pope Francis reminds us that:

'There is no sin that God cannot pardon. All we need to do is ask for forgiveness.'

However, if we are to receive God's endless mercy, we too must be prepared to forgive. As in the words of the Lord's prayer: *'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'*

Forgiveness, however, is not always easy. We can be quick to judge others for their wrong doings and show resentment, without taking time to recognise our own failings. But God sent His Son, Jesus to show us the way.

In today's gospel Jesus gives us an example of showing love and forgiveness rather than judging and resenting others.

As Jesus said to the Scribes and Pharisees who brought a woman to be stoned for her sins,

'If there is one of you who has not sinned let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' (John 8:7)

When everyone had walked away, Jesus said to the woman, *'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin anymore.'* (John 8:11)

an we follow the example of Jesus, not judging others but, rather, finding it in our hearts to love and forgive however difficult it may be?

*God our Father, help us to grow closer to you this Lent.
Grant us your mercy so that we can always forgive, even
when it is difficult for us to do so.
Stay with Lord on our journey.*

4. LENTEN DEANERY MASS – TUESDAY, 5 APRIL 2022

The Lenten Deanery Mass will be held at St Herbert's Church on Tuesday, 5 April at 7.30 pm. Refreshments available after Mass in the Parish Centre. There will, therefore, be no Stations of the Cross or Mass at Corpus Christi.

5. WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

The White Flower Appeal last weekend raised £210.35. Thank you very much for your generosity. Neil Baldwin.

6. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING

Come and join us for our Monthly Coffee Morning - this Sunday 3rd April, after the 9.30am Mass. Everybody Welcome!

7. CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Good Friday morning at 10.00 am at St Herbert's Church. Come at 9.30 am if you want to dress up. All welcome.

8. FORMATIONS SERIES: Fr Gerard Kelly – Personal Encounter with oration Series: Fr Gerard Kelly - Personal Encounter with Jesus

*Wednesday 27th April 2022, 7:30pm – 9:00pm
Cathedral Centre, Salford, M3 6DP and via Zoom.*

Throughout Stage Four of our Hope in the Future journey, we will have several opportunities to explore our faith and role as missionary disciples through our formation series. On Wednesday 27 April 2022, Fr Gerard Kelly will lead a reflection about having a Personal Encounter with Jesus. Tea and Coffee will be available from 7:00pm. Following the talk there will be chance to ask questions.

To register, please visit

www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/personal-encounter-with-jesus/

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 731; Offertory: 801
Communion: 500,470; Recessional: 757.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 731; Offertory: 516;
Communion: 724, 256; Recessional: 286.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

9. SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Upcoming events:

24 April: Divine Mercy Feast Day buffet in St Herbert's Parish Centre

20 May: Dinner Dance with the Singing Pilot (See Michael McIntyre star of the show on YouTube)

12 June: Summer BBQ at Corpus Christi.

More details to follow.

10. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St. Augustine, Manchester, with Fr. Michael Deas, their parish priest, and the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Wilfrid's Primary School. May they show to others the gentle liberating mercy of God.

11. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi:

This week our children in Wren and Owl Class led the Lenten Mass in Church - their theme based on having 'hope and belief' this Lent. The children were amazing and they delivered a very reverent Mass for Fr Lawrence and the parishioners. Thank you to the staff for preparing the children.

Mrs Gifford delivered a beautiful Lenten assembly about temptation and talked to the children about choices they make, especially during Lent and how they can make the right choices.

On Friday, our Reception children came dressed to school as someone or something they aspire to be. It was lovely to see all the hopes and dreams they have at such a young age. They looked amazing. Thank you to our families for supporting this day.

We would like to welcome our parish members to our Easter Passion Play on **Monday 11th April 2022 at 10am** and to the Stations of the Cross (made by the children) on **Wednesday 13th April at 9am.**

Parishioners can enter via the parish hall entrance.

12. SUNDAY SMILE

A vicar noted for his extremely lengthy sermons noticed a parishioner get up and go out while he was still speaking. The man returned just before the end of the Service. Afterwards, the vicar asked him politely where he had gone. "I went to get a haircut," the man replied. "But why didn't you do that before the Service?" the vicar queried. "Well," the man said, "I didn't need one then."

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed.

TUESDAY: **St Herbert's: Lenten Deanery Mass at 7.30 pm**

NO STATIONS OF THE CROSS OR MASS AT CORPUS CHRISTI

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

Lateley Dead: Eileen Roach

RIP: . Becki McEvilly Rendell.

Anniversary: Fr Vincent Cavey (First Anniversary), Ian Bostick, Bertha Whitworth

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.



0161 624 2258



divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com



@divinemercuryoldham



Corpus Christi RC Church, 8 Derby Street, OL9 7HX



St Herbert's RC Church, 148 Broadway OL9 0JY

www.divinemercuryoldham.org

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.