

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR C

9 March 2025

As with each First Sunday of Lent the Gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness; as we begin the journey of Lent, during which we will consider our lives as members of the Church, we look to the example of Jesus when it comes to dealing with temptation. Choosing to follow God's path is the first characteristic of the Christian: this is underlined in the two other readings, which outline the two "creeds" or statements of belief - one of Israel and one of the Christian. Both of them emphasise "believing in the heart and confessing with the lips": both creeds underline the Salvation that God has achieved - for Israel it was freedom from Egypt, for the Christian freedom from death in Jesus.

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: Deuteronomy 26:4-10 - Moses tells the people to announce how the Lord brought them out of Egypt, and to bow down in the sight of God.

Psalms: Psalm 90 - Be with me Lord in my distress / He who dwells in the shelter of the most high / Upon you no evil shall fall

Second: Romans 10:8-13 - Confess from your lips and believe from your heart - scripture makes no distinction between Jew and Greek.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 - Jesus is tempted by the devil in the wilderness - do not put the Lord to the test.

3. **St Herbert's Coffee Morning:** Come and join us this weekend Sunday 9th March for Tea/Coffee and refreshments following the 11am mass.

4. LENTEN DEANERY STATION MASSES/CONFESSIONS:

Note that confession is available at 6.30pm before each Mass at 7.00pm as agreed in the deanery meeting.

No Parish Mass at Corpus Christi Church on these days.

- Tuesday, 11 March at St Joseph's Mossley (Bishop will attend and lead)
- Tuesday, 18 March at St Joseph's Shaw
- Tuesday, 25 March at St Herbert's Church (Annunciation of the Lord, Solemnity)
- Tuesday, 1 April at St Ann's Ashton
- Tuesday, 8 April at St Edward's Lees

5. **SVP:** The date of the next SVP meeting has been changed to Sunday, 27 April after 11.00 am Mass in St Herbert's Parish Centre. This is the date of the Coffee Morning at St Herbert's which coincides with the Feast of Divine Mercy.

6. **CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST DAY** is on Friday March 14. In this year of Jubilee, Pope Francis calls on us to be tangible signs of hope for those of our sisters and brothers who experience hardships of any kind. Please take a CAFOD envelope this weekend and return it next weekend. Thank you.

7. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday during Lent at 9.30AM before the 10am Mass at St Herbert's Church.

8. PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLE. KESWICK.

SATURDAY 29TH MARCH 2025: Details: Leave by coach from St Herbert's church 8.30am. Short stop at Tebay Services enroute to Keswick. Fr. Lawrence will celebrate mass on the edge of Derwent Water, overlooking St Herbert's Island. Free time for lunch & time to visit Keswick. Return from Booths Car park at 4pm. Everyone is welcome to join us on this wonderful spiritual journey. Price: £20 for adults. £10 for children. Add your name to the list if interested by 9th March. Payments can be made from 9th March & deadline for all payments is Sunday 23rd March.

9. DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM:

Our diocesan pilgrimage office is now taking bookings for its next annual pilgrimage to Walsingham. Our pilgrimage in this Holy Year of Jubilee 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://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/walsingham-pilgrimage-2025> or call 0161 817 2209

10. **LENTEN DAY RETREAT:** The Parish of Our Lady of Hope in Salford is hosting a Day Retreat to help us prepare and reflect during this season of Lent. Taking place at Ss Peter and Paul RC Church, the retreat will include time for Adoration, praise and worship, with talks from guest speakers John Hesketh and Daniella Stephens. The retreat takes place on Saturday 29 March, 10am - 4pm. Lunch will be provided.

11. LEGION OF MARY (DIVINE MERCY PARISH):

Our Legion of Mary members continue to meet every Wednesday evening at 7.30 - 9.00pm at St Herbert's Parish Church. We are always looking for new members to join and expand this beautiful devotion to 'Our Lady Mother of Christ'. Please feel free to come and visit one of our meetings, speak to one of our Legion members or alternatively ring Annette on 07975869010. Auxiliary (praying) members are also required as a very important part of our work.

12. 'WALK WITH ME' BOOKLETS - A JOURNEY OF PRAYER FOR LENT:

Are available at the back of both Churches. £1.00 (St Herbert's - please put the money in the Booklets ' Wall box.) Thank you.

13. THE RITE OF ELECTION:

The rite of election for RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) candidates takes place today, Sunday 9th March at 2.30pm in St Patrick's Church Collyhurst. We have a candidate from our parish. So you are welcome to attend if you can. Thanks.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 240; Offertory: 362, 122; Communion: 759; Recessional: 131.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 131 ; Offertory:699 ; Communion: 557, 628; Recessional: 700 .

14. GIFT AID DONATIONS 2025 -2026: 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 envelop 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 the new Gift Aid and Non-Gift Aid envelopes (St Herbert's), which start on 6 April, from Ken Coop (Corpus Christi) and Deborah Kearney (St Herbert's) from 15/16 March. For further information, please email divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com. Thank you.

15. THE RED MISSION BOXES will be collected in St Herbert's Parish Centre on Thursday 27th March at 7.30pm

16. SCHOOL NEWS:

Corpus Christi: This week, we gathered as a school and parish community for our Ash Wednesday Mass. Our Pupil Chaplains led a reverent mass and helped us all think about our Lenten journey ahead. Thank you to our parish family for their kind and thoughtful words following the mass, it was lovely to hear. This week we also celebrated World Book Day. This year we hosted the 'Smarties Challenge'. We had some very creative and imaginative entries. Children across the school took part in a range of World Book Day activities.

St Herbert's: It's been a very exciting week .On Wednesday the whole school came together with the Parish family for Ash Wednesday which begins the season of Lent. The children's behaviour was impeccable and the singing wonderful, making us very proud of them. On Monday the parents were invited into school to view the potato book characters that the children had made for World Book Day. The characters were amazing and it was obvious that the children had put a lot of thought and effort into making them. Then on Thursday (WBD) the children arrived in a colourful array of costumes even the staff dressed up! We had a special assembly,lots of activities but then in the afternoon key stage 2 went to different classrooms to read to the younger children. Finally on Friday Donavan Christopher aka Rappaman visited school. He has been writing poetry for the past 20years as a tool for self-expression and to tackle social problems. There were a variety of workshops for the children which they really enjoyed and we hope we gave them a thirst for poetry.

17. BROADWAY CENTENARY: Broadway, the major trunk road that runs the entire length of our parish, was 100 years old last weekend. When St. Herbert's Church was founded in 1916, it was on an insignificant side street called Park Street, which was to become incorporated in Broadway. To commemorate the centenary, a Plaque is to be erected opposite St. Herbert's School early next month.

18. SUNDAY SMILE: During the week a 19-year-old girl from a neighbouring parish disappeared. Apparently, she used a revolutionary new face cream that makes you look 20 years younger.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed
TUESDAY: LENTEN DEANERY STATION MASS; ST JOSEPH'S MOSSLEY AT 7.00 PM (BISHOP WILL ATTEND AND LEAD)
NO PARISH MASS
WEDNESDAY: St Herbert's: Divine Mercy Prayer 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
 Holy Souls in Purgatory.
R.I.P: Claire Kershaw.
Anniversaries: Elsie Lawson (2nd anniversary),
 Kevin Mc Donough.
Lately Dead: Evelyn Thomas.
Special Intention: Catherine Kirkham.

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.

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.



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