

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR B

3 March 2024

This week, in our journey through the Old Testament, we reach Covenant Number Three: and this is the big one - the Covenant with Moses at Sinai. The Ten Commandments are (or should be) familiar to us all: they form our side of the agreement with God - if we stick to these rules and commands, then we are truly God's people, and he is truly our God. If we ignore them, or break them, then we break the Covenant or relationship. The Temple was, for the people of Israel, the place that guaranteed the permanence of this Covenant - God dwelling with man. Jesus alerts us to the new Temple - himself - since he is the core of the New Covenant, God and Man in perfect unity. Only by the destruction of this new Temple, in his death, will he rise again as an eternal Temple, and the eternal guarantee of the New Covenant which we enjoy.

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: Exodus 20:1-17 - The Ten Commandments, as spoken by God to Moses.

Psalms: 18 - You Lord have the message of eternal life / The law of the Lord is perfect / The precepts of the Lord are right / The fear of the Lord is holy / They are more to be desired than gold.

Second: I Corinthians 1:22-25 - Paul reflects on the crucified Christ - who does not satisfy the Jews who look for miracles or the Greeks who look for wisdom - but who reflects the power and wisdom of God to those who are called.

Gospel: John 2:13-25 - Jesus drives the money changers from the Temple, and then makes predictions about how long it will take to rebuild it.

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

4. BAPTISMS: We welcome into the Divine Mercy Parish community Finley Wells and Harlow Jai Holt, who were baptised in the Parish last weekend.

5. CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL: Thank you for giving to CAFOD'S Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. Your generous donations given in love will support families around the world and help them with the resources to feed their families for good. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk Thank you.

6. DEANERY STATION MASSES:

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.

7. DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION AT ST ANN'S, ASHTON: will take place every first Sunday of the month, at St Ann's Church, Ashton. It begins at 2,30pm with Exposition, followed by Divine Mercy prayers at 3pm and ends with

Benediction. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone. Fr. Jude Lemeh

8. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING: Come and join us for our Monthly Coffee Morning, this Sunday 3rd March 2024 after the 9.30 am. Mass. Tea, Coffee and Home-Made Cakes! Everybody Welcome!!

9. 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.

10. PARISH SVP FOODBANK – FRIDAY, 8 MARCH: The Parish SVP Foodbank takes place on every second Friday of the month between 2 pm and 4 pm in Corpus Christi Presbytery. The next one will be held on Friday, 8 March. Please spread the word if there's anyone you know who may benefit from the Pantry.

11. 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.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 121; Offertory: 273, 362; Communion: 133; Recessional: 731.
ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 269; Offertory: 641; Communion: 656, 560; Recessional: 234.

11. CORPUS CHRISTI CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

Lessons have now restarted and will continue until Palm Sunday, 24th March. There will be a special lesson on Mothers' Day, 24th March. Thank you for supporting us.

12. DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES IN OUR CENTENARY YEAR:

Bookings are now being taken for this year's diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, marking our centenary year. The pilgrimage, led by Bishop John Arnold, will take place between 26th July and 1st August. Find out more and book online at <https://www.salfordlourdes.co.uk/travel-accommodation>

13. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: This week our children and staff returned and were eager to get started on the busy half-term ahead. On Tuesday, children in Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in a reverent Reconciliation Service in our school hall led by Mrs Gifford and Mrs Williamson. Some children who have previously made their first reconciliation, then went on to have their confession listened to by Fr Lawrence and Fr Esene. It was a lovely service and a great opportunity for the children to take time during Lent to say sorry and

ask for forgiveness. On Thursday, our parish family welcomed some of our children for their Lenten Mass in Church. The children led the Mass and were a credit to us. They spoke beautifully and clearly whilst reading, and the parish spoke very highly of them all. Well done children! Our next Lenten Mass takes place on Thursday 14th March. We would like to welcome our parish family to our Easter production on Monday 25th March at 9:30am. Please contact Tony Power or email divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com if you would like to attend the production.

St Herbert's: This week has been a fun time for Year 5. They took part in Bikeability which equips the children with vital skills when riding their bike on the road. They began the session on the playground and if they passed the assessment, finally went out on the road with their coach. We are pleased to say they all passed. Well done! Upper Key Stage 2 have been reading the book "No Ballet Shoes in Syria," and they had the opportunity to meet with the author Catherine Burton, who talked to them about her inspirations for writing, as well as providing tips on how to be a successful writer. Finally, our football team were guests at O AFC as they had been invited to walk around at half-time showing the cup they had won representing O AFC. They had a fantastic time!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

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| MONDAY: | Both churches closed |
| TUESDAY: | St Patrick's, Oldham: 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 |

CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo
Special Intention: Olwen Baker
Lately Dead: Rita Hall
RIP: Gerard Traynor, Edward Dervin, Kevin Joseph McPhillips, David Drogan, Gloria O'Kane, Holy Souls in Purgatory
Anniversary: Richard Stack, Kevin McDonough, Lilian Cheetham, Margaret Tominson
Birthday Mass: Edie Stack

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

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.