

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD YEAR C**

**12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

It may seem strange, but this is a Christmas Feast. Not if we think of Christmas only in terms of the Baby in Bethlehem, but if we have followed the ideas of the Feasts of Holy Family and especially Epiphany, and have seen the Season in terms of the growing manifestation or appearing of the Son of God: first to the shepherds and then to the wise men from the East. Now in the River Jordan, Jesus, Son of Mary, is revealed to all as the fullness of all God's promises: "This is my Son, the Beloved".

On this day we stand before the revelation of God's love for us, such that he would send his only Son into the world. Christmas without the Baptism of the Lord, and the words that are spoken from heaven, would be incomplete, since it is only in them that we fully see the wonder of what happened in Bethlehem. As we come to the end of Christmas today, and look forward to hearing the Gospels in Ordinary Time, we do so having been shown who it is we listen to: the only Son of God, the Beloved.

**PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS**

**PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY PRAYER**

**1.** 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: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7** – Centuries before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah gives us a description that fits perfectly. (Redemptorist Publications).

**Psalm 29:1** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Second: Acts 10:34-38** – God does not have favourites: his word was sent to the people of Israel – but Jesus Christ the Lord of all... because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen to the power of the devil.

**Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22** - John declared "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming who will baptise you with the Holy Spirit" ... Jesus is baptised ... the heavens open and the spirit descended ... "You are my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on you".

**3. CANCELLATION OF ST HERBERT'S COFFEE MORNING:**

Due to illness of our ladies who 'do Coffee Morning' we unfortunately have to cancel this week's Coffee Morning.

**4. PARISH LADIES EVENING FRIDAY, 31 JANUARY 2025:**

Please ensure that all payments of £26pp are made to Janette Sterritt at St Herbert's or Ann-Marie Ford at Corpus Christi by **SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY** to enable the committee to sort out the seating plan.

**5. CORPUS CHRISTI PLANNED GIVING:**

The sets of envelopes are available from a box on the Welcomers table. They are numbered but not recorded. They are provided free to encourage parishioners to give their offerings regularly. They are NOT for Gift Aid use. Only use them if you are not paying income tax on earnings or pensions.

**6. CORPUS CHRISTI CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

Resumes on Sunday 12th January. Thank you for your support. New helpers are always welcome. See one of the helpers for more information.

**7. DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM**

**2025:** Our diocesan pilgrimage office is now taking bookings for its next annual pilgrimage to Walsingham. This year's pilgrimage will take place on Saturday, 3 May 2025, with an option to extend your visit by staying overnight on Friday, 2 May. For more information, prices and details on how to book, please visit:

<https://diocesofsalford.org.uk/walsingham-pilgrimage-2025>  
or call 0161 817 2209.

**8. CARITAS SUNDAY:**

Did you know that on Sunday 26 January, we will be marking Caritas Sunday? This annual occasion is a great opportunity to celebrate work of our diocesan charity, Caritas Diocese of Salford. To find out more about the work of Caritas Salford and how you can get involved, please visit

<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/caritas-sunday/>.

We invite you to keep our diocesan charity in your prayers over this coming week.

**9. YOUNG ADULTS PILGRIMAGE TO ROME:**

Young adults across the diocese are invited to join our Diocesan Youth Ministry Team for a rare pilgrimage to Rome this summer. Pope Francis has announced a special Jubilee for Youth in celebration of the 2025 Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee, which also coincides with the canonisation of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. To find out more about this remarkable opportunity and to register your interest, please visit <https://diocesofsalford.org.uk/jubilee-of-youth-rome/>

**10. ACCESSIBLE PRAYER WALK:**

The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is teaming up with diocesan charity Caritas Salford to host an accessible prayer walk. The session offers an opportunity to explore the beautiful, accessible grounds of the Laudato Si' Centre along with a peaceful prayer reflection, taking place between 10 and 11.30am on Friday 31 January. Find out more and register by emailing [laudatosi@diocesofsalford.org.uk](mailto:laudatosi@diocesofsalford.org.uk)

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 647; Offertory: 366,122;  
Communion: 538; Recessional: 297.

**ST HERBERT'S:** Entrance: 526; Offertory: 362;  
Communion: 614, 630; Recessional: 290 .

**11. BEAVERS CUBS AND SCOUTS:** starts up again on Monday nights at the Parish Centre from 6:15pm onwards with lots of exciting activities planned. Any enquiries, please ask Damien Aston. All welcome.

**12. BINGO:** Thursday nights at 8:30pm. We welcome all players to come and join the fun.

**13. SCHOOL NEWS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** On this cold and snowy week, the children and staff returned to school, eager and excited to start a new term. Children have enjoyed starting new topics and they are excited for all the exciting things planned this term.

We would like to wish our parish family a very happy new year and we look forward to spending time with you this year. Happy 2025 to you all!

**ST HERBERT'S:** Happy new year- We pray that 2025 will be one of peace and kindness. It was lovely to welcome the children back to school. Despite the bitterly cold weather it didn't stop the children returning with smiles on their faces eager to share what they got up to during the holidays. On Wednesday key stage 2 children attended mass with the parish family which was lovely, they read beautifully and of course sang with gusto. The children have quickly settled back into the routines and have worked hard.

As we move through the term we will have more news!

**ST HERBERT'S NURSERY:** We are now accepting Nursery applications for September 2025. If your child was born between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022 and you would like to apply for a place, please contact the school by telephone on 0161 633 1318 or email enquiries@stherberts.education or call in at the school office. Full and part time places are available.

**14. SUNDAY SMILE**

*Last Saturday, a local church held its annual Epiphany Social Evening. A tasty supper was enjoyed by all, whilst the parish comedian entertained with his one-liners. Here are just a few:*

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

People who use selfie sticks really need to have a good, long look at themselves.

I told my friend that I saw a fox on the way to work this morning. He said, "How did you know it had a job?"

I once entered the world kleptomaniac championships. I took gold, silver, and bronze.

The toughest job I ever had was selling doors, door-to-door  
Parallel lines have so much in common, but it's a shame they'll never meet.

**WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

<b>MONDAY:</b>	Both churches closed
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's: Requiem Mass at 12.00 pm for Late Margaret Theresa Byrne (RIP)</b> <b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer 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: Funeral Service at 10.30 am for Mr John Euston Hall (RIP)</b>
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
<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
<b>CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST</b>	

**MASS REQUESTS**

**Missa pro populo**  
**Anniversary:** Frank Carlisle (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.).  
**Lately Dead:** Maureen (Mary) Collins, Theresa Mc Garrigle, Joseph Dooley.  
**R.I.P:** John Slevin, David Walker, John and Emily Walker.  
**Thanksgiving Mass:** Mr and Mrs Canrod and Family  
**Special Intention:** Barrie Newton, Joan Newton, The Broadbent family, The Whiteman Family,

**PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish:  
Noreen Butterworth, Margaret Lawless, Sheila Cavey, Stuart Williams, Peter Stone, Wade Stevens, Luke Burke, John McCarthy, Mary Gowran, 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, Pauline Powell, Phillip Lees, Andrew Lees, Mary O'Connor, Louise Knotman, Shirley Pryce.



0161 624 2258



divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com



@divinemercuryoldham



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



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.