

**THE WORD THIS WEEK**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**29 January 2023**

Last week we heard Saint Matthew describing the beginnings of Jesus's public ministry. This week Saint Matthew begins the most important summary of the proclamation of the kingdom of God - what we refer to as the 'Sermon on the Mount.' This great collection of Jesus's teachings begins with the Beatitudes - the Charter of the Kingdom. It is essential to understand these, if we are to understand what we will read in Saint Matthew during the rest of this year: the key, as underlined by the First Reading, is that the values of this world are not the values of the Kingdom of God - the Kingdom will see things turned upside down: happiness and blessing belong to those whom this world would ignore or mistreat. If we truly wish to live out the Gospel, we would do well to reflect on the virtues laid out in this familiar passage.

**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: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13** - Seek the Lord all you humble of the earth ... in your midst I will leave a humble and lovely people.

**Psalm 145** - How happy are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven / It is the Lord who keeps faith forever / It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind / It is the Lord who loves the just.

**Second: I Corinthians 1:26-31:** God chose what is foolish by human reckoning ... God has made members of Christ Jesus and by doing so has become our wisdom, virtue, holiness and freedom.

**Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12** - The Beatitudes - happy are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE:** On this Caritas Sunday we pray for the work of Caritas Diocese of Salford which seeks to support the needy and vulnerable across our Diocese. May our prayers and support help them express the Beatitudes in their service of others.

**4. FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FR D O'KANE (RIP):** The arrangements for Fr O'Kane's funeral are as follows:

**Wednesday, 8 February:** Vigil Mass at St Herbert's Church at 7.00 pm – Reception into the church

**Thursday, 9 February:** Requiem Mass at St Herbert's at 12.00 noon, followed by internment at Chadderton Cemetery.

**5. ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** There will be a meeting in the Presbytery at Corpus Christi Church, at **6.30 pm on Saturday 28th January** for all those interested in joining the SVP group in our parish.

**6. WHITE FLOWER APPEAL:** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual WHITE FLOWER APPEAL after each Mass this weekend 28/29 January. Please be as generous as you can to

help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers. Thank you.

**7. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING:** Our monthly Coffee Mornings will start again on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February after the 9.30 am Mass. Teas, Coffee and Home-Made Cakes. Everybody Welcome!!

**8. PROPOSED PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLAND, KESWICK - Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Details:** Leave by coach from St. Herbert's Church 8.30am. Short stop at Tebay Services on route to Keswick. Celebrate mass on the edge of Derwent Water overlooking St Herbert's Island. Free time for lunch & visit to Keswick market before setting off to return at 4pm.

Everyone welcome. We would especially encourage any families and anyone who has not experienced this wonderful spiritual journey previously.

**Price** between £14-£15 for adults & family tickets will be available (price dependent on numbers.)

Any Divine Mercy Parish members who are interested in the above, please add your name, number in your party and telephone number to the list at the back of each church or ask the Divine Mercy Social Committee for more details.

**9. CARITAS SUNDAY:** A reminder that this Sunday - 29<sup>th</sup> January - we will be celebrating Caritas Sunday. This date is an opportunity for your parish to reflect on the social action work which has taken place in your local communities over the last year. It's a way to find out more about the work of Caritas Salford across our diocese, and to hold a collection or donate in support of our diocesan charity's work locally. More people than ever are experiencing poverty, isolation, homelessness and disadvantage in our Diocese, so thank you in advance for your kindness and support. Donation envelopes are available at the back of each church.

**10. PARENT/TODDLER GROUP:** takes place every Thursday in St Hebert's Parish Centre from 1.00 pm – 2.45 pm. £1.00. All welcome. **Please note:** Playgroup will be closed on 9 February and 16 February. It will reopen on 21 February.

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 110; Offertory: 604, 175; Communion: 681, 446; Recessional: 297.

**ST HERBERT'S:** Entrance: 557; Offertory: 175; Communion: 418, 511; Recessional: 828.

**11. SCHOOL NEWS**

**Corpus Christi:** Thank you to our parish family for their kind words about our faith life representatives that supported the launch of Stage 5 Hope in the Future last week. We were extremely proud of all the children.

This week, our Reception classes welcomed their families into school for their stay and play sessions. It was lovely to have so many families join us and share learning experiences with their child.

As mentioned last week, there are now two boxes from our Laudato Si team. These boxes are for donating bottle lids and for recycling old, used batteries. Thank you for your help in supporting our Laudato Si team. The bottle lid box will be at the back of Church for a number of weeks until we collect enough lids for our planned project. As for the battery box, we hope to keep that for the foreseeable and continue our mission for helping families recycle batteries in the correct, safe manner.

**St Herbert's:** The week began with the launch of Stage 5 Hope in the Future. The children took part in various parts of the Mass with great confidence. It was lovely to

see them actively involved Key Stage 2 has had a busy week. Upper Key Stage 2 had a topic day all about Fair Trade. They learnt about sustainability, fairness and quality for the farmers and for shoppers, Fair Trade means high quality, ethically produced products. In Lower Key Stage 2 they learnt all about the digestive system. As you can imagine they were eager to learn how the food is digested! We will continue to keep you all in our prayers.

**. 13. SUNDAY SMILE**

*St. Thomas the Dubious is an excellent school, but even so its students sometimes make strange mistakes in their exams. Here is a selection (1):*

The inhabitants of ancient Egypt were called mummies. They built the Pyramids in the shape of a huge triangular cube. The Magna Carta provided that no free man should be hanged twice for the same offence.

William Shakespeare lived at Windsor with his merry wives, writing tragedies, comedies, and errors.

King John ground the people down under heavy taxes.

A fairy tale is something that never happened a long time ago.

Handel was half-German, half-Italian, half-English. He was very large.

To the exam question: What's the difference between ignorance and apathy, one student wrote, "I don't know and I don't care!"

**WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

<b>MONDAY:</b>	Both churches closed.
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm.
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am; <b>Corpus Christi:</b> Requiem Mass at 1.00 pm for Katharina Lenarcic (RIP)
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am <b>Corpus Christi:</b> Requiem Mass at 12.15 pm for Frank Hunt (RIP)
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 5.00 pm; Mass at 5.30 pm
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am <b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer 10.30 am; Mass at 11.00 am

**CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS ON REQUEST**

**MASS REQUESTS**

**Missa pro populo**  
**Special Intention:** For the Sick  
**Lately Dead:** Fr D O'Kane, Martin Francis Ward, Kathleen Neary  
**RIP:** Holy Souls in Purgatory, John Leeming  
**Anniversary:** John Southworth, Trish Thompson, Frank Turner  
**Birthday Anniversary:** Edward Coonan, Mary Morgan  
**Birthday:** Peter Fitzpatrick

**PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish:  
 John McCarthy, Gerard Healey, Mary Gowran, Margaret Lawless, Edith Hamilton, David Roberts, Agnes Conroy, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, Jean Allen, Dorothy Buckley, Nora Hickey, Sheila Cavey, Nancy Pinto, Mrs H Fallas, Anthony McDermott, Jean Winterbottom, Maxine Bennett, Dominic Boardman, Angela Fairgrieve, 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.