

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR B**

**18 February 2024**

We begin our Lenten journey at the decisive moment of the flood, when God establishes his first Covenant with man, in the person of Noah. Noah was saved from the waters, while we (as Saint Peter points out) are saved by the waters of Baptism. This is the Covenant we live in, thanks to Christ, who came to establish this “new and eternal Covenant in his blood”. He is the only one who can do this, because he is without sin, despite “having been tempted in every way that we are”.

**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: Genesis 9: 8-15** - God explains the covenant with Noah and his descendants and every living creature .... that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." And the rainbow is a sign of this covenant...

**Psalm: 24** - Your ways Lord are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant / Lord make me know your ways / Remember your mercy, Lord / The Lord is good and upright.

**Second: I Peter 3:18-22** - Christ also suffered for sins once for all, in order to bring you to God. ... Baptism now saves you ... as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Gospel: Mark 1:12-15** - Jesus spends 40 days in the desert being tempted by the devil. Then after John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee ... saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe.”

**3. STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday during Lent at 9.30 am before the 10.00 am Mass at St Herbert's.

**4. BAPTISM:** We welcome to the Divine Mercy Parish community Leo Ryan Francis and Carter Wilson, who were baptized in the Parish last weekend.

**5. CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY:** CAFOD Family Fast Day is on Friday, 23 February. This Lent your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people, like James, the fisherman, with resources, tools and training to feed their families. Please give using the envelope, or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have all that they need to feed their families. Thank you.

**6. 'WALK WITH ME' BOOKLETS – A JOURNEY OF PRAYER FOR LENT:** Available at the back of both churches. £1.00 (St Herbert's – please put the money in the 'Booklets' Wall box.) Thank you.

**7. PARISH SVP:** Would like to thank the parishioner for their donation to the SVP. It is very much appreciated.

**7. ALTAR SERVERS' TRAINING:** will be held on Saturday, 24 February at 10.00 am at St Herbert's Church.

**9. PARISH SVP:** Would like to thank those who have donated to the SVP Food Pantry. All items are gratefully received. We have been asked if we can stock dog/cat food and household cleaning items. Donations of these items would be gratefully received. Thank you.

**8. DEANERY STATION MASSES:**

Tuesday, 20 February at St Edward's, Lees at 7.00 pm (The Bishop will attend and preach at this Mass.)

Tuesday, 27 February at St Ann's, Ashton at 7.00 pm

Tuesday, 5 March at St Patrick's, Oldham at 7.00 pm

Tuesday, 12 March at St Mary's, Failsworth at 7.00 pm

Tuesday, 19 March at St Joseph's, Mossley at 7.00 pm

No Parish Mass at Corpus Christi on these days.

**9. LENT TAIZE SERVICE AT ST AIDAN & OSWALD:** You are warmly invited to a Lent Taizé Service at Ss Aidan & Oswald's Church this Sunday 18th February at 7.30pm. Vaughan St entrance.

**10. ST HERBERT'S FEAST DAY – PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLE:**

Our annual pilgrimage to Derwent Water is planned for Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024. If you have never been this is a wonderful day of prayer, reflection and fun. Everyone is welcome. The coach will leave St. Herbert's Church at 8.30am. There is a short stop at Tebay services before alighting from the coach at Derwent Water, Lakeside, Keswick. Fr. Lawrence will say Mass overlooking St. Herbert's Island. Afterwards, there is free time in Keswick before our return at 4pm. We usually arrive back by 6.30pm.

This is a slightly later date so hopefully we will be blessed with fine weather. There is a Saturday market and lots of cafes in the town and the boats should be in operation on the lake if you wish to take a boat trip. The approximate cost will be £16 depending on take-up. Please add your name/number of people/phone number to the lists which will be at the back of each church.

**11. STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT THE LAUDATO SI' CENTRE:**

The Laudato Si' Centre - Wardley Hall Lane, Worsley - will be hosting a special Stations of the Cross this Lent. The Stations of the Cross will take place on Saturday 16th March in the beautiful setting of the Centre's woodland area. Specific times will be announced in due course.

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 558; Offertory: 425, 122; Communion: 759; Recessional: 379.

**ST HERBERT'S:** Entrance: 99; Offertory: 699; Communion: 307, 194; Recessional: 286.

**12. SCHOOL NEWS**

**Corpus Christi:** This week has been a busy last week for the half-term. On Monday we welcomed Kath from the charity Caritas and she spoke to the children all about the St Joseph Penny Appeal. The children have taken home their St Joseph Penny boxes and will be saving in them throughout Lent.

On Tuesday our children in Reception took part in their 'Africa Day'. They have been learning all about Africa. They took part in a drumming and dancing session and tried a range of African foods. They had a great day. On Wednesday our Pupil Chaplains led a reverent Ash Wednesday Mass in Church for our school and parish community. Our theme was showing love and mercy to others during Lent. Thank you to our parish family for sharing Mass with us.

Staff and children are looking forward to our half-term break next week. After half-term our class Lenten Masses will begin and we look forward to sharing these with our parish family.

**St Herbert's:** The children broke up on Thursday for half term! They have worked so hard this term they are ready for a well-deserved break.

On Wednesday the whole school went to Church for Ash Wednesday for the start of the Holy Season of Lent, a time for reflection and a time to say sorry in preparation for the celebration of Easter. We were very proud of them. They read

and sang beautifully.

The football team again continued with their winning streak. They travelled to Yew Tree Primary school and won 11-0! Fantastic! On Thursday it was a non-uniform day with money raised going towards buying books for our beautiful new library. Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support in supplying food for our vulnerable families - they and we are truly grateful. "Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." We will keep you all in our prayers.

**13. SUNDAY SMILE**

*Last Tuesday, a local church held its annual Shrove Tuesday Social before the commencement of Lent. As platefuls of delicious pancakes were consumed, the parish comedian entertained with his many one liners. Here is a selection (13):*

I didn't know my dad was a construction site thief, but when I got home all the signs were there.

As I get so much older, and remember all the people I've lost along the way, I think to myself, maybe a career as a tour guide wasn't really for me.

My fear of moving stairs is beginning to escalate.

This musician said to me, "I'm going to attack you with the neck of my guitar." I said, "Is that a fret?"

I heard a great joke about amnesia, but I have forgotten it.

I thought I saw a man dragging a cheetah up the road. He was definitely pulling a fast one.

**WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

<b>MONDAY:</b>	Both churches closed
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's: Requiem Mass at 10.00 am for Edward Dervin (RIP)</b> <b>NO PARISH MASS</b> <b>St Edwards: Deanery Station Mass at 7.00 pm</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Divine Mercy Chaplet at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am <b>St Herbert's: Requiem Mass at 12.30 pm for Gerard Traynor (RIP)</b>
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Stations of the Cross at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am <b>St Herbert's: Requiem Mass at 12.00 noon for Kevin Joseph McPhillips (RIP)</b>
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 5.00 pm; Mass at 5.30 pm
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am <b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer 10.30 am; Mass at 11.00 am

**MASS REQUESTS**

**Missa pro populo**  
**Special Intention:** Craig Edmondson  
**Lately Dead:** Gerard Traynor, Edward Dervin, Kevin Joseph McPhillips, Leon Lewis Williams, David Drogan, Thomas Shades  
**RIP:** Marie Corless, Sheila Catherine Allen, Ellen Louise Whittaker  
**Anniversary:** Ann Carlisle, Anthony Adams, David Fenton  
**Birthday Anniversary:** Colin Prince

**PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish:  
Margaret Lawless, Sheila Cavey, Agnes Conroy, Stuart Williams, Peter Stone, Wade Stevens, Luke Burke, John McCarthy, Mary Gowran., Edith Hamilton, David Roberts, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, Dorothy Buckley, Nora Hickey, Nancy Pinto, Mrs H Fallas, Anthony McDermott, Jean Winterbottom, Maxine Bennett, Dominic Boardman, Angela Fairgrieve, Peter Wooldridge, Nikki Winnard, Pauline Powell, Phillip Lees, Andrew Lees, Mary O'Connor.



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[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.