

THE WORD THIS WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

22 January 2023

We will spend most of the Sundays of the coming year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel (like the others) has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment. Today is a perfect example. 'Zebulun and Naphthali' was an old name for the area round Capernaum by the side of the Lake of Galilee, a busy fishing and trading area, with many Gentile towns and settlements: it is here, rather than in the dangerous town of Nazareth, that Jesus 'settles' and begins his ministry. This is where the proclamation of the Kingdom of God begins, as was foretold, and the first followers are invited to join Jesus.

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 8:23 - 9:3 - The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light ... you have made their gladness greater.

Psalm 26: The Lord is my light and my help / There is one thing I ask of the Lord / I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness.

Second: I Corinthians 1:10-13, 17: Paul urges the believers to make up the differences between themselves and to be united in Christ ... rather than having slogans like "I am for Paul" or "I am for Cephas".

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 - Jesus settled in Capernaum, fulfilling the prophesy of Isaiah "The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light". He calls the fishermen Simon Peter and Andrew to "follow me and I will make you fishers of men". Then he goes all around Galilee, preaching.

3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE

Let us pray for the parish of St. Gabriel and the Angels and St. John the Baptist, Castleton and Rochdale, with Father Michael Johonnett, their parish priest, their parish primary schools and the Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph. May their life and mission be rooted in listening to the Word of God.

4. FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FR D O'KANE (RIP)

The arrangements for Fr O'Kane's funeral are as follows:

Wednesday, 8 February: Vigil at 7.00 pm – Reception into the church

Thursday, 9 February: Requiem Mass 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, Derby Street, 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 next weekend 28/29 January. Please be as generous

as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers. Thank you.

7. PROPOSED PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLAND, KESWICK - Saturday, 18th 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.

8. CARITAS SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 29th January, is Caritas Sunday - a chance to share the impact of our local Catholic Social Action agency and to say thank you to everyone who supports this work to help people and communities in Salford Diocese. To mark this day in our annual calendar, Bishop John Arnold has recorded a message about the work of Caritas Diocese of Salford and its importance across the diocese, which you can watch now at www.caritassalford.org.uk/service-view/caritas-sunday/, as well as finding additional information and resources.

8. CARITAS – CLOTHING DONATIONS

Caritas Salford is appealing for donations of unwanted, clean clothing to help support people in the area experiencing poverty, homelessness and discrimination. The charity will give appropriate donated items to people experiencing homelessness who access their services in Greater Manchester and Lancashire, with other items being used to raise much-needed funds to help Caritas Salford continue its work. Clothing can be donated at the charity's Caritas House building in Collyhurst from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm Tuesday to Friday: Caritas House, Nobby Stiles Drive, Collyhurst, Manchester, M4 4FA.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 234; Offertory: 131, 801; Communion: 657, 656; Recessional: 439.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 376; Offertory: 122; Communion: 165, 470; Recessional: 259.

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

11. 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>

12. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi

This week our new cohort of Sacramental children began their journey. They gathered together with their families for their first meeting. It was lovely to see everyone in attendance and we ask the parish to remember them in their prayers during their special journey.

Our Laudato Si group continue to go from strength to strength. They meet weekly with their leaders and work collaboratively to look after our common home. They are currently collecting and recycling bottle lids of all colours and are looking for the support of our parish family. At the back of Church from Sunday there will be a box for the parish to donate bottle lids. We will be continuing this for weeks ahead.

The Laudato Si' team have also joined a scheme to recycle old, used batteries. From this Sunday, at the back of Church, there will be a box for parishioners to recycle batteries safely and a leaflet about the importance of doing so.

13. SUNDAY SMILE

At the end of his weekly Bible Study Class, the Vicar asked the group if there were any prayer intentions. There were the usual requests: to pray for the sick of the parish, for those in hospital, for those who had recent bereavements in the family. This sombre mood finally ended when one lady stood up and said, "My seventeen-year-old granddaughter passed her driving test this week. Let us pray for us all."

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY:	Both churches closed.
TUESDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm. St Herbert's Church: Funeral Mass at 1.15 pm for Marie Curran (RIP)
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: 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

CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS ON REQUEST

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo

Lately Dead: Fr D O'Kane, Martin Francis Ward, Marie Curran, Clare McCarthy, Headley Hutton

RIP: Beryl May Henderson, Jeffrey Ollerhead, Holy Souls in Purgatory

Anniversary: Caroline Fanning, Jack Huntington, 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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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.