



3rd November 2019

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Yes, you love all that exists,
you hold nothing of what
you have made
in abhorrence, for
had you hated anything,
you would
not have formed it.

Wisdom 11:24

God never retracts his offer to save us and make us whole.



The very fact that we continue to exist is a sign that God loves us, for without God's love we would perish.

Zacchaeus knew his need of God and Jesus promised him salvation, just as he does to us today. All we have to do is ask.

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: MAKING THE FIRST MOVE

There was a sign outside a church that read, "Don't let your funeral be the next time you come and visit us!" We can understand what it meant; it was encouraging people to think about the place of God in their lives and their response to God's workings.

But, actually, the sign is fundamentally flawed. Why? Because it encourages people to think that they are the ones who must make the first move. It gives the impression that God is sitting back waiting for them to decide to start doing something about their lives. And that simply isn't true!

The amazing thing about God's dealings with us is that he always makes the first move. Think of Zacchaeus in today's gospel. He'd heard all the rumours about Jesus and wanted to see for himself. Being a small man he climbed up a sycamore tree to get a good view. But before he could say anything, before he could make his mind up, it was Jesus who made the first move and told him he was coming home with him to stay for a while. When Zacchaeus heard what Jesus had to say he was immediately moved to repent and give half his property to the poor. (He'd cheated people by charging them too much tax and then keeping most of the money himself.)

God never ceases reaching out to us. We find this hard to cope with because we think that God is so concerned with weighty global problems that he has no time for us and our particular situations. Yet the opposite is true.

When we feel drawn to God it is only because God's grace has been offered us in the first place. Our lives are a response to Christ's example of sacrifice and love; our response comes from hearing God's word; our actions are inspired by God's Spirit working in us, if only we take the time to discern it.

At the eucharist we thank God for never abandoning us and for continually offering us the chance to enjoy the life that Christ promised.

Amazingly, God never stops leading us on to deeper trust and love. And all he asks in return is that we respond.

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Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Inc Registered Charity No 232709

HYMNS

Entrance: 456
 Offertory: 28
 Communion: 326
 Recessional: 582

Bidding Prayers

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



Exciting News... The scaffolding has gone up and the painters are in OLMC. It is expected to take around 6 weeks which would take us to 16th December if all goes to plan! All weekday masses and funerals will be said in St Patrick's until the work is finished.. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause in the short term but all will be worth it in the end. We hope!

Synod 2020: Our parish has four opportunities to discuss proposals for our first theme "Called and Gifted" on **Monday 4 & 11 November** at 6:30pm in the meeting room at OLMC (use presbytery entrance) or on **Saturday 9 & 16 November** at St Patrick's (meeting room). Please do try and come along to one meeting– it's our chance to shape our future, so have your say! You can find out more on the Synod website www.synod202.co.uk . See you then!

OLMC Parish Centre: Happy Memories Monday 18th November from 12noon. These afternoons are proving to be very popular so if you would like to join us please call in to the parish centre or ring on 0151 727 1695 to get your ticket. The tickets cost £5 which includes food, bingo and raffle tickets and live entertainment.....how's that for a bargain!

Slimming World every Saturday morning 8am & 10am for more information call Kerry Marie on 07541040145. Family friendly.

Eyes Down for Bingo every Thursday night at 8pm. All welcome. If you would like to book our Parish Centre for a function please ring Ann-Marie 0151 727 1695.

Pastoral Associate Update: The gospel this week is a powerful example of reaching out to those on the margins. Social isolation can be due to many factors, and occasionally we can even exclude ourselves from participating fully in life. Sometimes all it takes is a kind gesture to feel valued and affirmed in our communities. As Christmas approaches if you, or anyone you know is spending Christmas Day on their own and wishes to have a bit of company, do contact Nickie Smith (St Charles & St Thomas More) on 07545613590 to join the Frontline Churches in Wavertree Christmas Lunch (at no charge) – a table has been reserved for us! A quote from Verna Myers "Diversity is being invited to the party; Inclusion is being asked to dance!" I'm at St Wilfrid's Parish this weekend. God Bless, Helen.

MASSES AND SERVICES

In Church this week

- All weekday masses in St Patrick's.

Sunday 3rd November

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	John, Eileen & Michael Hyland	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Pious List	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC

Monday 4th November

10am	Pious List	St Patrick
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Tuesday 5th November

10am	Pious List	St Patrick
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Wednesday 6th November

10am	Pious List	St Patrick
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Thursday 7th November

10am	Pious List	St Patrick
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Friday 8th November

10am	Pious List	St Patrick
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Sunday 9th November

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5pm	Thomas & Mark Willmitt	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Karl Lee	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC

Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick

The bonus ball for Wednesday 26th October was no 23
 Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 Loose £224.64

St Patrick
 Loose £151.22
 Envelopes £144.05

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk

Sunday 3 November *Training for Leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word* [at LACE 2pm – 4.30pm](http://atLACE2pm-4.30pm). [Register: formation@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:formation@rcaol.co.uk) or [0151 522 1040](tel:01515221040) Cost £10 includes refreshments

Sunday 3 November *Christian Witness in North Africa* at St Anne's Church, Overbury Street, L7 3HJ 6pm A talk by Fr Anselme Tarpaga, M.Afr. (Provincial of the Missionaries of Africa in the Maghreb).

Tuesday 5 & 19 November (7:15pm – 9pm, LACE) or Saturday 16 November (9:30am – 1pm St Joseph's, Wrightington) *Part One of Continuing Conversations for Catechists* Exploring the soil in which we are called to be sowers, the Church's vision for catechesis and the call to Accompaniment. Register at least a week in advance 0151 522 1040 or formation@rcaol.co.uk .

Wednesday 6 November *Synod Reflections* 7:30 - 9pm at St Philomena's, Sparrow Hall Rd L9 6BU

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

Sunday 17 November* *Experienced Readers - Enrichment* at St Clare's Parish Hall, on Rutland Avenue, L17 2AU, 2- 5pm. Led by Dr Marian Tolley. Reflection and practical considerations for Ministry of the Word.

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

* To book these events please email h.jones@rcaolp.co.uk or 07449 633977

Please Pray For....

The lately dead Michael Foley Snr

The sick: Veronica Boyd, Betty Kent, Mary O'Toole, Michelle Baxendale, Chris Bates, Tony McKean, Anne McCourt, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Freya Matheson, Bernard Duffy, Wally Williams, Marie Simpson, Tony Robinson, Erin Caulfield, Susie Bell, Carol Flannery.