

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

24 September 2023

We can never hope fully to understand God: especially God's generosity. We are very good at working out who is deserving of good fortune and who is not - unfortunately for us, God's gifts go to those God chooses, not those we choose. An example is forgiveness: those who have done the most wrong are those who receive the greatest forgiveness when they turn to God - perhaps at times we begrudge this gift. Today's lesson is simply this: God's ways are not our ways, God's thought are not our thoughts.

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 55:6-9 - The prophet tells people to seek the Lord, who is rich in forgiving. ... My ways are not your ways.

Psalms 144 - The Lord is close to all who call him / I will bless you day after day / The Lord is kind and full of compassion / The Lord is just in all his ways.

Second: Philippians 1:20-24, 27 - Life to me is Christ ... avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16 - Parable of the vineyard workers - the last shall be first and the first shall be last.

3. WEEKDAY MASS: WEDNESDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER:

Please note the change of Mass time. **Mass will be at 9.45 am.**

4. BAPTISM: We welcome into the Divine Mercy Parish community Grayson David William Walton, who was baptised in the Parish last weekend.

5. OCTOBER, THE MONTH OF MARY: During the month of October, the Rosary will be said before weekday Mass during the Private Prayer session.

6. ST HERBERT'S COFFEE MORNING: This Sunday, 24 September following the 11.00 am Mass, our usual Coffee/Tea and Cake will be available in aid of Macmillan Cancer Research. Please come for a catch up with fellow parishioners and support this very important Charity. We look forward to seeing you there.

7. RCIA: For any adults who are seeking to join the Church, an instruction course will commence in October. Please inform Fr. Lawrence if you wish to be included.

8. SAINTS OF THE WEEK

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL – 27 SEPTEMBER: was born in 1581 in France and died on 27 September 1660 in Paris. He was canonized in 1737. St Vincent de Paul was founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists, or Vincentians) for preaching missions to the peasantry and for educating and training a pastoral clergy.

SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS - 29 SEPTEMBER: This feast day celebrates God's constant care for his people and intervention in their lives. The names of the angels reveal the aspect of God's care: Michael means "Who is like God", Gabriel means "Strength of God" and Raphael "God has healed".

9. XAVARIAN SIXTH FORM COLLEGE OPEN DAYS:

will be having two Open Days for students and their families on: Saturday, 7 October, 10.30 am - 2.00 pm

Sunday, 15 October, 10.30 am – 2.00 pm

For further details, please contact 0161 249 2145 or email admissions@xaverian.ac.uk

10. RED MISSION BOXES: For the foreseeable future the Red Mission boxes will only be emptied once a year. The date for the next collection will be April 2024. The exact date will be announced in the Parish newsletter closer to the time. Lilian Lally

11. HOPE IN THE FUTURE CELEBRATION EVENT:

Tuesday 3rd October 2023, 6:30pm - 9pm; The Edge, Riveredge, Wigan WN3 5AB

Join the Diocese of Salford's Formation Department for a special event celebrating our six-year Hope in the Future journey. The event will include inspiring talks from Bishop John and lay missionary Pippa Baker, music from creative worship group One Hope Project, opportunities for small-group discussions and idea sharing, and a quiet time of prayer led by Bishop John. The event is free of charge and open to all and is ideal for those who have been involved in Hope in the Future in their parish, deanery, or school, those who would like to learn more about it or begin their own journey, and for individuals seeking to grow as Missionary Disciples.

Register your place at www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/hope-in-the-future-celebration-event/

12. REGULAR DAY RETREAT PROGRAMME

RETURNS: The Diocese of Salford is delighted to announce the return of its regular day retreat programme, taking place at the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella, Lostock Hall. Facilitated by experienced retreat leader, Donna Worthington, this fascinating series is a wonderful opportunity

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 576; Offertory: 801, 362; Communion: 397, 628; Recessional: 568.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 121; Offertory: 366; Communion: 346, 500; Recessional: 353.

to discover more about our faith through the study of scripture, prayer, and other religious texts. The first session takes place on Wednesday 18th October, 11.30am - 3pm, with a focus on The Feeding of the 5,000. The retreat costs £20 per retreat and booking is recommended by calling 01772 335387 or emailing office@saintgerards.org.uk.

Find out more

at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-programme-2023-2024/>

13. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: School has been a busy place this week with trips, a beekeeper visit, Freddie Fit, Hawk Class parent lunch, to name a few.

Our Pupil Chaplains took part in some Catholic Social Teaching (CST) training with a representative from Caritas and with that developed their understanding of how they can promote the CST in the work they do.

Our Pupil Chaplains are also in preparation for their commissioning next week during our new school year mass at Corpus Christi. We look forward to celebrating our first mass of the academic year with our parish family.

Next week, we also celebrate the feast day of St Vincent de

Paul and will also be celebrating the official commissioning of our new Mini Vinnies during our celebration assembly.

St Herberts: Thank goodness the rain stopped on Thursday as year 3 & 4 had a topic day – the Stone Age. The children and staff arrived in costume ready for a fun packed day. They spent time in the Habitat Hub collecting sticks to use with clay to make Stone Age tools as well as trying their hand cave painting. At end the day, they learnt a stone age dance! Lower down the school in Key Stage 1 the little people had a topic day – based on transport. They made their own passports and then boarded a plane with their very own pilot and air steward (a member of staff!) who had a trolley to serve the children. But before take-off they had to watch the safety demonstration delivered by a child. It was wonderful to watch! To see photographs of the above please go to X (Twitter) [KS1Unit@StHerberts](https://twitter.com/KS1Unit@StHerberts) and [Class6@StHerberts](https://twitter.com/Class6@StHerberts). We have signed up with Oldham Athletic Community Trust. They provide a sports coach who comes into school every Friday to deliver different activities. The trust has invited the school to play a match at half-time against St Edward's at Oldham's next home match. We are very excited - if you're there cheer us on!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY:	Both churches closed.
TUESDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
WEDNESDAY:	St Herbert's: Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 9.45 am
THURSDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Corpus Christi School/ Parish 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 OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo

Special Intention: Anthony Summers

Birthday Mass: Leo & Doreen Mazza

PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish: Wade Stevens, Luke Burke, John McCarthy, Gerard Healey, Mary Gowran, Margaret Lawless, Edith Hamilton, David Roberts, Agnes Conroy, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, 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, 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.