

THIS WEEKEND	Third Sunday of Ordinary Time		Year C
Sat 22nd January	5.00pm	St O	Bernard Hamilton B'Day Remembrance
	6.30pm	St T	William + Mary O'Neill (Deceased)
Sun 23rd January	8.30am	St O	Tom Steele (A)
	9.30am	St T	John Grant (A)
	10.30am	St O	Y5 Sacramental Programme Family Mass
	11.00am	St MM	Sheila Helm, Gerard 'Gerry' Smith
Divine Office Week 3			
Mon 24th January <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	9.30am	St O	Clarke Successful Operation
Tues 25th January <i>Conversion of St Paul</i>	9.15am	St T	Parishioners
	9.30am	St O	Roy Tilling(A)
Wed 26th January <i>St Timothy, St Titus</i>	9.30am	St MM	Robert Clarke Deceased
Thu 27th January	9.30am	St O	Peter & Mairead Wareing
	11.30am	St T	Requiem Mass: Carol Tidy
	7.00pm	St T	Leo Ashburner Bedworth
Fri 28th January <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	9.15am	St T	Parishioners
	9.30am	St O	Tess Sanderson LD
	11.30am	St MM	Requiem Mass: Donald McManamon
NEXT WEEKEND	Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time		Year C
Sat 29th January	5.00pm	St O	Frank Jones B'Day Remembrance
	6.30pm	St T	Brian Pennington (RIP)
Sun 30th January	8.30am	St O	Mary O'Neil LD
	9.30am	St T	Jean Kirby, Barbara Hankinson (A) John Thompson (B'day Rem)
	11.00am	St MM	Bernard Clarke (Dec), Paddy Killeen, Reid Family (RIP) Delaney Family (RIP)



Online Giving / Text giving: If you wish to make a donation, please follow this link or the QR code on the right:
<https://www.catholic-penwortham-longton.co.uk/finance/>

The CATHOLIC CHURCH in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON



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3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 23rd January 2022

*'Your words are spirit, Lord, and
they are life'*

On this 'Sunday of the Word of God', we are invited to deepen our relationship with the Lord through our devotion and dedication to reading and praying with scripture. In each reading, we hear how the Spirit of the Lord revives, liberates, sustains, unites and gives life.

The law of the Lord is read out by Ezra (**First Reading**), and the people are taught to celebrate it. The joy of the Lord is their stronghold.

The **Psalm** celebrates God's law of love: each line is a litany of the comfort, joy and strength that can be drawn from the Word of God.

Paul teaches that although the Christian community is very diverse, with different strengths and perspectives, we are all united in the Spirit of the Lord through our baptism (**Second Reading**).

Jesus, filled with the spirit of the Lord, reads from the word of God and proclaims that Isaiah's prophecy is embodied and fulfilled in him (**Gospel**). Jesus liberates, heals, transforms and brings good news.

As followers of Jesus who are united by the living Spirit of God, this is our calling too. With our lives centred on Scripture, the living word of God, we are not alone as we pray. We belong to a living, transforming community of believers united by our baptism. We share the same joy expressed by the Psalmist, and are guided by the word of God that the prophets proclaimed. Let us pray that our lives will be a testament to the liberating, healing teachings that Jesus embodied.

Please adhere to guidelines when entering and leaving the church.

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

* Hand sanitising will remain in place as people arrive.

*Weddings, funerals and baptisms. Guests will be limited by the capacity of each building.

Synod Support Group: More chairs have been placed on Lady Altar side of church as this is favoured by many young families as there is more room for children and buggies. However we still desperately need volunteer catechists at St Teresa's so we can restart Children's Liturgy. Please contact the parish office on 01772 743337 or see Fr Roy.

Joseph Tipping Bulb Sales to support The Sons of Divine Providence missions in Kenya. If you would like to order any bulbs please email : tipping.joseph@gmail.com or ring on 01772 743637. Collections or delivery can be arranged. Thank you for all your support.

Foodbank request: During the months of January and February, the foodbank would welcome donations of Weetabix, or shops' own brand of same. (No other cereals are needed at the moment) along with tinned meats e.g. curries, stews and Fray Bentos pies. Many thanks as always for your generosity.

SVP Rosary group- the next Rosary meeting will be at St Mary Magdalen's on 27th January at 11am.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 4th April 2022. This Pilgrimage is looking promising. Please would the Parishioners who have already booked for Lourdes, return their invoice and total balance by February 7th. You can either post direct to Northern Star or give your envelope to Dorothy. There are still a few places left if anyone wishes to join our trip... 5days full board staying at the Eliseo Hotel. Cost £625 sharing. (gone up slightly!) but doesn't effect those already booked) enquires Dorothy 742927.

K.S.C. Would like to thank you for your Donations for The White Flower Appeal on Behalf on (SPUC) Society for the Protection of Unborn Children £270., was raised.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Any young person currently in year 8 (or above) is welcome to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Registration will close on Monday 21st March.

To register they should visit liverpoolcalled.co.uk and click 'Register for Confirmation' at the top right-hand side of the page. Information about the preparation scheme that young people will follow can also be found on the Liverpool Called website.



St Teresa's Webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-teresas-penwortham>

Or by scanning the QR code left. If the picture 'freezes' then please refresh the screen to resume watching.

Prayer App of the Week

Pray As You Go: Pray As You Go is a daily prayer session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work, study, etc. A new prayer session is produced every day of the working week and one session for the weekend. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. www.prayasyougo.org



Donation box for local rough sleepers and people in need

Responding to suggestions made by parishioners during the Synod, the Synod Support Group will put boxes at the back of the churches to collect items requested by St Wilfrid's Metanoia Project and Tuesday Drop-in for local rough sleepers and people in need. The items of greatest need are:

- *Men and ladies' shower gel
- *Deodorants
- *Shampoo
- *Ladies' briefs (brand new)
- *Men's boxer shorts (brand new) preferably large
- *Men's medium and large tracksuit bottoms
- *Ladies' leggings small and medium

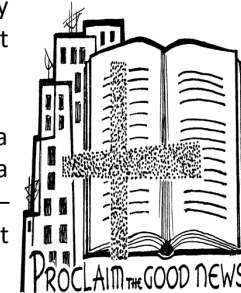
Universal Synod 2023: Archbishop Malcolm is calling us to take part in the listening phase of the Universal Synod on synodality 2023, which Pope Francis has invited the whole Church to join. Although we have already engaged with the synodal process in the archdiocese as part of Synod 2020, which initially generated 27,000 responses, we may find ourselves in a different place on our journey. To participate in this world wide listening process, you can access and download the discussion questions and submit your responses online at www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/synod2023. **The deadline for submissions is 10 March 2022.** For queries: vaticansynod@rcaol.org.uk

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is traditionally celebrated between January 18 and January 25 – the octave of St Peter and St Paul.

This year's theme is 'We Saw His Star in the East'.

The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is a very familiar one. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that come to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.



Prayer for the Week

God our heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the gift of joy in our own lives and in the lives of all who we know and love. We pray that as we journey towards the goal of Christian unity, our lives together may give a luminous and joyful witness that leads others to know Christ. **Amen**