

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR B

10 March 2024

There were two remarkable moments in the story of the Old Testament where God saved his people; one was in the escape from Egypt – we'll keep that for the Easter Vigil. The other was the end of their second exile, this time in Babylon, which we hear of today. There was an even greater moment when God saved his people: in Jesus Christ his Son – and we hear Jesus tell Nicodemus about that today. To understand "being saved", we must ask "What from?" Saved from slavery, from exile, from human enemies – these are all clear. But the last and greatest salvation brought by Jesus is harder to understand: saved from sin and death. These threaten us as much as any other enemy, and our salvation in Jesus is as real as any other.

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: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 - The priests and people were unfaithful to God, but still God kept sending messengers to them. Eventually they burned down the palaces of Jerusalem and looted it. The people went into exile in Babylon until the Lord's mercy called King Cyrus of Persia to build a house at Jerusalem and to take the faithful ones with him.

Psalms 136 - O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not / By the rivers of Babylon / for it was there that they asked us for songs / O how could we sing the song of the Lord /.

Second: Ephesians 2:4-10 - By grace you have been saved through faith, [this] is the gift of God - not the result of works.

Gospel: John 3:14-21 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." God sent the Son into the world to save it through him - those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.

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

4. EASTER LITURGY – 2024

Maundy Thursday: Corpus Christi at 7.00 pm

Good Friday: St Herbert's at 3.00 pm

Easter Vigil: Corpus Christi at 7.00 pm

Easter Sunday: Corpus Christi at 9.30 am
St Herbert's at 11.00 am

5. ST HERBERT'S COFFEE MORNING: Join us in the Parish Centre after the 11.00 am Mass on Sunday, 10th March for Tea, coffee and refreshments. Everyone is most WELCOME!

6. CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL:

Thank you for giving to CAFOD'S Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. The Parish raised a total of £404.05. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk Thank you.

7. DEANERY STATION MASSES:

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.

8. ST. HERBERT'S FEAST DAY- PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLE, SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 2024:

If you wish to come on the coach, please ensure your name is on the list by SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 2024. The price will be £16 pp & money will be collected at church over the weekends 9th/10th March & Saturday 16th/17th March.

ITINERARY FOR THE DAY: Meet at St Herbert's Church. Coach to leave at 8.30am. Short stop at TEBAY services for comfort break. Alight from the coach at Lakeside Car Park Keswick. Take a short walk to Friars Crag, Derwent Water, where Fr Lawrence will celebrate mass overlooking St Herbert's Island. Free time in Keswick, where there is a market, cafes etc. Return from Booth's Car Park at 4pm prompt.

9. GIFT AID DONATIONS 2024-25: Thank you very much to all those who have donated to the Parish whether via Gift Aid or Non-Gift Aid envelopes, by Standing Order or via the baskets. If you are a UK taxpayer, we would ask you to please consider donating via the Gift Aid envelope scheme. This does not cost you anymore than your usual donation. It does, however, allow the Parish to claim back 25% of your donation. So, for every £1.00 you donate we can claim back an extra 25p. All you need to do is to fill in a form (just your name and address are required). These forms will be available at the back of each church along with the new Gift Aid and Non-Gift Aid envelopes (St Herbert's), which start on 7 April, from Ken Coop (Corpus Christi) and Deborah Kearney (St Herbert's) from 16/17 March. For further information, please email divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com. Thank you.

10. MANCHESTER AND SALFORD ECUMENICAL WHIT WALK:

The annual Manchester and Salford Ecumenical Whit Walk is set to return for another year of prayerful celebration. Taking place on Monday 27th May, the walk will begin at 10am from Manchester Cathedral Gardens, and the group will process to St Peter's Square for an Act of Worship. Individuals, families, and groups are all welcome to attend!

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 131; Offertory: 122, 443;

Communion: 656; Recessional: 497.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 131; Offertory: 148;

Communion: 349, 194; Recessional: 532.

11. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: This week we celebrated our love of reading! We all took part in a range of activities to celebrate world book week and world book day. We welcomed professional storyteller Rogan Mills. He spent time with each class, captivating them with his love and passion for storytelling. The children loved their session with him. For world book day, we all shared our love of bedtime reading and came to school in our pyjamas (a very cosy day indeed!).

Our Laudato Si team continue to recycle bottle lids and batteries at school and thank our parish for their support. At the moment we are especially looking for yellow and orange bottle lids for some amazing art we are creating, so we kindly ask that our parish family keep an eye out for these particular colours. Thank you.

Once again, we would like to welcome our parish family to our Easter production on Monday 25th March at 9:30am. Please contact Tony Power at Corpus Christi or email divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com if you would like to attend the production.

St Herbert's: Wish we were there! Upper Key Stage 2 had a South American Topic Day! They created fact files about one of the countries that interested them, created

postcards from their chosen place, tasted fruit - the children loved mango and passion fruit but were not keen on the fig or papaya. They finished the day by learning Samba - watch out Strictly Come Dancing!

To celebrate World book day "breakfast with a book" was held - it was lovely to see parents and children enjoying books whilst having breakfast.

On Thursday the children arrived dressed in a fantastic selection of book characters and a special assembly was held, with stories being read and a parade of costumes. Throughout the day parents came into school to read stories to the children. Finally, Food Bank Friday was held and once again the children supported this day - Hebrews 13:16: "And do not forget to do good and to share with others."

12. SUNDAY SMILES:

These signs actually appeared outside churches

Tweet others as you would like to be tweeted

Seven days without prayer makes one weak

Wanted: singers – inchoir within

Do you spend your time with God's Book or Facebook

Experts made the Titanic, amateurs made the ark

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY:	Both churches closed
TUESDAY:	St Herbert's: Funeral Service at 11.30 am for Rita Hall (RIP) St Mary's, Failsworth: Deanery Station Mass at 7.00 pm NO PARISH MASS AT CORPUS CHRISTI
WEDNESDAY:	St Herbert's: Divine Mercy Chaplet 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: Stations of the Cross 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

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo

Special Intention: The Crompton & Bell Families

Lately Dead: Rita Hall

RIP: Gerard Traynor, Edward Dervin, Kevin Joseph McPhillips, David Drogan, Mary Morgan

Anniversary: Elsie Lawson (1st anniversary), Kevin McDonough,

Birthday Mass: Claire Kershaw

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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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.