

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

25 JANUARY 2026

We will spend most of the Sundays of this year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel (like the others has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment. Today is a perfect example. "Zebulun and Naphthali" was an old name for the area round Capernaum by the side of the Lake of Galilee, a busy fishing and trading area, with many Gentile towns and settlements: it is here, rather than in the dangerous town of Nazareth, that Jesus "settles" and begins his ministry. This is where the proclamation of the Kingdom of God begins, as was foretold, and the first followers are invited to join 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: Isaiah 9: 1b – 4 - The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light ... you have made their gladness greater.

Psalms 27 : The Lord is my light and my help / There is one thing I ask of the Lord / I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness.

Second: I Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 : Paul urges the believes to make up the differences between themselves and to be united in Christ ... rather than having slogans like "I am for Paul" or "I am for Cephas".

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 - Jesus settled in Capernaum, fulfilling the prophesy of Isaiah "The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light". He calls the fishermen Simon Peter and Andrew to "follow me and I will make you fishers of men". Then he goes all around Galilee, preaching.

3. ST HERBERT'S SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING: All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you joining us for our first of 2026 Coffee Morning, this Sunday 25th January following the 11am mass.

4. PARISH LADIES DINNER AND DANCE

FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2026: If any ladies would like to come to the annual dinner at St Herbert's Parish Centre on Friday 30th January 2026 please contact Janette Sterritt at St Herbert's (janettesterritt@outlook.com) or Annmarie Ford at Corpus Christi (Tel 07593 796224). This is a great opportunity to get together and meet other ladies of the parish, we have a 4 course meal provided by Greenwoods catering followed by entertainment and dancing with Cliff's Disco. This is a very popular event but we still have a few places available. If you are new to the parish or have not been to the dinner before and want more details please get in touch with us. The price is £28.

5. DATE FOR YOUR DIARY-PILGRIMAGE TO ST HERBERT'S ISLE KESWICK: Our annual pilgrimage to St Herbert's Isle Keswick will take place on Saturday 21st March 2026. After our journey by coach to Keswick we celebrate

Mass together overlooking St Herbert's Isle then there is free time in the town before the coach returns to St Herbert's Church. Price: Adults £18 Children £10. A list will be put up at the back of both churches in due course.

6. CARITAS SUNDAY 2026: There will be a retiring collection this Weekend for the work of Caritas Salford, the principal domestic charity of the Diocese of Salford supporting local people experiencing poverty, homelessness and displacement. Copies of their newsletter, Love in Action, are available in church highlighting just some of the difference your support has made possible in the past year. Please visit the website: www.caritassalford.org.uk/caritassunday for more information or to make a donation towards the ministry of charity in our Diocese. Donations are also welcome by cheque which can be made payable to Caritas Diocese of Salford and returned using one of the freepost envelopes available in church. Alternatively, envelopes marked CARITAS SUNDAY can be sent to Caritas House, Nobby Stiles Drive, Manchester M4 4FA. Please include your full name, address and postcode and indicate if you wish to 'Gift Aid' your donation. The Caritas team are available on 01618172250 (press 1 for fundraising) during office hours to help. Thank you.

7. LENTEN TALKS: SCHOOL OF PRAYER: During Lent, a series of talks and prayerful reflections will be taking place every Tuesday from 10:30AM to 12:30PM, led by Mgr Paul Smith, Sr Joan Kerley and Maria Kidd. These will be held at Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church, Little Hulton, from 17 February to 24 March, and light refreshments will be served. For more information on how to book your place please visit the diocesan website by clicking the following link: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lenten-talks-school-of-prayer/>

8. RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY RESOURCES FOR 8 FEBRUARY: Caritas Salford has collated a set of resources for Racial Justice Sunday on 8 February, including the excellent Churches Together resource 'Love Your Neighbour' which has ideas on how parishes can take action. Read more and access the free resources, prayers and other information here now: www.caritassalford.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 234 ; Offertory: 801 , 175 ; Communion: 657; Recessional 439: .
ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 131; Offertory: 122; Communion: 165 , 462; Recessional: 259.

9. SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Thomas – 28 January: was born in Aquino c1225. Becoming a Dominican he studied at Cologne under St. Albert the Great. An outstanding thinker, writer and teacher, he died in 1274.

St John Bosco – 31 January: born in 1815 in the north of Italy, dedicated his priestly ministry to working with young people, especially street children whom he encountered in Turin. He established the Salesians of Don Bosco and the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians, to assist in this work. He died in 1888.

10. SCHOOL NEWS

Corpus Christi: It has been a quiet week in Corpus Christi this week with the children getting settled back into their learning and school routines. Our after-school clubs have begun including dance, choir, football, cricket along with our faith clubs

that run all year round Laudato Si, Mini Vinnies and Pupil Chaplains which meet one morning a week before school. Our Y5/6 boys football team competed in a tournament on Monday and did very well. They have progressed to the finals next Monday. We wish them the best of luck and are very proud with how far they've come.

St Herbert's: Again this week has been a quiet week ! Two classes from upper key stage 2 went to Mass on Friday to celebrate with the parish Family. The children are working hard and playing hard even in the cold weather-they obviously don't feel it! Have a lovely week and keep school in your prayers.

11. SUNDAY SMILE: How many parishioners are aware that Karl Marx had a sister, Onya. She is best remembered for inventing the starting pistol!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

MONDAY: Both churches closed.
TUESDAY: **Corpus Christi:** Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
WEDNESDAY: **St Herbert's:** Divine Mercy Prayer at 9.30 am; 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 populo
Special Intention: Pauline and Tony Power.
Anniversary: Jack Huntington, Norah Carter.
R.I.P: William Ambrose, John Southworth, Hugh Desmond Fitzpatrick, All deceased members of Nangle family, The Birrell family, James Cromwell, Gerard Traynor, John Goggins.
Birthdays Thanksgiving: Kamali

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, Harry Kynaston, Shirley Kynaston.



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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.