

8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

2 March 2025

We have many sayings about results being more important than promises, such as “the proof of the pudding is in the eating”. Today’s scripture readings are all about this – the ways in which our words and actions will reveal who we truly are. There is a wonderful mosaic of poetic wisdom in the readings this Sunday – images and parables and similes that can sit in our heads and hearts, and make us think about the sort of people we are, and the words we use and the fruits we produce by them. And we should pray that we will always produce good, sound fruit, so that we may keep on working at the Lord’s work always, and so share in Christ’s victory over death itself.

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: Sirach 27: 4-7 - The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit.

Psalms 91 - It is good to give you thanks O Lord / The just will flourish like the palm-tree / Planted in the house of the Lord.

Second: I Corinthians 15:54-58 - Death is swallowed up in victory - thank God for giving us victory through Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45 - Jesus shared short parables about seeing to your own goodness first - a sound tree produces sound fruit - for a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.

3. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING: Come and join us for our Monthly Coffee Morning. This Sunday 2nd March 2025.

Tea, Coffee and Homemade Cakes.
Everyone Welcome.

4. ST AIDAN AND OSWALD'S: You are warmly invited to a Lent Taize Service at Ss Aidan & Oswald's Church on Sunday 9th March 2025 at 7.30pm. Please use the Vaughan Street entrance.

5. DIOCESAN SYNOD: EVENING PRAYER: On Sunday 2 March, 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 Patrick's 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. MASSES ON ASH WEDNESDAY- 5 MARCH 2025:

- St Herbert's: Parish/School Mass at 10.00AM.
- Corpus Christi: School Mass in Church at 1.30pm
- Corpus Christi: Parish Mass at 6.30pm.

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

8. '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.

9. DEANERY CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME:

Newman Sessions:

- Student Meetings (Taking place AT SCHOOL):
Session 1 - Monday 17th March (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 2 - Monday 24th March (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 3 - Monday 31st March (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 4 - Monday 28th April (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 5 - W/C Mon. 5th May (3.30 - 5.00PM) *TBC
Session 6 - Monday 12th May (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 7 - Monday 19th May (3.30 - 5.00PM)

Damian's Sessions:

- Student Meetings (Taking place AT SCHOOL):
Session 1 - Tuesday 18th March (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 2 - Tuesday 25th March (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 3 - Tuesday 1st April (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 4 - Tuesday 29th April (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 5 - Tuesday 6th May (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 6 - Tuesday 13th May (3.30 - 5.00PM)
Session 7 - Tuesday 20th May (3.30 - 5.00PM)

Edward's Sessions:

- Student Meetings (at St. Edward's Church, Lees):
Session 1 - Tuesday 18th March (6 - 7.30PM)
Session 2 - Tuesday 25th March (6 - 7.30PM)
Session 3 - Tuesday 1st April (6 - 7.30PM)
Session 4 - Tuesday 29th April (6 - 7.30PM)
Session 5 - Tuesday 6th May (6 - 7.30PM)
Session 6 - Tuesday 13th May (6 - 7.30PM)
Session 7 - Tuesday 20th May (6 - 7.30PM)

Note: Parents of all young people who wish to be confirmed have a meeting on 12 March at 7pm at St Edward's Church, Lees. The confirmations will take place at 7pm on 4th and 5th June at St. Mary's Failsworth and St. Edward's Lees respectively. Young people of year 8 age group and older can register at the parent's meeting on 12 March.

10. 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 divinemercyoldham@gmail.com. Thank you.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 1; Offertory: 366, 362; Communion: 628; Recessional: 558.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 361 ; Offertory:272 ; Communion: 605, 397; Recessional: 120 .

11. OUR LADY MOTHER OF CHRIST PREASIDIUM:
holds her meeting every Wednesday at St Herbert's sacristy, 7.30pm. New members are welcome. Mary Mother of Christ, pray for us.

12. DIOCESAN SYNOD: THE END OF THE JOURNEY:
This weekend, our Diocesan Synod draws to a close with the final stage of the journey. On Saturday, clergy and lay synod members gathered to vote on the 40 recommendations that will form our Pastoral Plan to guide our diocese in the years to come. To find out more about the process, the recommendations, and results, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/diocesan-synod-end-of-the-journey>

13. PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLAND. KESWICK. SATURDAY 29TH MARCH 2025:

Details: Leave by coach from St. Herbert's church 8.30am. Short stop at Tebay services on route to Keswick. Celebrate mass on the edge of Derwent Water overlooking St Herbert's Island. Free time for lunch & visit Keswick market before setting off to return at 4pm.

Everyone welcome, we encourage anyone who has not experienced this wonderful spiritual journey previously to join us.

Price between £18 & £20 for adults & family tickets will be available (price dependent on numbers.)

Any Divine Mercy Parish members, who are interested in the above please add your name, number in your party and telephone number to the list at the back of each church by March 7th 2025.

14. `SCHOOL NEWS:

Corpus Christi: This week, the staff and children returned to school, refreshed and eager to start the busy half term ahead! The children are excited about the many learning opportunities ahead this term. Our Pupil Chaplains have been busy preparing for their Ash Wednesday Mass. We look forward to sharing this Mass with our parish family next week, and beginning our Lenten journey with you all.

St Herbert's: We welcomed the children back to school this week after half term. On Monday class 5 went to the library to encourage the children to join as well as encouraging the love of reading.

Also on Monday year 6 made the annual trip to Young Voices which was held at the new Co-op Arena. Over 8000 children sang together -the sound was amazing and of course the children threw themselves into the occasion! On Friday upper key stage two held a topic day based on world war 2. They were asked to dress up in 1940's costumes which ranged from child evacuees, women who worked in the fields and of course, soldiers.They tried sweets,learnt about the Blitz and the procedures for an air raid.Think they realised how lucky they have been ! Finally year 6 are taking part in a 10 week project called Project Chameleon which is delivered by ex-police men. The project covers different aspects of law and crime, helping them to make positive choices going forward. The topics covered range from anti-social behaviour,drugs,weapons,getting arrested. There are lots of discussions, hands on exercises,booklets to complete and videos to watch.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY:	Both churches closed
TUESDAY:	Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
ASH WEDNESDAY:	St Herbert's: Parish/School Mass at 10.00 am Corpus Christi: School Mass in Church at 1.30 pm Corpus Christi: Parish Mass at 6.30 pm
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

Lately Dead: Bernard Mulhall, Rita Connell.

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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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.