

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach.

(Deuteronomy 30: 11)

The Law of God

Doing the ordinary everyday things is what's asked of us today if we want to obey God's law. Yet it's these things that we're slow to take up. We tend to think that God must be asking for some major sacrifices in our lives, when perhaps all that is needed is for us to attend to the blindingly obvious.

The Good Samaritan Jesus explains the practical consequences of following the Law of God in today's Gospel.

Jesus was asked a simple question: 'and who is my neighbour?' from which we have the parable of the Good Samaritan, perhaps one of the best known stories in the Gospels. It has become shorthand for anyone who does any sort of good works or any charitable action and given the name of an organisation that does invaluable work in our society.



SYNOD PRAYER

Father, we thank you
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
We thank you for the gift of the Church,
through which you show us
that you are always with us
and are always at work in our lives.
As we journey together to Synod 2020
help us become the Church
That you are calling us to be.
May your Holy Spirit
be powerfully at work among us.
Strengthen each of us and guide Francis,
our Pope and Malcolm, our Archbishop.
Help us to respond
to the challenges of our times in new ways
to bring your love
to all our sisters and brothers.
We make this prayer
through Jesus Christ Our Lord
AMEN

FAITH IN FOCUS: KITCHEN SINK HEROES

Jesus rubs up everyone in today's gospel. First he angers the Jewish establishment by telling a story about a man who was mugged, ignored by two clergymen and helped by a member of the hated ethnic minority.

Then he shuts the legal boffins up by saying that you don't need a degree in jurisprudence to understand God's Law. Just a bit of common sense will do. You can know the Law but still be incapable of love.

In fact, that's what God said through Moses in today's reading from Deuteronomy: "This Law is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach... it is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart."

Yet we have problems thinking that God's Law should be so easy. Coming from a superhero culture we tend to expect some great heroic sacrifice will be asked of us, some death-defying feat that will hit the front pages of the newspapers. But God simply says: look around and make sure your neighbour is OK. Christian morality is as simple as that. Love your neighbour.

Today's Samaritans are not those who go off to save the Third World but those who keep an eye out for the elderly or sick person on their street. They're the kitchen sink heroes whose daily acts of kindness show that everyone is their neighbour. We shouldn't need to ask, "Who is my neighbour?" Rather, we should listen for the call within us to become close to those in need around us.

St David said, "Do the little things well". Perhaps that's what God is trying to tell us today. For if we want to fulfil God's Law, then we will do so by opening our eyes and ears and responding to people of all races and creeds when they need us.

This is not something so difficult that only professionals can grasp it. It's obvious, says God. It's what we would want others to do for us, and we can do it for others simply by doing the little things well.

Newsletter of the Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Patrick

Hymns this week.....

Entrance : 178 *God is Love*
Offertory: 338 *Love is his word*
Communion: 342 *Make me a channel*
Recessional: 518 *The Church's one foundation*

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome to God's family and our parish community Niamh Elizabeth Rietdyk. Please remember her and her family in your prayers.



Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

This Tuesday 16th July is the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. In honour of Our Lady, and to pray for all the parishioners and sick of our parish the Rosary will be said at the following times leading up to the feast day: Saturday at 4.30pm, Sunday at 10.45am and Monday 8.30am. On Tuesday the Rosary will be said at 6.30 followed by Mass at 7pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Parish Centre. Fr Silviu has kindly offered to prepare a pan of pasta! Any other contributions from parishioners (sandwiches etc) would be gratefully received.

Our feast day gives us the opportunity to celebrate together, and is also an opportunity to meet and have a catch up with friends who we may not have seen for a while.

Everyone welcome.

Pastoral Associate Update: The Good Samaritan gospel this week always inspires me to think about those who see, stop and act putting into practice what is preached out of love. Our communities are blessed with many such people and together we'll be looking to establish volunteer networks in Liverpool South. On Saturday 7 September our Pastoral Area New Eucharistic Minister Training will be at St Clare's, Sefton Park. If you feel called for this fulfilling ministry – first and foremost to visit the sick and housebound - please do speak to your priest to book a place (look out for posters). Refresher sessions for current Eucharistic Ministers will follow later. Readers' training will be in November. A quote from author Elizabeth Andrew: "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the HEART". God Bless, Helen

OLMC Coffee and Cake

This has been a very successful way to fundraise and bring together parishioners in a social environment after mass to enjoy a drink and slice of cake as well as catching up with friends.

Thanks to everyone involved they have raised **£1367.00** so far. That's a lot of cake!!

Children's Summer Activities: for 5 – 12 year olds from 29 July – 16 August at St Patrick's, Park Place, L8 5RA on Mondays – Fridays from 2:30 – 5:50pm run by the Mother Theresa Sisters. To register your child fill out a form: available from Missionaries of Charity, 55 Seel Street, L1 4AZ or Our Lady of Mount Carmel Presbytery (weekday mornings only). Return to Seel Street or OLMC by 20th July.

Please Pray For.... The lately dead: Ted Cunningham, Doris Prendergast and Mary McGee.

The sick Anne McCourt, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Freya Matheson, Bernard Duffy, Wally Williams and Marie Simpson.

MASSES AND SERVICES

In Church this week

- Requiem on Tuesday
- Funeral Service on Wednesday
- Rosary OLMC Saturday at 4.30pm
Sunday at 10.45am
Monday 8.30am
Tuesday 6.30pm

Sunday 14th July

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Mark Willmitt	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Margaret Quinlan	OLMC

Monday 15th July

9am	Terence McPartland	OLMC
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Tuesday 16th July

Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

12noon	Requiem: Edward Cunningham	OLMC
7pm	Parishioners	OLMC

Wednesday 17th July

10am	Anthony Egan	St Patrick
1pm	Funeral Service: Doris Prendergast	OLMC

Thursday 18th July

10am	Brian Stafford	St Patrick
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Friday 19th July

10am	Christine Dagnall	OLMC
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Sunday 21st July

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Parishioners	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Rev M O'Healy	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	John Quinlan	OLMC

Evening Service 6.30pm Thursday

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 10th July was no 6. Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 Envelopes £139.03 Loose £206.82
St Patrick
 Loose £212.56

This Weekend..... there will be the annual retiring collection for Provision for Priests in Retirement.