

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

23 February 2025

What is compassion? What is love? And how do we live them out in our own age? These are the questions that spring from the Gospel today. In many ways this is the hardest teaching Jesus offers us, because it goes against so much of what the "modern world" would have us believe. Look at the first reading: David and Saul are enemies, and Saul is suddenly in David's power. The logic of the modern world would say "Strike while you can." But David chooses another path. He is compassionate. We can all think of times when we were in a position to take revenge, score a victory over someone, take it out on them. Our measure of our faith is whether or not we were compassionate - especially with our enemies - as Jesus taught us.

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: I Samuel 26 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 - Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.

Psalm: 102 - The Lord is compassion and love / My soul give thanks to the Lord / It is he who forgives our guilt / As far as the east is from the west

Second: I Corinthians 15:45-49 - We who have been modelled on the earthly man will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, turn the other cheek .. be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.

3. PARISH SVP FOOD PANTRY: The next Food Pantry will take place on Friday, 28 February from 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm at St Herbert's Parish Centre. Please spread the word to anyone who may benefit from it. Thank you.

4. CAFOD BIG LENT WALK: Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year: You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Perhaps journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/> and help to change people's lives. Or call Simon Holleron on 077 100 944 54 for more information.

5. DIOCESAN SYNOD: We are now approaching the last phase and important culmination of our Diocesan Synod, which we began in 2023. Next weekend we will be holding our Diocesan Voting Day, where clergy and lay synod members

will come together to vote on recommendations that will form the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. Please pray for all those involved in the Synod Process that the Holy Spirit may guide and inspire us as we work together to discern God's call for the Church in our diocese.

The following day there is an opportunity to give thanks for the Synod and pray for guidance as we move into the planning and implementation phases. This Thanksgiving Service will officially close the Diocesan Synod and is open to all to attend.

When: Sunday 2nd March 2025

Venue: St Patricks RC Church, Livesey Street, Collyhurst, Manchester. M4 5HF

Time: 15:00 to 17:00

Parking: Available in Caritas House car park at the end of Nobby Stiles Drive and various car parks within easy walking around the Church.

6. PRIMARY ECT POOL 2025: Are you looking for a career in teaching? Do you know someone who is training for a career in primary education? ECT (Early Career Teachers) due to gain Qualified Teacher Status in Summer 2025 are being invited to apply for recommendation for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for September 2025.

Email millie.burton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more and apply or call 0161 817 220.

7. ANNUAL ST JOSEPH'S TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL REUNION MASS: Former pupils and staff of St Joseph's RC Technical High School (Laindon Road, Manchester) are invited to this year's reunion with their families to celebrate the school's history. The reunion will take place on Saturday 22nd March 2025 at St Bernard's RC Church, Burnage. Mass begins at 12 noon, with opportunity for confession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11am. Please arrive by 11.30am to sign in. Refreshments will be available in the parish hall after Mass.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 131; Offertory: 122, 801; Communion: 470; Recessional: 286.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 470; Offertory: 122; Communion: 418, 164; Recessional: 353.

8. JUBILEE FOR INTERFAITH AND ECUMENISM:

This February marks the Jubilee for Interfaith and Ecumenism. To mark this month's celebrations, our Episcopal Vicar for Dialogue has written a number of reflections encouraging us to consider how we are called to walk with pilgrims of other faiths in peace and harmony. Read more at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/calendar/>

9. REMINDER: JUBILEE BOOK SIGNING EVENT:

A special book signing and reading event is due to take place to celebrate the launch of two new books about our diocese by Mgr John Allen - 'A popular history of the Diocese of Salford' and 'Pilgrims of Hope: Out and About in Salford Diocese'. It will be held on Monday 3 March at 5pm at St Patrick's Church, in Collyhurst. You can book your free place now at www.caritassalford.org.uk/booksigning. All proceeds from book sales go to Caritas Salford.

10. JOB VACANCIES: Parish Administrator - St Mary's Presbytery, Oswaldtwistle. Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent

Working Hours: 5 hours per week.

Working pattern to be agreed with the Parish Priest.

Location: St Mary's Presbytery, Catlow Hall Street, Oswaldtwistle, BB5 3EZ

Salary: £13.23 per hour

Find out more and apply at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies>

11. SUNDAY SMILE: Last weekend a local church celebrated St. Valentine's Day with a very pleasant and enjoyable social evening. The parish comedian, as usual, was there with his topical one liners. Here are just a few.

My wife first agreed to go out with me after I gave her a bottle of tonic water. I just Schwegged her off her feet.

I was told never to go out with a tennis player. Love means nothing to them.

My wife called me lazy and said I'd better have something planned for St. Valentine's Day. I said, "Yes, I was thinking of taking down the Christmas decorations."

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed
TUESDAY: **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
WEDNESDAY: **St Herbert's:** Chaplet of Divine Mercy 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:** Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
Corpus Christi: Requiem Mass for KATHLEEN CLIFTON (R.I.P) at 12.00 Noon.
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

RIP: Brian Chaplin, Mary O'Boyle.
Anniversary: Colin Prince, Susan and Tony Adams.
Special Intention: George Harnilton.
Lately Dead: Joan Danaher.

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, 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.



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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

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.