

2nd SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

YEAR A

4 JANUARY 2026

The Prologue of St John has a special place in Christian theology, and for centuries was recited at the end of the Mass as summing up the whole work of redemption. It begins with God's creation by the Word, and ends with the completion of the purpose of creation through the grace and truth of Jesus Christ. In the centre comes the incarnation, which enables and invites those who accept Christ to become children of God. In John's Gospel Jesus reveals to us who God is and says that he is the true light of the world. And this light is here among us. So, let us continue to share with all the grace and light of Christ.

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: Ecclesiasticus / Sirach 24: 1-2, 8-12 - The wisdom of God has pitched her tent among the chosen people.

Psalms: Psalm 147 - The Word became flesh and dwelt among us / O praise the Lord Jerusalem / He established peace on your borders / He makes the word known to Jacob

Second: Ephesians 1: 3-6, 15-18 - Before the world was made, God chose us to be his children.

Gospel: John 1: 1-18 - In the beginning was the word ... John came, sent by God as a witness for the light ... no one has even seen God, only the Son who is nearest the Father's heart.

3. BAPTISM: We welcome into the Divine Mercy community Jackson Peter Riley who was baptized in the Parish last weekend.

4. HAPPY NEW YEAR: May I take this opportunity to wish all parishioners and their families a very happy, healthy and holy New Year. Fr. Lawrence.

5. DIOCESAN ALMANAC: on sale at the back of each church. Wirebound copy - £6.00; Plain copy £5.00.

6. CORPUS CHRISTI A TEAM CLEANING: Cleaning will resume on Monday 5th January please, 8.45 - 9.30am.

Spring Schedule; 5, 19 Jan, 2, 16 Feb, 2, 16, 30 March. New volunteers are always welcome. It only takes 45 minutes and we always have a cuppa & cake to finish.

7. CORPUS CHRISTI PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: These are now available at the church entrance. These commence this Sunday for one year until the end of December 2026. They are free to collect and use. Although numbered 1-25, their contents are not recorded and are simply to enable parishioners to put their collection offering in a sealed envelope before they attend Mass weekly. Gift Aid envelopes in boxes are due out in March.

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9. CORPUS CHRISTI CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Lessons will resume next Sunday, 12th January, in the house. New children 3/4 yrs old are welcome with parents alongside until they know the routine. There will be a short staff meeting in the house during the coffee morning this Sunday please. New teachers and helpers are welcome to join us for this Spring term. Pass your name & mobile number to one of the Welcomers please.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 651 ; Offertory: 614 , 122 ; Communion: 134; Recessional 722: .

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 526; Offertory: 365; Communion: 614 , 155; Recessional: 135.

10. FEAST OF EPIPHANY – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION - TUESDAY JANUARY 6:

St Herbert's: Mass at 10.00 am
Corpus Christi: Mass at 7.00 pm

11. SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT – 7 JANUARY: At the age of forty – seven Raymond entered the Dominican Order; he then became confessor to Pope Gregory IX, and collated the decrees of Popes and Councils into the 'Book of Decretals'; he also compiled the 'Summary of Cases', a text book on The Sacrament of Penance for the use of priests. He died, aged around 100, in 1275.

12. SUNDAY SMILE: *A parishioner's New Year Party went really well with everyone having to tell a corny 'Knock, knock' joke. Here are some of them.*

Knock, knock. Who's there? Luke. Luke who?

Luke at the clock, it's almost midnight already!

Knock, knock. Who's there? Norma Lee. Norma Lee who?

Normally we sing auld lang syne on the stroke of midnight.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Iris. Iris who?

Iris you all a very Happy New Year.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Gladys. Gladys who?

Glad its been such a wonderful party.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Ken. Ken who?

Ken you help me to take down the decorations

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed.

TUESDAY: (Feast of Epiphany – Holy Day of Obligation)

St Herbert's: Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am

Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm

WEDNESDAY: **St Herbert's:** Divine Mercy Prayer at 9.30 am; **Whole School/ Parish Mass** at 10.00 am

THURSDAY: **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer 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 populon

R.I.P: Holy Souls in Purgatory, Mary Booth.

Anniversary: Annie Theresa mc Donnell, Fr.

David O' Kane.

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, Luke Burke, Mary Gowran, 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, Heather Matson, Christopher Ward, Mary Prince, Ann Muldoon, Boe Heppel.



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St Herbert's RC Church, 148 Broadway OL9 0JY

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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.