

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

5 November 2023

An awkward set of readings to sit through as a priest today! The more responsibility we have for the flock of God, the more is demanded of us. But for all God's people, there is the need for constant vigilance, to be on guard against hypocrisy and complacency, the two greatest threats to our living God's way and not our own, self-serving way. This is a prelude to the end: for the next three weeks we will think about the end of the world and the judgement that awaits. This Sunday's readings should begin to encourage us not to fear and dread that day, but to look forward to it, by putting our lives in order and living as the Lord showed us.

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: Malachi 1:14 - 2:8, 8-10 - The prophet conveys the Lord's warning about what will happen to leaders who cause people to stumble by their teaching. ... We have one Father - why then do we break faith with one another?

Psalm 130 - Keep my soul in peace before you, O God / O Lord my heart is not proud / Truly I have set my soul / O Israel, hope in the Lord.

Second: I Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13 - Paul reminisces about what it was like when he was preaching in Thessalonica, and how their whole lives were dedicated to the cause.

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12 - listen to the Pharisees, but do not be like them - you have one father in heaven, and one Teacher, the Christ. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.

3. HOPE IN THE FUTURE PRAYER CYCLE: We pray for the people of the parish of St. Mary, Heaton Norris, for Fr. Geoffrey Marlor, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school. We pray also for the Sacred Heart Fathers. May they always practise what they preach.

4. NOVEMBER - THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS: During the month of November we offer prayers for the Holy Souls. There is a box at the back of each church for parishioners to drop in the names of their departed loved ones. The Tree of Remembrance is at the front of each church. Again parishioners are asked to write the names of their departed loved ones on the labels and to tie them to the tree.

5. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING: Come and join us for our Monthly Coffee Morning this Sunday 5th November after the 9.30am Mass. Tea, Coffee and a selection of Cakes!! Everyone is Welcome!

There will be no Coffee Morning next month as it falls on the same day as Corpus Christi Christmas Fair, Sunday 3rd December after the 9.30am Mass. Please come along and support us and help to make it a huge success!

6. PARISH SVP CHRISTMAS PROJECT: The SVP would like to distribute some Christmas food hampers to parishioners who may need a little help over the festive period and are unable to access the food pantry. If you want a hamper or you know of

anybody who you think would benefit from one e.g. housebound, low income households etc, please forward your/their details to the parish email divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com

Please provide us with a name and contact number so we can arrange delivery and please ask consent of any nominees.

Donations of festive foods would be greatly appreciated but also items for hamper construction e.g. cellophane, tissue paper, ribbon. Thank you very much for your continued support. The SVP.

7. BLESSING OF GRAVES: Will take place at Chadderton Cemetery on Sunday, 12 November at 2.30 pm.

8. ST HERBERT'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE: will be held on 26th November in the Parish Centre at 12.00pm. We would appreciate gifts/bottles for the Tombola stalls, which can be left in a box at the back of Church. Raffle tickets are being sold after Mass - Lots of wonderful prizes to be won - first prize £100. Father Christmas will be visiting! Most of all we would love you to come along and support the fayre and make it a great success.

9. CORPUS CHRISTI CHRISTMAS FAIR: The Fair will be held on Sunday 3rd December 2023 in Corpus Christi School Hall. The doors will open at 10.30 am after the 9.30 am Mass. Christmas Raffle tickets will be on sale at all Masses. First Prize £100 plus many more prizes. Price of tickets £1.00 each. The Raffle will take place at the Christmas Fair and we would like to appeal for good quality prizes for the Raffle and bottles for the Bottle Tombola. Please come along and make this event a huge success.

10. FAMILY QUIZ, 12 NOVEMBER IN ST HERBERT'S PARISH CENTRE: from 12-4 pm, quiz starting at 1pm. £5 adult, £2 child. Pie available for £2. Come along, have fun, and help enable a Paramedic Student to attend a Placement in Tanzania. Poster at the back of Church. Tickets from Trish Wildy in St Herbert's or ring on 07947 660389. If you cannot come, but would like to support, again, speak to Trish.

11. ALTAR SERVERS: Training for existing and new Altar Servers will be held on Saturday, 18th November at 11am at St Herbert's Church. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, please come along. You can also speak to Patrick (Corpus Christi) or Trish (St Herberts).

12. BINGO: on Thursday nights in St Herbert's Parish Centre lounge at 8.00 pm to start at 8.30 pm. Over 18s welcome.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 194; Offertory: 639; Communion: 500, 759; Recessional: 307.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 234; Offertory: 175; Communion: 681, 511; Recessional: 828.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

13. PLAYGROUPE: is held every Thursday during term-time at St Herbert's Parish Centre from 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm. £2.00 includes refreshments. All welcome.

14. SAINT OF THE WEEK - ST MARTIN OF TOURS – 11 NOVEMBER: was born in 316. He became a soldier, but was baptized and founded a monastery in France under the direction of St Hilary. He became Bishop of Tours; here he worked hard to visit his flock and preach against paganism. He died in 397, and was honoured as a saint – one of the first non-martyrs so to be honoured.

15. PASTORAL VISIT OF THE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO: His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, will make a pastoral visit to Salford Diocese on 29/30 November. As part of his visit, he will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's, Collyhurst, on Thursday 30th November at 6:30pm, where he will impart an Apostolic Blessing on all those present. All are welcome to attend the Mass and there is no need to register.

16. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: This week the children and staff returned from their half-term break ready for the busy weeks ahead. We have a lot of events and activities planned in the upcoming weeks and are looking forward to what is in store.

To mark the end of Black History Month, the children participated in workshops in school. They learnt about inspirational black people and the challenges faced by many during their lives.

We also celebrated All Saints Day as a school during our Wednesday Word. Children reflected on the people they want to be in order to make the world a better place.

Our KS1 children visited Church this week to support their learning for the topic all about Baptism. The children have enjoyed learning about the sacrament of baptism and learning more about the special celebration.

Date for diary: We will be hosting an EYFS opening evening for new parents on **Tuesday 21st November at 5:30pm**. If you are interested and require more information, or would like to book a place, please contact our school office: 0161 652-1275.

St Herbert's: We have had a lovely week in school. On Wednesday the whole school celebrated All Saints at Mass. It was wonderful to all get together with school and the Parish. The children sang beautifully, and we hope the parishioners enjoyed it. During the week, the parents of the reception children stayed with their child to learn about life in class. They were able to see phonics in action and learn about how their child learns. We had a school disco where the children were able to dress up. Some were unrecognisable! The children had lots of fun dancing and playing games. As you can see, a busy week!

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

Special Intention: George Wrigley, Generosa S Flores, Felipa F Potot, Teofels Flores, Jack Mather, Peter Fenton

Lately Dead: Mary Coates

RIP: Deceased members of the Corrigan, Heverin, Elwell, Murphy and Morgan Families

Anniversary: Eileen Huntington

Birthday: Nancy Wilson, George & Florence Ramsden

PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish: Peter Stone, Maureen Davies, 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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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.