



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ORDINARY
Time

Anyone who welcomes
one of these little children in my name,
welcomes me;
and anyone who welcomes me
welcomes not me
but the one who sent me.'

Mark 9:37

Today's Gospel begins by giving us the second prophecy of the Passion: Jesus says a second time that he will suffer, die and rise again. This reinforces the first time he said these words which we heard last Sunday. Peter's reaction then was very negative. After this second prophecy the Gospel simply says that the Apostles 'did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him'.

Jesus then goes on to say the words quoted above. This is in response to the Apostles arguing amongst themselves about 'who is the greatest.'



Pastoral Associate

Advertisements for the post of Pastoral Associate appeared last weekend on the Archdiocesan website www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk and also on the website of *The Tablet*, the Catholic weekly.

Last July the priests and deacons of this Pastoral Area, together with the Liverpool South Ministry Team (representatives of each parish), made a bid for such a post in this Pastoral Area (PA). **This bid has been successful.** So, after due process, a Pastoral Associate should be appointed to this PA to begin working in January 2019. Five other pastoral areas have had their bids accepted.

A pastoral associate will work in conjunction with parish clergy, volunteers, employees, existing parish groups, other parishioners and the wider community to develop parish and pastoral area life.

The Archdiocese recognises the need for full time pastoral workers to work with priests and people in the mission of the Church. So all Pastoral Areas and parishes were invited to take part in the Archdiocesan Pilot Scheme for Pastoral Associates.

FAITH IN FOCUS: PROOF OF THE PUDDING

A TV personality was interviewed recently and the first question he was asked to clarify was whether or not he had "gone all religious".

The implication was that religious people are a bit strange and it would be a pity if he too had gone off the rails and become like those Christians. Incidentally, this was on the same programme that dangled crystals over people to try and find them a partner, and invited people to phone in and say whether Madrid, Manchester or Motherwell was the capital of Spain, in order to get a chance to win thousands.

People have always had it in for those who are "religious". The godless in today's reading from Wisdom decide to make a man's life a misery in order to see either if he will crack or if God will intervene to save him. And in our culture that puts all its eggs in the basket of earning, getting and having, even the most dedicated religious person (whether Christian, Jew, Muslim or whatever) comes under severe pressure to live for the moment with no thought of what lies beyond.

So do the wicked prosper while the good go wanting? In a certain sense they do. They appear to have a good time at others' expense. But those who do evil begin to experience death. There is a physical and psychological wearing down brought on by wrongdoing. And there is an even greater deterioration of enthusiasm, happiness and trust. To cast decency to the wind means that we have to look for increasingly more exotic ways of "getting our kicks".

Christians don't believe in Karma, in what goes around comes around. Instead we trust that God has our best interests at heart and that the way of life that Jesus invites us to follow will not leave us ultimately lacking. Our faith is not about having, but about being. It places us in a relationship with God that is all satisfying.

Christianity is not a thing, it's a communal way of living in which we believe in a God of love who made us for life, living and loving, and who has promised to be with us to the end of time. Since God upholds our life, this is enough for us. We leave the fate of others in God's hands.

Synod 2020 Now that **Adoremus** has ended the preparations for Synod 2020 will continue.

Adoremus was a national event but provided a good prayerful basis for our preparations for Synod 2020 which is an event involving just the Archdiocese of Liverpool. More details will be announced in due course.



OLMC Church repairs: Fund Raising Meeting this Thursday 29th September at 7.30pm in the Finbar room in OLMC church. All welcome.

With You Always - First Holy Communion Parents of children in Year 4 in schools other than our Catholic Schools (Holy Family, St Finbar & St Patrick) should contact me (by phone or email—details on the bottom of the previous page) so that we can include them in the preparation for first Holy Communion next year.

Welcome to the White Fathers St Vincent's Parish is now home to the Society of the **Missionaries of Africa**, commonly known as the **White Fathers** who will take over the running of the parish from the beginning of October. St Vincent's used to be part of OLMC and St Patrick from 2008-2012; it was then taken over by the Cathedral as part of the changes which took place in 2012 as part of *Leaving Safe Harbours*.

They will be part of this Pastoral Area of Liverpool South and we look forward to the ministry they will bring to this area.

Knights of St. Columba Annual **Steve Dooley walk for charity**: Sunday 30th of September, starting from the gates of The Royal Albert Dock (opposite the Hilton Hotel) at 2 pm then along the riverfront to Liverpool Cricket Club where refreshments will be provided. **All welcome**: pram-pushers, dog-walkers and cyclists on what has become a real community event. There is even a back-up car for those whose feet fail them! This year's nominated charity is The Whitechapel Centre.

Aurora—Toxteth Reservoir The large stone building adjacent to OLMC church is a significant feature of the area. It was built in 1845 to improve the sanitary conditions following the typhus epidemic in 1840 which resulted in thousands of deaths (the memorial in front of St Patrick's church marks this tragic time.)

Since its closure in the 1990's the reservoir has been used for a variety of events, the latest being **Aurora**. To quote from their advert:

Aurora is an experience like no other. Step inside the cave-like vaults of Toxteth Reservoir for a 40-minute 'walk on water'. Through dark chambers and between towering iron arches, water surrounds, floods and falls around you, both beautiful and terrifying. The sights, sounds and wonder of an ice cave, a tropical rainforest and monsoons unfold before you. Because when we understand that water is more precious than oil or gold, we view everything differently. Admission £8—£12 at ticketquarter.co.uk

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 0151 427 6518

John Southworth

MASSES AND SERVICES

IN CHURCH THIS WEEK

- No Mass on Monday.
- Funeral Service on Friday at 2pm.

Sunday 23rd September

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

Monday 24th September

9am NO MASS OLMC

Tuesday 25th September

7pm Joanna Wood OLMC

Wednesday 26th September

10am Joe McNicholas St Patrick

Thursday 27th September

St Vincent de Paul

10am Patsy Walls St Patrick

Friday 28th September

10am Ena Brown OLMC

2pm **Funeral Service:** Hannah Chatten OLMC

Sunday 30th September

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Joan Walsh	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Gerard McDonough	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC

Thursday Evening Service 7pm

Short Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament OLMC

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4-4.30pm OLMC

Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick

The bonus ball for Wednesday 19th Sept was no 59
Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Envelopes £133.15 Loose £180.70

St Patrick Envelopes £0 Loose £126.37

Box £26.64 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.