

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

**3 September 2023**

A quick glance at last week's Gospel reveals the interesting development of the story: last week, we heard Peter proclaiming that Jesus was the Messiah, and being given authority as a result. This week, Peter gets it wrong: he is rebuked by the Lord because he does not understand who the Messiah is. The Messiah is the one who will give everything for his people - even his own life. To be a follower of Jesus demands an understanding and acceptance of this fact, and a willingness to take up the cross as Jesus did. Our introduction to this is the prophet Jeremiah - also persecuted for doing and saying what was right. Have a look at the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, where this twinning of Jeremiah and prophecy of persecution also appears.

**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: Jeremiah 20: 7-9** - The prophet describes his experiences after he was enticed by the Lord - he has become a laughingstock ... he is compelled by "something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; " to proclaim the word of the Lord even though he faces reproach and derision for it.

**Psalms 62** - My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God / O God, for you I long / So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / So I will bless you all my life / For you have been my help.

**Second: Romans 12: 1-2** - Paul appeals to the brothers and sisters, .. to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, ... Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.

**Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27** - Jesus begins showing disciples that he will suffer, be killed, and on the third day be raised. Peter rebukes him, but Jesus identifies this response as ... "setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

**3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE:** Let us pray for the people of Our Lady and St. Alphonsus parish, Moss Side and Old Trafford, with Fr. Pat Deegan, their parish priest and Dean. We pray for the parish primary schools, Loreto Sixth Form College, and the work of Cornerstone and the Morning Star Hostel. As they celebrate this week the Birthday of Our Blessed Lady may they, with St. Alphonsus, honour her as Mother of Mercy.

**4. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING:** Come and join us for our Monthly Coffee Morning this Sunday 3rd September, after the 9.30am Mass. Tea, Coffee and Homemade Cakes!! Everyone Welcome.

**5. CARITAS DIOCESE OF SALFORD'S BIG SLEEP OUT:** The annual Caritas Big Sleep Out is back! This autumn, people across the diocese are being challenged to sleep out under the stars for one night only to raise funds and

awareness of people experiencing homelessness in our diocese. Taking place on Friday 13th October, this is one of the most important events in the Caritas annual calendar, helping our diocesan charity make a very real impact on the lives of local people. Find out more and register at <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/big-sleep-out-2023/>

**6. CORPUS CHRISTI CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** There will be a short meeting for all staff & helpers in the presbytery office after Sunday Mass. Lessons with children will resume on 10th September in the presbytery dining room. Children should go into the house before Mass starts at 9.30am. Please bring them early to avoid staff restarting for late comers. All materials are provided for the children. We aim the lessons at 4-7 year olds. Younger children are welcome if parent(s) are prepared to sit with them. The children re-enter for the offertory and help with the communion procession. Many thanks for your support.

**7. KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA NATIONAL RELICS TOUR – SAINT ANDREW, SAINT MARGARET, ST COLUMBA:** An exciting opportunity to pray before the relics of three inspiring saints is heading to our diocese this month. The Knights of St Columba are proud to be accompanying the sacred relics of Saints Andrew, Margaret, and Columba on a tour of churches across the country, including a number of parishes in our diocese. Bishop John will be celebrating a special Mass in honour of the visit at St Mary's, Horwich, at 7pm on Monday 11th September. Find out more about the tour and where you can join in prayer at <https://ksc.org.uk/national-relics-tour-2023-september/>

**8. CORPUS CHRISTI 'A' TEAM CLEANING:** Church cleaning will continue on Monday as follows:

4 Sept, 18 Sept; 2, 16, 30 Oct.; 13, 27 Nov; 11, 18 December.

We start at 9am and finish by 10am for a cuppa and cake. New volunteers always welcome. See notice at back of church.

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 234; Offertory: 122, 273; Communion: 757, 500; Recessional: 259.

**ST HERBERT'S:** Entrance: 390; Offertory: 583; Communion: 273, 557; Recessional: 303.

**9. SAINT OF THE WEEK**

**St Cuthbert, Bishop – 4 September:** St Cuthbert was born c 643 and he died on Farne on 20 March 687. A shepherd boy, he became a monk at Melrose. After the Synod of Whitby in 664, he became Prior of Lindisfarne, and won over the community to Roman customs. In 676 he left the monastery to live in solitude on the Island of Farne. For the last two years of his life he served as Bishop of Lindisfarne but returned to his island to die.

**10. SEASON OF CREATION:** Season of Creation returns for another year, inviting Christians across the globe to come together in prayer and action for the good of our common home. Running from 1st September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4th October, this month-long celebration offers us time to reflect on the needs of our planet and what we can do in our communities to make a difference.

For further information, resources, and prayers, please visit <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news>

**9. SUNDAY SMILES**

*A local church's Summer Barbecue was a huge success, partly due to the comedian and his one-liners. Here are a few (7):*

I was feeling pretty proud of myself. The jigsaw puzzle I bought said 3 to 5 years, but I finished it in 18 months. I never knew what happiness was until I got married - and then it was too late.

My IQ test results have just come back, they were negative.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

When I lose the TV controller, it's always hidden in some remote destination.

The wedding I went too was very emotional. Even the cake was in tiers.

Are people born with photographic memories, or does it take time to develop?

**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  
**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**

**RIP:** Mario McDonnell, Diane Ashton

**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.