



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

On the way to
Caesarea Philippi
Jesus put this question
to his disciples,
'Who do people say I am?'
(Mark 8: 27)

Who do I think Jesus is? A great thinker? A superb religious leader? An extraordinary philosopher? A miracle worker? Christ, the Son of God? The centre of my life? Or just a person from history?

Peter has no doubt: 'You are the Christ'. The Sunday Gospels up to now have pictured Jesus surrounded by enthusiastic crowds in response to the many wonderful actions he has carried out.



Today's Gospel is a turning point. Having received that statement of faith from Peter Jesus then spells out the consequences, that he must suffer and die. Peter cannot cope with this. Jesus issues Peter with one of his most severe rebukes: Get behind me Satan!

To reinforce things Jesus then tells his disciples that they must do the same, to take up their cross and follow him.

This Sunday **HOME MISSION SUNDAY**

In today's Gospel Jesus presents us, as disciples, with a challenging question, 'Who do you say I am?' For some the most challenging element of this question is whether we talk about him at all.

Today on Home Mission Sunday we pray for the spread of the Gospel and that Catholics in England and Wales become more confident in sharing their faith.

Home Mission Sunday provides us with the opportunity to focus on spreading the Gospel in our local areas. At the same time, **a retiring collection for this Sunday** supports the work of the Home Mission Office.

From the donations made for Home Mission Sunday last year in 2017 training and support was provided to diocesan evangelisation personnel, and events that inspire people to share their faith and encourage people to pray for evangelisation – particularly from the feast of Ascension to Pentecost.



FAITH IN FOCUS: TELL US WHO HE IS

'Christ' is not Jesus' surname. It's not Mr and Mrs Christ and their son Jesus. Insofar as Jesus had a name like ours, then it was Joshua Josephson. Christ means anointed, and in the case of Jesus it means that he is the one sent by God to reveal the true purpose of life and how to achieve it for ever. So when Jesus asked who people thought he was, it was Peter who came up with the answer: 'You are the Christ'.

But if Jesus is the Christ, the anointed Son of God, then we can't simply take it or leave it. We have to accept him as Lord or ruler of our lives. We have to accept that he offers us a different quality of life. And strangely he tells us that to keep our life we must give it up, we must carry our cross and die to self.

This is not a very popular teaching. Our world laughs at the idea and prefers a 'get what you can' way of life: if I want it why shouldn't I have it... if I think it's OK then it is... I'm entitled to my share of the cake... charity begins at home.

So when the world asks us who this Christ is, what do our lives reply? When they ask what importance he has in our world, what do our lives show? Why do so many people live today without seeming to need to know about him? Is it because we don't need him?

Is there anything about our lives that gives the impression that it's someone else who makes us live? Do we appear to be living resurrected lives, on a level that is deeper than simple human existence? Do we live a comfortable Christian existence or do we take risks to live for Christ? Do our ways of looking at problems and difficulties come from Christ? Are we living a risen life? Or are we just the same as everyone else?

Taking up our cross and denying ourselves means more than not complaining about our toothache or giving up chocolate. It's about identifying ourselves with Christ's rejection, shame, suffering and death in order to live his new and risen existence.

Jesus asked, who do people say I am? The only way they are going to find out today is through the way we Christians live. Do we go for the easy option or do we follow the Christ of God to the point of denying ourselves for the sake of others?

ADOREMUS National Eucharistic Congress

Some of the events of last weekend are available online and can be found at shalomworld.com. The two main talks by the keynote speaker Bishop Robert Barron are highly recommended.

There are a number of leaflets and booklets in both our churches, given out by the religious order at the 'Living Joyfully' event in St Patrick's. Please help yourselves to anything of interest.



Pastoral Associate In July a new initiative by the Archdiocese was announced, that of Pastoral Associate.

The Archdiocese recognises the need for full time pastoral workers to work with priests and people in the mission of the Church. So Pastoral Areas and parishes have been invited to take part in the Archdiocesan Pilot Scheme for Pastoral Associates. A pastoral associate would work in conjunction with parish clergy, volunteers, employees, existing parish groups, other parishioners and the wider community to develop parish and pastoral area life.

Advertisements for the post will appear this weekend on the Archdiocesan website www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

With You Always In the next month parents of Year 4 children will be invited to a meeting to explain the First Holy Communion Preparation this year. Parents of children in our Catholic Schools will be contacted through the schools. Parents of children in any other school should contact me (by phone or email—details on the bottom of the previous page) as soon as possible for a separate meeting.



St Wilfrid's 'Living Christ' Retreat Friday/Saturday 5th/6th October 2018 at Holy Trinity School, Banks Road, Garston. For further information, please telephone Sue Faulkner on 0151 427 6518 or 07962040253 email, issue_4@hotmail.com or Stella/ Maurus O'Donnell on 0151 427 3386 email, prospectvale@outlook.com.

Collections Apologies for not warning you about today's collection for Home Mission Sunday. There are a few more in the coming weeks: CAFOD 6/7th October; World Missions 20/21 October; National Youth Sunday 24/25 October. There will no collection for LAMP this year.

John Southworth

Feast of the Week - Friday ST MATTHEW

Little is known about St. Matthew, except that he was the son of Alpheus, and he was likely born in Galilee. He worked as a tax collector and according to the Gospel, Matthew was working at a collection booth in Capernaum when Christ came to him and asked, "Follow me." With this simple call, Matthew became a disciple of Christ.



The Gospel account of Matthew tells the same story as that found in the other three Gospels, so scholars are certain of its authenticity. His book is traditionally the first of the four Gospels in the New Testament. However the first to be written was Mark's Gospel to which Matthew added many of the teachings of Jesus eg the Sermon on the Mount.

MASSES AND SERVICES

IN CHURCH THIS WEEK

- No Mass on Monday.
- Funeral Services on Monday & Thursday; daily Masses not affected.

Sunday 16th September

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Joan Walsh	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Leonard Marnell Snr	OLMC

Monday 17th September

9am	NO MASS	OLMC
2.15pm	Funeral Service: Mary Symons	OLMC

Tuesday 18th September

7pm	Alan Parris	OLMC
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Wednesday 19th September

10am	Kathleen Brandwood	St Patrick
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Thursday 20th September

Korean Martyrs

10am	Danny Rice	St Patrick
12noon	Funeral Service: Patricia Gallagher	St Patrick

Friday 21st September

St Matthew, Apostle

10am	Tommy Huyton	OLMC
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Sunday 23rd September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Bridie Thompson	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Irene Jones	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC

Thursday Evening Service 7pm

Short Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	OLMC
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Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4-4.30pm	OLMC
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Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick

The bonus ball for Wednesday 14th Sept was no 36
Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Envelopes £117.77 Loose £250.47

St Patrick Envelopes £0 Loose £128.75

Box £ 37.50 Brick £5.00

Please Pray For.... Those who have died: Mary Symons, Hannah Chatten, Patricia Gallagher

The sick: Irene Maloney, Betty Flannery, Tony Robinson, Carol Pickford, Betty Billingsley, Tommy Duffy, Audrey McKenna, Ian McCafferty, Betty Christian, Bernard Duffy, Helen Melarange, Jack Davies, Joan Higgins, Michael McNicholas, Billy Thompson, Freya Matheson, Rene Humphreys, Clifford Browne, Gary Hollinson, Jackie Heath-Anderson, Ted Cunningham, Anne Deuchar, Charlotte Rice, Irene Finneran, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Claire Kearney, Lyn Barton, Betty Devine, Kathleen Devine, Joseph Baxendale, Ann Chapman, Nadia Kent, Susan Roberts, Alex Sielski, Lee Foster, Denise King, John Dunning, Emily Rolands, Angela Kent, David Majoury, Donald Smith, Pius Laizer, Maria Jones, Mary O'Toole, Sally Wilkins, Michael Murphy, Margaret Chung, David Stevenson, Thomas & John Paul Conroy, Keith Holden, Kathleen Crownly, Joanne Fairbrother, Eileen Edwards, Erin Caulfield, Lisa Ginley, Lillian O'Connor, Owen Hall, Anne Brannigan, Thelma Mainwaring, Cheryl and Lenny Hart, Sheila Chapman, Elaine Gorry, Alexandra Reid, Winifred Williamson, Kathryn Reid, Wally Williams, Chrissy White, Nicholas Maher, John Hodson, Terry Macklin, Muriel Minshull, Maureen Ryan, Mary Ryan, Regna Lewis, David Shea, Steven Binks.