

THE WORD THIS WEEK

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

15 January 2023

There is no break between Christmas and Ordinary Time - one flows almost seamlessly into the other through the Baptism of Jesus. We ended our Christmas Season thinking about the 'revelation' of the Son of God - people realising who this 'Jesus of Nazareth' actually was - and this continues today, as we interject a passage from Saint John before we begin our weekly reading through Saint Matthew's Gospel. New Year is about beginnings, and as we return to the beginning of Our Lord's public ministry there is a sense of something exciting about to happen - even though we know the story, we dive into it once more, like returning to a favourite novel or film. So it is with joy that we stand in the country of the river Jordan and recognise Jesus of Nazareth as the Chosen One of God, who offers himself to do God's work.

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 49: 3, 5-6 - You are my servant, Israel ... I will make you light to the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Psalms 39: Here I am Lord, I come to do your will / I waited, I waited for the Lord / You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings / In the scroll of the book it stands written / Your justice I have proclaimed.

Second: I Corinthians 1:1-3: Paul sends greetings to the church in Corinth ... who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere ... for [Christ] is their Lord no less than ours.

Gospel: John 1:29-34 - John sees Jesus and recognizes that he is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world and says that he saw the Spirit come down on Jesus like a dove when he (John) baptized Jesus. This is how he knows that Jesus is the Chosen One of God.

3. FR DAVID O'KANE RIP

Parishioners will have been saddened to hear of the death last weekend of Fr. David O'Kane, Parish Priest of St. Herbert's from 1975 to 1988. He had just celebrated his 90th Birthday and had been in ill health for some time. A person of great energy and immense organisational skills, he came to St. Herbert's at a decisive period in its development. He was responsible for re-ordering the church in accordance with the recommendations of the Second Vatican Council, introduced the Ministers of the Eucharist, began the pilgrimages to St. Herbert's Island and the annual Cemetery Sunday Blessing of Graves. The opening of the new Parish Centre in 1981, was one of his finest achievements, whilst it was Fr. O'Kane's privilege to lead over 1,000 people from the parish to the Papal Mass at Heaton Park, on the occasion of the visit of Pope John Paul II. In putting the parish on a firm financial footing, he will be remembered for the many successful Bonanza Draws and Donkey Derbys, the latter becoming part of the local social scene. Above all, he encouraged all parishioners to offer their various talents and services to their church community, but would never expect anyone to carry out a task he wasn't prepared to do himself.

May He Rest in Peace, and Rise in Glory. Michael Lawson

4. HOPE IN THE FUTURE FAMILY MASS: We are celebrating Stage 5 of our Hope in the Future project with Masses at both churches next Sunday (22nd January). Mass will be a Family Mass with participation from pupils from all three of our parish schools. Parishioners are encouraged, where possible, to attend Mass as a family. Hope in the Future Stage 5 emphasises the need for us to 'Share the Hope' and reach out as a community by showing compassion and care for those in need. We are also asked to reflect on our role as stewards of the earth that God has created for us.

5. HOPE IN THE FUTURE FORMATION DAY: The diocese is running a 'Formation Day' for those who want an opportunity to learn more about the needs of their community and how best to respond. The session for our Deanery will be on 18th March and parishioners are encouraged to attend then. However, if you are interested but cannot attend on that date other sessions will run on 21st January and 18th February. Further information and registration details are on the poster at the back of each church.

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

7. USED STAMPS COLLECTION: Many thanks to those parishioners who saved their stamps over the Christmas period and brought them to our churches. They will now be sent off to the two charities, Alzheimer's Disease and Parkinson's Disease.

8. WORLD YOUTH DAY – LAST FEW PLACES REMAINING: There are still a few places left to join us for World Youth Day 2023! Join our Salford Youth Ministry team between 31 July and 7 August as they make their way to Lisbon to join other young Catholics from around the world in a joyous celebration of faith, culminating in an unforgettable Mass with Pope Francis himself! Find out more and register online at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wyd-2023>

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 647; Offertory: 376, 443;

Communion: 538, 447; Recessional: 147.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 736; Offertory: 366;

Communion: 662, 500; Recessional: 132.

9. MONTHLY MASSES FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD: A series of monthly Masses for Vocations is set to return this month to help inspire conversation and prayer around vocations to the priesthood. Our first Mass will take place at 7pm on Friday 20th January at St Bernard's RC Church, Burnage, Manchester, M19 1DR. All are very welcome to attend. To find out more about these Masses, please visit <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/monthly-vocations-masses/>

10. PARENT/TODDLER GROUP: reopens on Thursday, 12 January at 1.00 pm in St Herbert's Parish Centre. All welcome.

11. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: Happy New Year to our parish family. We hope you have had a great Christmas with your loved ones. This week the staff and children returned with great enthusiasm for the busy half term ahead. The children have been engrossed in all their new topics of learning and are excited for the half term ahead. Our faith life groups of Pupil Chaplains, Mini Vinnies

and our Laudato Si' group have been actively working hard this week, set goals and plans for the rest of the year.

St Herbert's: Happy new year to you all and we hope you had a lovely Christmas. It's lovely to be back with the children. This week key stage 1 has had a topic day on Castles. We had lots of princesses, princes and knights walking around school. We would like to say a huge thank you for all your support in the giving of food for our families who are finding life a little difficult. We are continuing to provide food for them so any donations again will be gratefully received. As a school family we will keep you in our prayers. Stay with us Lord on our journey.

12. SUNDAY SMILE

A Sunday School teacher asked her class, "Who knows the name of Jesus' mother?" Every hand in the class shot up and the children answered in unison, "Mary". "Well done." continued the teacher, "Now who can tell me what Jesus' father's name was?" A small boy's hand shot up immediately and he said, "Verge." Rather puzzled, the teacher enquired, "Where did you get that from?" "Miss, it tells you in the Bible. You know, Verge 'n' Mary."

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed.
TUESDAY: **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm.
St Herbert's: Funeral Mass at 1.00 pm for John Dale (RIP)
WEDNESDAY: **St Herbert's:** Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am;
St Herbert's: Funeral Mass at 12.00 noon for Beryl May Henderson (RIP)
THURSDAY: **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am
St Herbert's: Funeral Service at 1.00 pm for Jeffrey Thomas Ollerhead (RIP)
FRIDAY: **St Herbert's:** Private Prayer 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

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo
Special Intention: Sr Francis, Sr Maura, Sr Esther
Lately Dead: Fr D O'Kane, Jeffrey Ollerhead, Martin Francis Ward, John Dale, Beryl May Henderson,
RIP: Alan Maymon
Anniversary: Caroline Fanning, John McDermott, Celine Connolly, Norah Carter
Birthday Thanksgiving: Shawn Abhulimen
Birthday Anniversary: John Southworth, William Ambrose

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.