

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**YEAR A**

**1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

Last week we heard Saint Matthew describing the beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. This week Saint Matthew begins the most important summary of the proclamation of the kingdom of God – what we refer to as the "Sermon on the Mount." This great collection of Jesus' teachings begins with the Beatitudes – the Charter of the Kingdom. It is essential to understand these, if we are to understand what we will read in Saint Matthew during the rest of this year: the key, as underlined by the First Reading, is that the values of this world are not the values of the Kingdom of God – the Kingdom will see things turned upside down: happiness and blessing belong to those whom this world would ignore or mistreat. If we truly wish to live out the Gospel, we would do well to reflect on the virtues laid out in this familiar passage.

**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: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13** - Seek the Lord all you humble of the earth ... in your midst I will leave a humble and lovely people.

**Psalms 146 - How happy are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven** / It is the Lord who keeps faith forever / It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind / It is the Lord who loves the just.

**Second: I Corinthians 1:26-31** - God chose what is foolish by human reckoning ... God has made members of Christ Jesus and by doing so has become our wisdom, virtue, holiness and freedom.

**Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12** - The Beatitudes - happy are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**3. CARITAS SALFORD CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is looking for parish volunteers to help with a range of activities. These are flexible roles that can be tailored in line with your availability, skills or interests. If you're able to give even a few hours to help, they would be hugely grateful.

You can find out more at: [www.caritassalford.org.uk/service/in-your-parish/](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/service/in-your-parish/)

**4. BAPTISM:** We welcome into the Divine Mercy parish TOROABASI NKUTJESUS EKPOUDOM, who was baptized in the Parish last weekend.

**5. LOURDES FUNDRAISER QUIZ NIGHT**

The Lourdes Committee would like to invite you to a fundraising event on Saturday 7 February. All funds raised will go towards arrangements for the 2026 Lourdes Pilgrimage. Tickets are £10, payable on the door, and this will include a pie and pea supper. The quiz begins at 7:30PM at St Luke's Parish Hall, Swinton Park Road, Salford, M6 7WR.

**6. CORPUS CHRISTI COFFEE MORNING:** Please come and join us for the first Coffee Morning of 2026, this Sunday

1<sup>st</sup> February. There will be Teas, Coffee, fruit drinks and a selection of Home made Cakes and a chance to have a chat with fellow parishioners. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**7. TALK FROM CARDINAL TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE OP**

On 17 February, Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP will be giving a talk as part of a series of guest lectures from Manchester Universities Catholic Chaplaincy. The theme will be 'How we can keep our hope alive today.'

The talk will begin at 6PM at the Catholic Chaplaincy Church of the Holy Name, 339 Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9PG. British Sign Language interpretation will be available.

For more information please contact [mucc@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:mucc@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**8. CORPUS CHRISTI GIFT AID BOXES OF ENVELOPES**

This weekend there will be a short appeal for new donors to join our scheme. There is a rapid turnover of parishioners these days and we have a number of new families who have joined us in the last few years. The new "Stained Glass Window" boxes contain 52 Yellow envelopes for each Sunday of the year. You need to be paying tax on Wages/Salary, Pension or Savings to join our scheme.

Once the form is completed with Name, Address and Signature, new boxes will be issued in March to each person with their own unique number. The new envelopes start on Sat/Sunday 12th April. Ken.

**9. 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.

**10. LENTEN TALKS: SCHOOL OF PRAYER:** During Lent, a series of talks and prayerful reflections will be taking

**HYMNS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Entrance: 110; Offertory: 131, 362; Communion: 681; Recessional: 604.

**ST HERBERT'S:** Entrance: 557; Offertory: 175; Communion: 418, 511; Recessional: 828.

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/>

**11. 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/](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/)

**12. SCHOOL NEWS**

**Corpus Christi:**

This week, children in EYFS and KS1 enjoyed their annual visit off Freddie Fit. As always, they enjoyed their session with him, learning about the importance of looking after our body and keeping fit and healthy.

Next week, our children in LKS2 and Year 5 will also enjoy a session with Freddie Fit. Dove Class also had their class assembly all about National Storytelling Week which begins next week. They talked about the love of reading and the importance of telling stories not just from a book. They spoke loud and proud and sang a wonderful song. We were very proud of them all. On Monday, our Year 5 and 6 boys football team had their final tournament but narrowly lost out on goal difference. We are very proud of how far they've come and know they will bounce back next time!

**St Herbert's:**

This week the children who are on the Sacramental journey attended their second session based on the Liturgy of the Word. Please keep them in your prayers. We would also like your prayers for a governor of our school, Dale Harris who has died. Please keep him and his young family in your prayers.

**13. SUNDAY SMILE:**

One of our parishioners had to visit his doctor during the week. He told him that he kept dreaming his eyes were constantly changing colour. The doctor examined him very carefully, and then said that it was probably just a pigment of his imagination.

**WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

<b>MONDAY:</b>	Both churches closed.
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Divine Mercy Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	<b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am <b>St Herbert's: Funeral Mass for Mary Graham at 1.00 pm</b>
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer at 5.00 pm; Mass at 5.30 pm
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Corpus Christi:</b> Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am <b>St Herbert's:</b> Private Prayer 10.30 am; Mass at 11.00 am

**CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST**

**MASS REQUESTS**

**Missa pro populon**

**Anniversary:** Owen McDonnell, Regina Anthony

**Birthday Memories:** Edward Coonan

**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.



0161 624 2258



[divinemercuryoldham@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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.