

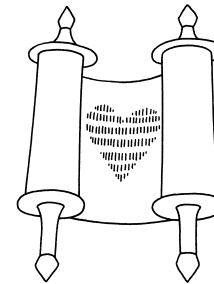
THIS WEEKEND		23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time		Year B
Sat 4th Sept	5.00pm	St O	Harry & Pauline Haslam B'Day Remembrance	
	6.30pm	St T	Dan Rubin (illness) Harry Parkinson (LD)	
Sun 5th Sept	8:30am	St O	Parishioners	
	9.30am	St T	Roger Holdcoft Freda Gidlow (LD)	
	11.00am	St MM	Mr Gerard Smith (LD) Parishioners	
Divine Office Week 2				
Mon 6th Sept	9.30am	St O	Ron Pope (A)	
Tues 7th Sept	9.15am	St T	Kathleen + David Nicholson 60th Wedding Anniversary	
	9.30am	St O	Neil Smith (A)	
Wed 8th Sept <small>Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary</small>	9.30am	St MM	Fr Xavier Birthday Ronald Pope (A)	
Thu 9th Sept	9.30am	St O	Martin Delaney (LD)	
	7.00pm	St T	Shelia Shepherd	
Fri 10th Sept <small>St Ambrose Barlow</small>	9.15am	St T	Alan Derbyshire (LD)	
	9.30am	St O	Doreen Moss (A)	
NEXT WEEKEND		24th Sunday in Ordinary Time		Year B
Sat 11th Sept	5.00pm	St O	Parishioners	
	6.30pm	St T	Joyce Thornley (LD)	
Sun 12th Sept	8:30am	St O	Tom Sutton (A)	
	9.30am	St T	Anniversary, Parishioners	
	10.30am	St O	First Holy Communion Y5 Children Enrolment Mass	
	11.00am	St MM	Gerry Smith (RIP)	

The CATHOLIC CHURCH
in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON
St Mary Magdalen, St Oswald, St Teresa

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23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
5th September 2021
Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage, do not be afraid. Look, your God is coming to save you!'

God's word is always calling out to us anew, inviting us to ways of seeing more keenly and hearing more deeply. What are today's readings bringing to my attention?

Isaiah, in the **First Reading**, offers a theme as he calls us to see what needs to be seen, to hear properly, to move lithely and with purpose, and to speak honestly and with joy.

The **Psalms**, also, speaks of profound attentiveness as it invites us to notice the Lord's priorities – the oppressed and needy come before all else. I might ask how this sits with today's culture and with my own daily life-choices?

In both **Second Reading** and **Gospel**, we are left in no doubt about those whom God chooses. Through today's word, the Lord is making an appeal to me – to notice, to be moved and to imitate.

Let's pray, this week, that we ourselves might be opened to the wonders of the Lord and also to his challenges as we try to resist being closed to the plight of those whom God raises to first place.

**Please adhere to guidelines when entering and leaving the church.
Remember the Sunday obligation has not been reinstated and
livestreaming Masses will continue.**

Following the Government announcement with regards to changes to Covid-19 regulations, which came in to force on Monday July 19th, the Diocese has now issued some suggested guidelines, as a way forward for each parish in the Archdiocese. Here are some of the main points, which will continue with in our Churches.

* Face coverings will remain mandatory for all those coming to a church service. (Exemptions for medical reasons excluded.)

* Hand sanitising will remain necessary as people arrive.

* The numbers for weddings, funerals and baptisms will be limited by the capacity of each building.

There are other practical suggestions to help us move forward in the briefing, which we will be slowly & gradually be introducing over the next few weeks.

St Oswald's Y5 First Holy Communion Children: A special Enrolment Mass will take place on **Sunday 12 September at 10.30am** for the children, their parents and immediate family to celebrate the start of the sacramental programme.

Parish Pilgrimage to Carfin in Scotland, National Shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes. October 25th 2021 for 5days. Travelling by luxury coach, courtesy of Northern Star Travel, staying in Glasgow for 4 nights half board. Visits to Edinburgh, Oban and Loch Ness included. Cost £450 sharing. Single supplement £100. There are 5 places left. Contact Dorothy on 742927 for further details and a Booking form.

Penwortham Farmers Market, which is held at St Teresa's Car Park, Queensway, Penwortham, PR1 0DS, will take place on Saturday 4th Sept. The market sells local produce which includes Eggs, Cheese, Meats, Vegetables, Fruits, Fresh Fish, Jams, Plants, Cakes, Pies, Veggie Curries, Soaps, Wine, Gin, Fudge and hot coffees. Our craft stalls have also returned which helps make the market an interesting place to visit on a Saturday morning.

Foodbank Request: During September, the foodbank would like donations of tinned vegetables, soup and tinned meat. All donations gratefully received.

St Teresa's Ladies Association: Welcome back –We will meet for coffee and a chat after Mass – 10.00am in the Romero Room on Tuesday 14th September. ALL WELCOME

Shoe Box Appeal—“Send a Smile” to a child in poverty. Fill a shoe box with appropriate gifts, toiletries, toys, small items of clothes, stationary and practical goods eg: mini sewing kits, strings, plasters etc. All boxes can be wrapped but please wrap the lid separately and label age group who the box is for. Can you knit a teddy (pattern available) or maybe a teddy bag 10” x 13” with a draw string top? All can be left at the back of church.

John and Dorothy Russell would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Fr Roy, friends and parishioners, for masses, cards, flowers and gifts on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding. God Bless You.

Next weekend 10th/11th Sept there is a second collection for Catholic Education Service.

September SVP awareness month.— The SVP is a group of volunteer parishioners who set out to help anyone in need and provide services to help our parish community. You can join or help us in what ever way you can, thank you to parishioners who have offered to help. You can still contact us –Catherine 740569 or Paul 07801358197 for further information. Last weekend, we received £367.50p in donations thank you for your continuing support.

Congratulations to the new Bishop of Plestia and Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool, Tom Neylon who was ordained at the cathedral on Friday 3 September.

Bishop Tom was ordained by Archbishop Malcom McMahon in the first major service to be celebrated in the cathedral since the beginning of the pandemic and the first Episcopal Ordination in Liverpool since that of Bishop Tom Williams in 2003.

The cathedral welcomed Apostolic Nuncio, the Vatican's representative in Great Britain, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Bishops from England and Wales as well as priests and parishioners from the archdiocese to the ordination.

To see photographs of the ordination: www.flickr.com/liverpoolcatholic and there will be an ordination special in September's edition of the Catholic Pic.

Caring for our Common Home: During the Season of Creation, you might like to dip into Pope Francis' encyclical letter, *Laudato Si'*. The title is taken from the first line of the encyclical, "Laudato si', mi Signore" ("Praise be to you, my Lord"). These words come from the beautiful Canticle of the Creatures by St Francis of Assisi. The subtitle of the encyclical, 'On Care for our Common Home', explains what the letter is about.

Pope Francis urgently appeals “for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affects us all” (14). He challenges us to consider the kind of world we want to leave to those who come after us. Quoting Pope Saint John Paul II, Pope Francis reminds us that, as Christians, we are called to be responsible custodians of creation: “Christians in their turn ‘realise that their responsibility within creation, and their duty towards nature and the Creator, are an essential part of their faith’ ” (64).

Prayer of the Week

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**