



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Woe to those ensconced
so snugly in Zion
Lying on their ivory beds
and sprawling
on their divans
they dine on lambs
from the flock.

(Amos 6: 1.4.)

Don't rush to set your life straight. There's plenty of time. You'll probably not die for a good number of years and when life is a little less hectic you can start to think about putting your house in order! Unless you listen to today's gospel.

The Prophet Amos

Amos was a shepherd and had a job tending sycamore trees. We read that in the passage where God chooses him to be a prophet and he complains that he really didn't have the right qualifications - a reminder how God chooses the most unlikely people to do his work!



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: ON OUR OWN DOORSTEP?

There is a very old story told about a botanist who was studying the heather-bell found in the highlands of Scotland. While looking through his microscope at this beautiful flower, he was approached by a shepherd who asked what he was doing. Rather than trying to explain, the botanist invited the shepherd to peer through his microscope and observe for himself. When the shepherd saw the wonder of the flower he exclaimed, 'my God, and I have been tramping on them all my life!' sometime we fail to see the wood for the trees.

When there are documentaries on commercial television about famine in the world, during the break for commercials there are often adverts for mobile phones, the latest car, designer jeans, hair colouring and no-win no-fee compensation. Then it is back to abandoned babies, starving faces and drought-ridden communities.

It's almost as if we live in two worlds, we immunise ourselves to what's going on around us and we cosset ourselves with a lifestyle that demands ever more novelty and style, while ignoring those around us who lack even the most basic resources.

This was the problem with the rich man, (known in Latin as Dives). You can't help feeling sorry for Dives on one level. He was an extremely rich man and he had Lazarus, a poor man covered with sores, who lay on his doorstep and scavenged scraps of food from his bins. You can't help feeling sorry for Dives because he never did Lazarus any harm. He just never did him any good. In fact he seems to have overlooked him completely even though he was on his doorstep. He never noticed.

You might be tempted to say that if we don't notice something then we can hardly be blamed for it. But could it be that Dives had got into the habit of living so much for himself, living the high life, that he became immune to the poverty and need that were around him? Could it be that our lifestyles can deflect us from reality?

Of course, we are all aware of world poverty and famine. But we see nothing incongruous in the advertising campaigns to get us to spend our money on luxuries. We have become impervious to the paradox, untouched by the irony of our two worlds.

But before we rush to think that his parable is just about world poverty, are we sure that there isn't a Lazarus much closer to home whom we have overlooked? They may not be poor but they may still be needy. And they may be sitting on our own doorstep.

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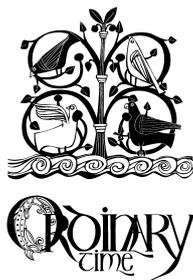
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HYMNS

Entrance: 36
 Offertory: 158
 Communion: 533
 Recessional: 61

Bidding Prayers

Readers please note we are now using the new Prayers of the Faithful books in both churches.



Monday Mass Time.....Please note from this week onwards mass will at 10am on a Monday in OLMC.

Pastoral Team: Unfortunately the meeting that was scheduled for 9th October at 7pm has had to be cancelled. We will reschedule soon. Watch this space!

Pastoral Associate Update: Finding time to just be still is sometimes a challenge: the fcjs at St Hugh's provided a sacred space for reflection on Creation last week - do look out for future reflection evenings in Advent: they are well worth attending. We keep them in our prayers as they celebrate their bicentenary. The four Synod themes were presented to members last week and the chance to come together to suggest proposals will keep us all focussed over the next months – talks coming up. If you are interested in Family Groups/Welcome, you are invited to attend the meeting at LACE. Please see the LSPA website for resources from the Eucharistic Ministers Reflections – a booklet for those who visit the sick and housebound by Mgr Peter Fleetwood is available for download. We now also have a "News & Event Reports" section. Meetings galore at the moment: I look forward to seeing you all at Sunday Masses again after half term. A thought originating from the Talmud "*We don't see things as they are, we see them as we are.*" God Bless, Helen.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk

Wednesday 2 October *How Family Groups can support the Ministry of Welcome in your Parish*, at LACE 7.30pm—9.00pm. Register 0151 522 1047 or s.faulkner@rcaol.co.uk A chance to listen to people who have had experience in setting up and who are involved in leading Family Groups.

Monday 7 October Synod Talk (1) *The Quiet Revolution of Pope Francis: A Synodal Catholic Church*, Fr Gerry O'Hanlon SJ at Liverpool Hope University, Hope Chapel 7:00 for 7:30pm

12 – 13 October *Come and See Conference* Christ the King High School, Southport, PR8 4EX. Information: www.iraneaus.co.uk 0151 949 1199

Wednesday 16 October *Ministry of Consolation (Bereavement Training especially for parish groups)* at LACE 10 am – 4:30pm Cost £10. Register with m.obrien@rcaol.co.uk or 0151 522 1044

Saturday 2 November* *New Readers - Formation* 9:15 am (for 9:30pm)-4pm. Led by Dr Marian Tolley. St Clare's Parish Hall, Arundel Avenue, L17 2AU

Sunday 3 November *Training for Leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word* 2pm – 4.30pm at LACE. Register: formation@rcaol.co.uk or 0151 522 1040 Cost £10 includes refreshments

Monday 11 November Synod Talk (2) *Faith & Theology in Later Life*, Dr Ros Stuart-Buttle at Liverpool Hope University, Hope Chapel 7:00 for 7:30pm

Sunday 17 November* *Experienced Readers - Enrichment* 2-5pm. Led by Dr Marian Tolley. St Clare's Parish Hall, Arundel Avenue, L17 2AU

Tuesday 19 & Wednesday 20 November *Funeral Minister Training* at LACE 10:00am – 4:00pm Applications: m.knight@rcaol.co.uk 0151 522 1046 - requires sponsorship by your parish priest

Please Pray For....

The lately dead **Kathleen Richardson.**

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

Please note change of Mass Time on Monday

- Requiem on Wednesday
- Funeral Service on Monday

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

Monday 30th September

10am	Howard Pinto	OLMC
11am	Funeral Service: Lynn Aldridge	OLMC

Tuesday 1st October

7pm	Private Intention (AM)	OLMC
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Wednesday 2nd October

12noon	Requiem: Kathleen Richardson	OLMC
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Thursday 3rd October

10am	Stephen Rice	St Patrick
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Friday 4th October

10am	The Pinto Family	OLMC
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Sunday 6th October

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Baby Molly O'Toole	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Pat Coakley	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 25th September was no 47
 Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
£ Loose£190.88
St Patrick
Loose £109.10
Envelopes £77.27