

THIS WEEKEND	Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time		Year C
Sat 19th Feb	5.00pm	St O	Roy Allen
	6.30pm	St T	The Repose of the Soul of Margaret Rainford
Sun 20th Feb	8:30am	St O	Parishioners
	9.30am	St T	Parishioners
	11.00am	St MM	Gerard 'Gerry' Smith (RIP) Donald McManamon (LD) Special Intention (PT) Eileen Leahy (Birthday Ann)
Divine Office Week 2			
Mon 21st Feb	9.30am	St O	Sarah Green (LD)
Tues 22nd Feb <i>See of St Peter</i>	9.15am	St T	Priest's Intention
	9.30am	St O	Gerald Heatley (A)
Wed 23rd Feb <i>St Polycarp</i>	9.30am	St MM	Dorothy Fraser (RIP) Donald McManamon (RIP)
Thu 24th Feb	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention
	12 Noon	St MM	Requiem Mass: Dorothy Fraser
	7.00pm	St T	John Thompson (A)
Fri 25th Feb	9.15am	St T	Dave Rigby (A)
	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention
NEXT WEEKEND	Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time		Year C
Sat 26th Feb	10.00am	St T	Yr 5 First Holy Communion Mass
	10.30am	St O	Sacramental Programme Y4 Enrolment Mass
	12 Noon	St T	Yr 5 First Holy Communion Mass
	5.00pm	St O	Successful Operation Thanksgiving
	6.30pm	St T	Margaret + Frederick Brown, Carol Tidy
Sun 27th Feb	8:30am	St O	Mary Walsh (Recovery Operation), Parishioners
	9.30am	St T	Parishioners
	11.00am	St MM	James Gregson (A), John Spilman (LD), Special Intention (PT) Ann Astwick (dec)

The CATHOLIC CHURCH

in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON

St Mary Magdalen, St Oswald, St Teresa

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7th Sunday in Ordinary Time 20th February 2022

My soul, give thanks to the Lord!

Today's readings invite and challenge us to live generous, kind-hearted lives of compassion, mercy and love.

In the **First Reading**, David, the future king of Israel, shows great magnanimity in sparing the life of his persecutor Saul. The dramatic incident in the camp highlights David's ingenuity and his sense of honour, and indicates that Saul's days as king of Israel are numbered.

These events prepare us for today's challenging **Gospel**, where we hear Jesus urging us to show forgiveness even to our enemies, and to be '*compassionate as your Father is compassionate*'. However, the last verses make it clear that the demands of the kingdom can only be understood in the light of our relationship with God.

St Paul teaches that though there is much of the 'earthly Adam' in all of us, our desire and yearning must be to live and love as did Jesus Christ – the 'heavenly Adam' (**Second Reading**).

The **Psalms** is a song of praise and gratitude for the Lord's own compassion and love.

Given our 'earthbound' nature, we are all too aware that we cannot live out the teachings of Jesus without help! This week, I may like to pray for the grace to be open both to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and also to the life of the risen Lord working in, with and through me. We pray, too, that our sisters and brothers everywhere may be open to God's compassion and love.

Please adhere to guidelines when entering and leaving the church. Face coverings will remain in place for all those coming to a church service. (Exemptions for medical reasons excluded.) Hand sanitising will remain in place as people arrive.

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.

The SVP Rosary Group— SVP Rosary- The Rosary on 24th February has been cancelled due to a funeral at 12noon. The next Rosary will be 10th March at 11am, St Mary Magdalen's. Everyone welcome.

The Synod Action Group of St Mary Magdalen & St Teresa's parish have produced a Parish action plan. The plan outlines some actions that the group identified from the proposals put forward to the Synod, from these proposals several actions have already been put in place with more to come. Please take a look.

Y5 Sacramental Programme: The children in Yr 5 at St teresa's have completed their preparation towards their First Holy Communion which will take place on **Saturday 26th February**. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

Y4 Sacramental Programme: Any Catholic children living in our parishes and not attending our schools (St Oswald's, St Mary Magdalen's and St Teresa's) who wish to make their First Holy Communion should make direct contact with Fr. Roy or Fr. Michael for further information.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Any young person currently in year 8 (or above) is welcome to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. 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. **Registration will close on 21st March.**

The **Synod Action Group** of St Mary Magdalen & St Teresa's parish will meet on **Thursday 24th February 7.30pm** to explore our response to Pope Francis' call to the **Universal Synod 2023**. All parishioners welcome to join us in the Romero room. See www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/synod2023 or vaticansynod@rcaol.org.uk for further information.

St. O Y4 Sacramental Programme. The children will begin their sacramental programme leading to the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist with an **Enrolment Mass on Sunday 27th February at 10.30am** for the children and immediate family. Please remember them in your prayers as they journey together in faith.



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.

A Lenten Journey: During our Parish Synod 2020 reflections, we asked ourselves how to become the Church God is calling us to be. In preparation for our journey from Lent to Easter...A Journey in Prayer, each Monday of Lent, 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Romero room at St Teresa's starting Monday 7th March, there will be an introduction to contemplative prayer. In contemplative prayer we seek to become the person we are being called to be, not by thinking of God but by being with God. Simply to be with God is to be drawn into being the person God calls us to be.

Winckley Square Convent School, Preston: The annual reunion for past pupils is to be held on Saturday 26th Feb 2022 at Our Lady and St Edwards Parish Hall—4 Marlborough Drive, Fulwood, PR2 9UE from 1.30pm-3.30pm. All Welcome. Please tell you friends.

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:

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

Lent Retreat 2022: Journey through Lent with Ignatius of Loyola and see how his struggles and achievements form part of the common human search to understand self and live a fulfilling life. It is 500 years since a cannonball shattered his dreams of fame and fortune and forced him to re-evaluate life. From the comfortable life of Spanish nobility he opted for a simple lifestyle of service to those most in need and devotion to Christ.

Each day of Lent:

- An episode in the life of Ignatius
- A reading from Scripture
- A picture to ponder
- Music to inspire
- A short reflection

For further details visit <https://www.onlineprayer.net/ignatius/>

Prayer for the week. A prayer for family life

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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/>