

# 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**T**hen by  
lowering the bushel,  
raising the shekel,  
by swindling and tampering  
with the scales,  
we can buy up the poor for money,  
and the needy  
for a pair of sandals.

Amos 8: 5-6

Why does money hold such an attraction for us, even more money than we need in order to live? As a symbol, money challenges us to decide where our loyalties lie. Are we content with God and life or do we want more?

## Letter to Timothy

Besides writing to large communities (Ephesians, Romans....) St Paul also wrote more personal letters which he wrote to specific individuals such as Titus and Philemon.

For a few weeks we read the letter to Timothy which is full of exhortations for good Christian living as well as dealing with matters of civil and church order.

### 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: FAIR EXCHANGE?

Usually when we hear the word greed used today it is in the context of finance. We talk about greedy bankers, greedy executives who are taking huge bonuses and greedy companies that are charging more to their customers while providing the same or less.

Greed, or avarice, is one of the deadly sins. By deadly we mean that if not checked early it can deaden the spirit, isolate us from what life is really all about. It's a rotten-apple type of vice; eventually it contaminates all of our attitudes and relationships. It turns us into the sort of people that we wouldn't want to spend much time with.

The prophet Amos in today's reading could be talking about our present age: employers who pay less than a living wage, or those who offer only zero contracts, merchants who fiddle the weight of their products or simply sell smaller packets, companies that charge more and blame it on the exchange rate, those who lend money at exorbitant rates and those who get people hooked on products that carry with them endless credit agreements. It was happening in Israel 2,750 years ago!

Implicit in Amos' preaching is another concept. In Hebrew it is known as the 'anawim'. The anawim are people who have no clout. They are the poor people, the ones whose faces jump out at us from the TV screen in developing countries, the common mass who are at the mercy of the movers and shakers, those who are easily exploited because they have no one to stand up for them. It was the anawim that the Virgin Mary sang about in the Magnificat, about pulling princes off their thrones and raising up the lowly.

When we put these two ideas together, greed and the anawim, we are left with one of the mainstream concerns of the prophets, of Judaism, of Christianity and the Church today: the way we treat people who have no come back to us is a major indicator of the type of people that we are and the type of response we are making to God's demands.

Do we operate different standards in the workplace than in the church? how do we treat those who work 'under' us? Do we live by social values that help us keep up with the Joneses or are we genuinely concerned about the effect the way we live has on less fortunate people? Do we care about where the products we buy have come from and the conditions of those employed to produce them? When given the chance to vote, do we vote for those who will make life better for us or for those who will improve the lot of the world's anawim?

Are we greedy for money or for social justice?  
Only one of them can buy true religion.

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**OLMC HYMNS**  
 Entrance: 473  
 Offertory: 158  
 Communion: 381  
 Recessional: 375

**ST PATRICK HYMNS**  
 Entrance: 79  
 Offertory: 320  
 Communion 498  
 Recessional: 194



**Pastoral Team:** Pope Francis asks each one of us to go to the margins, to bring the good news that we so faithfully live within our community here at OLMC and St Patrick's, to others. In doing this we maintain that rich heritage that has shaped our parishes. To that end we ask you in participate in sharing a higher faith with others and Fr Silviu invites any parishioners wishing to join this great mission of the Church in helping him to go out to visit those who live near our churches and invite them to return to Mass and experience the joy of Christ. To be part of this reenergising and reinvigoration of our Parish community here in the heart of Liverpool you can attend a meeting on Wednesday 9th October at OLMC. Please let Anne in the Parish Office know if you are intending to join us.

**First Synod Talk: THE QUIET REVOLUTION OF POPE FRANCIS-A SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

Hope Chapel Mon 7th Oct 7.30pm. Tea and Coffee from 7pm. All are welcome to come and find out more about Pope's Francis' focus on a renewed Church with a missionary focus and how this can translated on the ground in parishes and dioceses. Former Irish Provincial Gerry O'Hanlon SJ is a theologian and author, he looks at the Pope's vision for new roles for all the baptised in our world today. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers and optional Night Prayer at 9pm. Hope University L16 9JD.

**Pastoral Associate Update:** It's the last chance to attend our enrichment day for Eucharistic Ministers this Sunday afternoon - do text/call me to register (07449 633977). We had a great turn out last week at Carmel - thanks to each of you for taking time to come - and we are very grateful to Sr MaryAnne fcJ and Fr Peter Fleetwood for leading us so profoundly and sensitively. Coming up: Season of Creation (fcJ), the Romero Lecture, St Vincent and Synod Talks - broadening our understanding of our Faith encourages us to grow together. It was with great joy that we celebrated the National Mass of the Guild of St Stephen (for our altar servers) on Saturday at the Cathedral with servers attending from dioceses all over the country - To Serve is to Reign! A thought from JRR Tolkien: "Even the smallest person can change the course of the future" God Bless, Helen.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS -**

[www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk)

Sunday 22 September\* *Reflection for current Eucharistic Ministers*, Carmel Monastery, Maryton 2:15pm (for 2:30pm start) - 4:00pm (Evening Prayer at 4:20pm) led by Fr Peter Fleetwood  
 Saturday 26 September *What message would St Vincent de Paul have for us today in Liverpool 1?* Fr Thomas Neylon at St Vincent's, James Street, 6pm as part of a triduum for the Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul.

**Please Pray For....**

The lately dead. John Cairns, Lynn Aldridge and Patricia Coakley.

The sick: Mary O'Toole, Michelle Baxendale, Chris Bates, John Cairns, Tony McKean, Anne McCourt, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Freya Matheson, Bernard Duffy, Wally Williams, Marie Simpson, Tony Robinson and Tommy Fletcher, Erin Caulfield, Susie Bell, Carol Flannery.

If you would like a loved one to be added to the sick list (please ask their permission) please ring the parish office. 0151 727 1463.

**MASSES AND SERVICES**

In Church this week

- Funeral Service on Wednesday
- Requiem on Thursday

Sunday 22nd September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Sat 5pm Alex Wall OLMC  
 Sun 9.45am Parishioners St Patrick  
 Sun 11.15am Ellen Putt OLMC

Monday 23rd September

9am Margaret & Geoff Davies OLMC

Tuesday 24th September

7pm Tommy Dillon OLMC

Wednesday 25th September

10am Rosie Brophy St Patrick  
 12noon Funeral Service: Margaret Ward OLMC

Thursday 26th September

10am Julie Garnell St Patrick  
 12.30pm Requiem: Patricia Coakley OLMC

Friday 27th September

10am Debbie Motram OLMC

Sunday 29th September

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Sat 5pm Parishioners OLMC  
 Sun 9.45am Ian Daniel Hill St Patrick  
 Sun 11.15am Louisa Connell 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 18th September was no 50  
 Winners won £30 each

**Collections**

*Many Thanks*

Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
 Loose £218.45  
 St Patrick  
 Loose £117.13  
 Total Envelopes £135.23  
 Total Home Missions £59.69