

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**17 September 2023**

Jesus tells a dramatic story in the Gospel, to make a very important point: the desperate need in our world for forgiveness and reconciliation. How many chances do we give each other? As many as seven? How often do we shut doors on people, even family and friends, saying ‘That’s it; you’ve just gone too far this time: never again’? When Jesus says that we must forgive ‘seventy-seven’ times, he implies that we never stop forgiving, whatever happens. He doesn’t just say this, however: even when they do the worst thing that could be done to him, nailing him to a cross, Jesus puts these words into practice: ‘Father, forgive them...’ As his disciples, we must do likewise.

**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: Ecclesiasticus / Sirach 27: 3 - 28:7** - Describes the consequences of anger and resentment and instructs the reader to live by the commandments.

**Psalms 102** - The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger; and rich in mercy / My soul give thanks to the Lord / It is he who forgives your guilt / His wrath will come to an end / For as the heavens are high above the earth.

**Second: Romans 14: 7-9** - The life and death of each of us has influence on others ... dead or alive we belong to the Lord.

**Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35** - Jesus tells Peter that he must forgive seventy times seven and recounts the parable of the servant whose debts were forgiven, but who then did not forgive the debts that were owed to him.

**3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE:** Let us pray, this week, for the people of the parish of St. John Henry Newman, Urmston and Flixton, with Fr. Kieren Mullarkey, their parish priest, Fr. David Quilligotti and Deacon David Walsh. We pray for their parish primary schools, St. Anthony’s High School and the Franciscan Community at All Saints, Barton. May they be a living sign of God’s forgiving love.

**4. BAPTISM:** We welcome into the Divine Mercy Parish community Casey James Cassidy, who was baptised in the in the Parish last weekend.

**5. ST HERBERT’S COFFEE MORNING:** 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.

**6. MASS FOR THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM - Saturday 23rd September 2023, 3pm; St Patrick’s Church, Livesey Street, Collyhurst, M4 4FA**

A special celebration Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham will be taking place on Saturday 23rd September. Our afternoon of prayer begins at 2.30pm with the Rosary,

before Mass begins at 3pm. There will also be an opportunity for confession. Everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments after Mass.

**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**

**ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST – 21 SEPTEMBER:** St Matthew was born at Capernaum. He was a tax gatherer when called by Jesus. He wrote his Gospel in Hebrew, and tradition has it that he preached the faith in the East.

**ST PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST – 23 SEPTEMBER:** was born on 25 May 1887. He entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Friars aged 16 and was ordained a priest in 1910. He lived a remarkable devotion to prayer and the sacraments. He committed himself to relieving the pain of many families, chiefly through the foundation of the “House for the Relief of Suffering”. He died in 1968.

**9. VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES – CARITAS DIOCESE OF SALFORD:** As we head into a new season, now might be the perfect for a new challenge! Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is looking for more volunteers to support its work across Greater Manchester and Lancashire. There are a range of different opportunities available to meet individual needs and skillsets, and full training and support is given every step of the way. If you’re interested in finding out more, please contact Matt Yates: [m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk) or visit the Caritas website: [www.caritassalford.org.uk](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk)

**10. SALFORD DIOCESE – VACANCIES**

Safeguarding Administrator (replacement role)  
Communications Assistant (replacement role)  
Financial Accountant (replacement role)  
Accounts Payable Officer (replacement role)

Find out more and apply at

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 286; Offertory: 122, 639; Communion: 681; Recessional: 447.

**ST HERBERT’S:** Entrance: 186; Offertory: 641; Communion: 165, 397; Recessional: 286.

**11. SCHOOL NEWS**

**Corpus Christi:** A couple of weeks ago, we were deeply saddened to hear about the death of a dear parent of our school. Mrs Jane Santoro was a great supporter of our school since her daughter joined us in Reception. She was always so proud of Raffaella who has just left Year 6.

In collaboration with Mr Santoro's employers, Newman College, and ourselves at Corpus Christi, a go fund me page has been organised in memory of Jane. We would like to share with link with our parish family who may want to support the family at this difficult time.

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-raffaella-santoro?utm\\_campaign=m\\_pd+share-sheet&utm\\_content=undefined&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_term=undefined](https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-raffaella-santoro?utm_campaign=m_pd+share-sheet&utm_content=undefined&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_term=undefined)

**St Herbert's:** We have had our first full week back at school after our summer break. It was lovely to see all the children eager to get back to school and see their friends. How they have grown! The new nursery and reception children have settled into school life despite a few tears at the beginning.

We celebrated our new school year with Mass in school with

Father Lawrence. It was a lovely celebration. We look forward to sharing our news with you all throughout the school year. Stay with us Lord on our journey.

**12. SUNDAY SMILES**

*St. Thomas the Dubious is an excellent school, but at the start of the new school year the staff are a little concerned about their latest Year 7 intake. Here are some of the stories they have heard this past week. (8)*

When Billy's maths teacher asked him why he was doing his sums on the floor, he replied, "You told us to do them without using any tables."

One teacher told a girl to stop reading the book on Anti-gravity, but the girl retorted, "But Sir, it's impossible to put it down."

Andrew was asked why he didn't like the music lesson. His reply was that it involved writing down too many notes.

Another new pupil said the maths lesson was far too long. His teacher kept going off on a tangent.

However, his friend said his maths teacher was far better than one he had at primary school. One day he had told the class that 9 times 8 was 72, but the next day said that it was 6 times 12 that made 72.

**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 10.00 am  
**Corpus Christi:** Requiem Mass at 1.00 pm for Jane Louisa Santoro (RIP)
- 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 OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST**

**MASS REQUESTS**

Missa pro populo

**Special Intention:** Mass for the Sick

**Lately Dead:** Jane Louisa Santoro, Janice Reynolds, Gerrard Barrett

**Anniversary:** John Shackleton

**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.



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

[www.divinemercuryoldham.org](http://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.