



# 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**O**nce Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples".

(Luke 11:1)

Prayer is our lifeline with God. Not to pray means that we have a weak relationship, looking on from the sidelines rather than being at the heart of things. If we never visited, wrote to, phoned, emailed or texted our friends we would lose them...



## Lord, teach us to pray

The Our Father is a model of prayer. It has a structure that is used in many of our formal prayers: it begins by praising God (*hallowed be thy name*) and only after that making specific intercessions (*give us this day our daily bread*). This could be a model which we can all use in our private prayer.

### 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: FOLLOWING A PATTERN

The little boy knew where his mother had mislaid the car keys but was keeping quiet. At night time he knelt by his bed and prayed, "God, if you get me a bike I'll tell her where they are."

Sometimes we use prayer in this way. We act as if we can make a bargain with God and then get what we want from him. I promise to do such and such and in return I want this and that. Then when we don't get what we want we say our prayer has not been answered.

When Jesus taught his disciples the Our Father he wasn't teaching them a prayer. He was teaching them how to pray, the pattern of prayer, the attitude to take before God. We use the words of the Lord's Prayer in our public and private prayer, but these words are only a coat hanger for our conversation with God. We acknowledge God's holiness, our dependence upon him, and then we ask for what we need in order to live life as he intends and to inherit eternal life.

Only those who know their true needs and who have the persistence to put them before God can really pray. And, of course, what we want is not necessarily what we need. That's why God always answers our prayer but doesn't always give us what we ask for.

Sometimes the answer might be "no" and sometimes it might be to receive something we least expected from God.

But the key to prayer is persistence, never to stop praying. The more we pray the more we come in tune with God's will. Then our prayer changes. Instead of asking God for this and that we find ourselves able to be at one with the will of God, and this means that we are sure that God is giving us what we need as long as we keep asking and listening.

To think that God would make us ask and ask without bothering to answer is bizarre. Such a God would be perverse. God encourages us to pray in order that we may know him more, discern his will and love him for what we know.

If your child asked you for something reasonable would you ever refuse if you could give it? Then why should God be any different?

Hymns this week.....

Entrance : 213  
 Offertory: 67  
 Communion: 456  
 Recessional: 375



**Meeting for current Church Volunteers :** Unfortunately the meeting on **Wednesday 31 July at 7pm at OLMC** has had to be postponed. A new date will be set soon.

**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.

**Thanks to the History Group** that meet in St Patrick's church for their very generous donations. These donations have enabled various works to be carried out around St Patrick's church and grounds and have been an enormous help in keeping our church and grounds maintained.

**Missionaries of Charity —Summer Project** The Mother Teresa Sisters will be holding their annual summer project for Primary School children in St Patrick's Church from 29th July -16th August, Monday to Friday from 2.30pm -5.30pm.

**OLMC Parish Club** are having a 'Happy Memories' entertainment afternoon on Monday 19th August 12noon till 4pm. Food, Bingo and live entertainment all for the price of £5. Tickets are available behind the bar. These afternoons have proved very popular in the past so please get your tickets early.

**St Patrick's** are having a Summer Fair on August 17th. If you would like to help in any way please speak to Joan or Angela.



**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday 7 September** Training for New Eucharistic Ministers, St Clare's Hall, Arundel Avenue 9:15am (for 9:30 start) – 4:30pm: bring lunch – book through the parish!

**Wednesday 25 September** Liverpool Romero Lecture *Prophetic Trajectories of Hope from San Salvador to Liverpool*, David McLoughlin of Newman University at 001 Theatre, Cornerstone, Hope University, Everton Campus L3 8DR. Bookings: d.reynolds@sfxchurchliverpool.com or 0151 298 1911

**Monday 7 October** Synod Talks *The Quiet Revolution of Pope Francis: A Synodal Catholic Church*, Fr Gerry O'Hanlon SJ, at Liverpool Hope University, Hope Chapel monthly 7:00 for 7:30pm

**Please Pray For.... The lately dead:** Edward Burns.

**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

- Please note Mass on Tuesday will be at **9am**
- No Mass on Wednesday or Friday
- Requiem on Thursday

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

Monday 29th July

9am	Mark Schumann	OLMC
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Tuesday 30th July

<b>NB 9am</b>	Jimmy Cowdell	OLMC
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Wednesday 31st July

10am	No Mass	St Patrick
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Thursday 1st August

10.30am	<b>Requiem:</b> Edward Burns	St Patrick
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Friday 2nd August

10am	No Mass	OLMC
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Sunday 4th August

**18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sat 5pm	Agnes & James McNulty	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Private Intention (BH)	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC

**Evening Service** 6.30pm Thursday  
 Short Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament OLMC

**Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick**

The bonus ball for Wednesday 27th July was no 22  
 Winners won £30 each

**Collections**

*Many Thanks*

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
 Loose £164.57  
**St Patrick**  
 Loose £155.30  
 Total Envelopes: £77.00

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

This weekend we welcome to God's family and our parish community Charlie Stanton, Jacob Miles Gerrard and Roman Lunt . Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

