



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Martha,
you worry and fret
about so many things,
and yet few are needed,
indeed only one.

Lk 10:41-42

Martha and Mary

When life makes so many demands on us, it's easy to end up running around so much that we forget to sit back and remind ourselves of why we are doing it. Active or contemplative is not really the choice. There's no point in contemplating and then doing nothing. But the opposite is probably even worse.



Abraham and Sarah

In the first reading Abraham and Sarah are visited by three men who ask for hospitality. Their generosity is rewarded.

In the early Church it was thought that the three men prefigured the Trinity and this is depicted in a famous icon by the 15th century Russian artist Rublev .



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: A TALE OF TWO SISTERS

We all know the story of the two sisters, Martha and Mary. When Jesus came as a guest, Martha complained that Mary was leaving her to do all the work in the kitchen and just sitting around talking and listening to Jesus.

Surprisingly, Jesus came down on Mary's side! Yet we all live our lives like Martha. We shave in the shower and listen to the news on the radio at the same time to save precious minutes. At traffic lights we join the queue with fewer cars so we can be off first. And we scour the supermarket checkouts to find the least dozy-looking cashier.

We've become consumed with doing as much as we can as fast as we can. We're not so much burnt out as burnt up, consumed with activity. However, we rarely stop to ask ourselves why we are doing what we are doing and whether our priorities are right.

Of course, we have to work. And we have to prepare meals if we invite people round to eat. But, just for a moment, forget about the work you have to do to earn a living. How do you spend the rest of your time?

What are your priorities? Does God feature in them? Do you pray or read the bible or is watching the soap operas more important? Do you ever just try and sit back for a few moments in God's presence? Do you have a sense of the spiritual? Of God being at your side in all that you do? Do you ever try to listen to what God might be saying to you in the events of your daily life? Do you try to process your activity?

The Greek word that describes Martha being distracted actually means "pulled here and there by one thing and the next". Sometimes in our flurry of activity that's exactly what happens to us.

Our rushing around becomes an escape from reality. We find refuge in being busy. It seems to validate our existence but really it stops us from asking deeper questions about our life's direction.

Jesus speaks Martha's name twice. "Martha, Martha, you worry and fret about so many things..." What a lovely reassurance of how fond he is of her! And what a reminder that from time to time we have to stop hiding behind activity and challenge ourselves at a more thoughtful level.

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

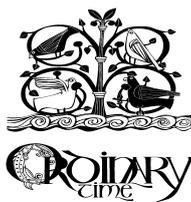
Hymns this week.....

Entrance : 195

Offertory: 320 (St Patrick's) 158 (OLMC)

Communion: 381

Recessional: 79



Meeting for current Church Volunteers : We are so grateful to those who generously give so much of their time to supporting our communities here at OLMC and St Pats. If you are involved in the life of the church in this way (other than Eucharistic Ministers or Readers who are not requested to attend) we would like to invite you to a meeting on **Wednesday 31 July at 7pm at OLMC** to take stock of where we are.

Health & Safety: You may have noticed that installation of CCTV is being carried out at OLMC. This enables us to open OLMC every day from 9am to noon in confidence, knowing that we can provide a quiet space for those wishing to spend time with God whether or not a volunteer is present. The safety factor too, not only for your priest but also for those who work or volunteer in the church and presbytery has become a concern with CCTV providing additional security for us all. The Archdiocese of Liverpool Privacy Notice which governs the use of data in accordance with GDPR can be found at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacynotice. We hope that the regular opening of OLMC will benefit not only our regular parishioners, but the wider community. Thank you for your understanding.

OLMC Pensioners: Our members meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1.15pm to 3.30pm. Why not come along and join us. New members are warmly welcomed.

Pastoral Associate Update: Along with over 100 others from across the Archdiocese, I was at an uplifting and insightful talk on Spiritual Care at the End of Life given by Dr Karen Groves at LACE last week. I was struck by the way Karen dared to 'break the mould' challenging our taboo that causes us to use euphemisms for the words death or dying alongside our own fears and reluctance to discuss the subject. She is inspirational in working to enable all involved in health care to be equipped in providing spiritual care as a means of supporting those who are dying. In the Gospel this week Mary is seen breaking the mould by sitting at the feet of Jesus – something which would never have been acceptable for a woman at that time. Perhaps, like Mary, by breaking the mould, and talking about death more openly, we can begin to reconnect to what has been lost, provide a way to reconciliation and healing, and support our loved ones in a deep and meaningful way. I'm at St Charles and St Thomas More's this weekend. God Bless, Helen

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: John Joseph Hyland.
The sick Anne McCourt, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Freya Matheson, Bernard Duffy, Wally Williams, Marie Simpson, Tony Robinson and Tommy Fletcher.

MASSES AND SERVICES

In Church this week

- Funeral Service on Thursday

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

Monday 22nd July

9am	Alice Olsen	OLMC
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Tuesday 23rd July

7pm	Jacky Waterson	OLMC
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Wednesday 24th July

10am	Mary Yates	St Patrick
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Thursday 25th July

10am	Fr Pat Cassidy	St Patrick
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11.45am **Funeral Service:** John Joseph Hyland St Patrick

Friday 26th July

10am	Mary McGee	OLMC
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Sunday 28th July

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Ronnie Snr & Jnr & Kevin Griffiths	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Fred Keeley	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 17th July was no 23
Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Envelopes £109.10 Loose £178.64
Priests Provision Retirement £51.90
St Patrick
Loose £171.91
Priest Provision Retirement £38

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome to God's family and our parish community Logan James Delamere. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

