

**21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

**25 August 2024**

Failure, rejection and isolation: these are the themes of today's remarkable Gospel - but they are not all. In the face of them we see perseverance, fidelity and trust. Above all there is an adherence to the truth that is truly amazing. Jesus speaks the truth to all who will listen, and if they find that truth "intolerable" they are free to leave, just as they are free to believe. No one who reads this passage could accuse Jesus of being interested in fame or fortune or the simple accumulation of followers. He didn't play the 'numbers game'. Even more amazing is that when his followers seem to be down to their lowest ebb, he turns to the Twelve and gives them freedom to go as well. Peter's reply, when he speaks of their belief, is the only answer that matters; it is spirit and life that replies, not the flesh, which has nothing to offer.

**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:** Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18: Who will you serve: the Lord who brought you out of slavery, or another god? ... We will serve the Lord.

**Psalms:** Psalm 33 - Taste and see that the Lord is good / I will bless the Lord at all times.

**Second:** Ephesians 5:21-32 - comparing Christ's relationship with the church to the marriage relationship.

**Gospel:** John 6:60-69 - When some of Jesus' followers turn away from him, Jesus asks the disciples "do you want to go away too?" - they affirm their faith in him.

**3. MASS AT ST HERBERT'S ON WEDNESDAY, 28 AUGUST:**

The usual weekday mass at St Herbert's on Wednesday, 28 August will be replaced by the Requiem Mass for James Stott (RIP).

**4. PARISH INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION – CORPUS CHRISTI:**

You are invited by Young@Church (Youths at our Parish) to our 'Parish International Celebration' on **Sunday, 15 September from 2:30 pm**. We're children of One Father in Heaven, yet are native from different countries and different cultures but Christ has called us together into this Parish to celebrate as children of The Living God. So together let's reveal the glory and value of the Father in our cultural styles: by bringing your food, music, dance, etc... to share. **RSVP!** Tickets are on sale from this Sunday after Holy Mass: £5.00 - adult; £2.50 - child; children under school age free of charge. Contact: Patrick 07591214756.

**5. UP AND COMING EVENTS AT PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY:**

- 4th October - Family Night (St Herbert's) more details later.
- 24th November - Christmas Fayre (St Herbert's)
- 1st December - Christmas Fayre (Corpus Christi)
- Parish Christmas Meal @ San Rocco date to be arranged.
- 15th December - Brass Band 2pm-4pm (Corpus Christi)

**6. CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to all the young people in the Parish who have received their A-Level, BTech and GCSE results. We wish you every success for your future.

**7. FAMILY BEEKEEPING SESSIONS:** The Bee Together Community Centre and Garden, of the Parish of the Nativity in Failsworth and Limeside, is organising Family 7 sessions. The next session will take place on 8 September 2024 at Church of the Holy Family, Roman Rd, Hollinwood, Oldham, OL8 3PY. Interested participants are requested to email [beetogetherhollinwood@gmail.com](mailto:beetogetherhollinwood@gmail.com) to book their place. Everyone is welcome.

**8. YOUNG ADULTS MASS:** Our Young Adults Mass returns to St Augustine's in Manchester this September after our summer break! Join us at 5.30pm on Sunday 8 September as we gather together for our Mass and the start of a series of talks entitled "The Thrill of Orthodoxy", based on G K Chesterton's "Orthodoxy". The series will unpick how an exploration of religious, philosophical, social, and political ideas leads us to embrace our Christian faith.

**9. LOOKING FOR A LATE CATHOLIC GAP YEAR?:**

Do you know anybody who is Catholic, aged around 18 to 22 and still not got anything lined up for the year ahead? Castlerigg Manor (the Diocese of Lancaster retreat centre, located in the Lake District) is still looking for young people to join their youth ministry internship scheme. The scheme provides comprehensive training and experience as well as accommodation and food for the year, and a stipend each week. Anyone who is interested can check out [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com) >> join the team, or Email Jack Regan – [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

**10. CEMETERY MASSES:** Two Masses to remember our deceased loved ones will be taking place at the end of August. Canon Paul Daly will celebrate Mass at St Joseph's RC Cemetery, Moston, at 11am on **Monday, 26th August**. A second Mass will take place on the same day at Wardley

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 439; Offertory: 641, 362; Communion: 759; Recessional: 168 .  
**ST HERBERT'S:** Entrance: 361; Offertory: 699; Communion: 419, 500; Recessional: 706 .

Cemetery, beginning at 12 noon. All are welcome to join.

**11. VOTIVE MASS OF ST MONICA:** Join us for a Votive Mass of St Monica, followed by the opportunity to venerate her relic and invoke her intercession, on the Feast Day of St Monica, 27th August at St Mary's Church in Oswaldtwistle at 7pm. Everyone is welcome and invited to write the names of family and friends and place them in the box asking for St. Monica's prayers.

**12. SAINTS OF THE WEEK**

**St Monica – 27 August:** was born in North Africa in 233. She married a pagan called Patricius, with whom she had three children, one of whom was Augustine. Eventually, thanks to her patience and prayer, Patricius was baptized. Monica also prayed for her son Augustine, living an unregulated and wild life; he was baptized in Milan in 387, but as he returned with Monica to Ostia to embark for Africa, she fell ill and died.

**St Margaret Clitherow – 30 August:** was born in York in 1556, and she died there on 25 March 1586.

At the age of 15 she married a butcher, John Clitherow and three years later became a Catholic. She hid priests in their house but in 1586, the secret hiding places were discovered. She refused to plead at her trial for which she was crushed to death.

**St Aidan and Saints of Lindisfarne – 31 August:** St Aidan was born in Ireland and died in Bamburgh, Northumberland in 651. A monk of Iona, he was sent to Northumbria when King Oswald asked for help in converting his kingdom, and established his monastery on the Island of Lindisfarne. With him are remembered the holy abbots, bishops, teachers and missionaries who made Lindisfarne a cradle of English Christianity.

**12. SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN (SPUC) CAMPAIGN:** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is leading a campaign calling on the government to end the two-child credit cap. To find out more about this campaign and to sign the petition, please visit <https://www.spuc.org.uk/end-benefit-cap>

**WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

- MONDAY:** Both churches closed
- TUESDAY:** **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
- WEDNESDAY:** **St Herbert's: Requiem Mass at 10.00 am for James Stott (RIP)**
- 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

**Lately Dead:** James Stott

**Anniversary:** Michael Ryan, Ann Ryan, Jim Ryan

**PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish:

Noreen Butterworth, Darren Gallier, Margaret Lawless, Sheila Cavey, Stuart Williams, Peter Stone, Wade Stevens, Luke Burke, John McCarthy, Mary Gowran, David Roberts, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, Nora Hickey, Nancy Pinto, Mrs H Fallas, Anthony McDermott, Jean Winterbottom, Maxine Bennett, Dominic Boardman, Angela Fairgrieve, Peter Wooldridge, Pauline Powell, Phillip Lees, Andrew Lees, Mary O'Connor.



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Corpus Christi RC Church, 8 Derby Street, OL9 7HX



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.