



27 September 2020

## Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

When the sinner has chosen to renounce all his previous sins, he shall certainly live; he shall not die. (Ezekiel 18:28)

Faith in Focus

### One Strike And You're Out?

Over the past few weeks St Matthew, aided and abetted by the prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel, has been hammering home one of the most basic points of the Good News. The thrust of his teaching has been that God is so utterly different from us that we cannot reduce him to our petty ways of thinking and acting. For God is kindness itself.

And nowhere is this more obvious than in the area of judgement and forgiveness. Our legal and societal codes are loath to give people the benefit of the doubt. Second chances are few and far between. Lock them up and throw away the key is the order of the day when we find people guilty of transgressing our system of justice.

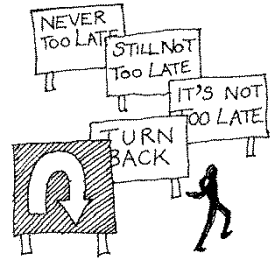
What Jesus shows is an extraordinary willingness to go the extra mile with those whose lives clearly contradict the mores of the time. And so the gospel pages show him much more at ease with sinners and outcasts than with lawyers and religious leaders.

We know what mercy is, but we often forget that God is pure mercy. Our idea of mercy is only a shadow of God's. That is because God so loves us that the

last thing he ever wants is for us to be condemned and put outside the bounds of

reconciliation. Whereas we feel civilised when we operate a three strikes and you're out system, God only feels civilised when he is still offering a person the chance to change their mind and return to the straight and narrow.

That's why God never gives up on us. God is not lenient with crime and sin, but he is unconditionally lenient with sinners. The arrogance of those in society who would claim to be upright citizens when in their hearts they are only too aware of their own deceit is what angers Jesus. When people recognise their transgressions and genuinely turn to God they are always assured of a welcome. But those who have no time for giving people second chances Jesus calls hypocrites. Those you consider to be the scum of the earth, he says, will make it to heaven before you.



Archdiocese of Liverpool  
Parishes of Holy Name and  
Our Lady & Saint Philomena

**Clergy:**

Rev Fr John Hindley, Parish Priest,  
Rev Fr Thomas Clarke, Assistant Priest,  
Rev Mr George Hamer, Prison Chaplain.

Based at: Holy Name Presbytery, Moss  
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*Serving the Churches of:*

**Holy Name**, Moss Pits Lane, Fazakerley,  
L10 9LG

**Our Lady & Saint Philomena**, Sparrow Hall  
Road, L9 6BU

**Parish Office at Holy Name:** Open Monday,  
and Wednesday to Friday from 9.00 am to  
5.00 pm.

**Baptisms:** By prior arrangement. Please  
see Father John or Father Thomas at  
weekend Masses.

**Confessions:** Holy Name on Saturday from  
5.30 pm, Our Lady & St Philomena on  
Wednesday from 6.30pm or by request.

**Funerals and Marriages:** By arrangement.

**Visits to sick and housebound:** Currently  
suspended.

**Hospital Visits:** If you wish to see a priest  
please let the hospital staff know.

**Mass Requests:** Please complete the pre-  
printed envelopes and place in the Mass  
intention box or with weekly collection.  
Please also specify the reason for the  
intention, i.e. recently deceased, anniversary  
etc. For a particular day, please request  
early.

**Newsletter Notices:** Please e-mail to  
[holyname@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:holyname@rcaol.org.uk) or hand in to the  
Parish Office by Thursday morning.

**Repository:** Currently closed.

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## Parish Social Media

Facebook: HolyNameandStPhilomena

Instagram: holynam\_stphils

Twitter: @hollyphilomena

YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/yyto5d26>

## QR code

To help when parish  
mass books are out of  
use, scan the QR code  
on your smartphone which will take you  
to a website where the readings can be  
found. If the QR code does not work  
you may need to download a QR code  
reader from App Store or Google Play  
store.



## Parish website

[www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com](http://www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com)

New additions to the website this  
week include resources provided by  
the Archdiocese on this weekend's  
readings. There is also a prayer for this  
time of pandemic that Archbishop  
McMahon invites us to pray with him.

## Pray through Play

This is a video resource for adults  
with children, produced in the  
Archdiocese, with ideas on how the  
Sunday readings can be explained in a  
child friendly way. Visit  
<https://tinyurl.com/y3ubfdt3>

## Red Mission boxes

The next collection at Our Lady & St  
Philomena is now due. Please bring in  
your boxes/donations at your  
convenience.

## Church lay out

You will hopefully have noticed that the church lay out in St Philomena's has changed and it's in the process of changing at Holy Name. This is so we can accommodate larger numbers, while still adhering to the government rule of '*one metre plus*'. Extra capacity will be required for the forthcoming Holy Communion and we are blessed that space has run short at some of our weekend Masses too.

## COVID-19

A sincere and big thank you to all the stewards who work so hard to ensure our worship is COVID secure. Not only do they provide sanitiser etc on the way in and out but they clean contact points after each service in church. Without their help public worship simply could not take place.

Many people have commented that the stewards, rather than appearing intimidating are actually reassuring for those members of our community who are fearful at this present time. So thank you.

## First Holy Communion

First Communion Masses have been arranged in conjunction with both of our schools for Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. There will be two Masses at Holy Name, one at 10am and one at 1pm and one at St Philomena's at 1pm. A letter has gone out to all parents of Year 5 children in our schools and those at other schools will be contacted this coming week. Because of the pandemic, First Communion will be different from normal, with each child being allocated

one bench and, sadly no further guests allowed.

Please pray for the children as they take this step towards becoming full members of the Catholic Church.

## Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Conference scheduled for this month has been cancelled given the present Covid 19 restrictions. The Safeguarding Department are hosting a Zoom briefing session on 9<sup>th</sup> October from 10am to 1pm, at which two topics will be explored - Substance abuse and Domestic Violence. The sessions are open to Clergy, staff and volunteers and Commission members.

To register a place please email the Safeguarding Department at [safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk) with your name & role & the email address you wish the link to be sent to.

Once registered a link to the Zoom meeting will be sent to you.

## Restored Lives – Recovery from Divorce and Separation

The Restored Lives course is a series of six meetings by Zoom starting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October. The course is for any person who has been impacted by the end of a serious relationship whether separated, currently going through a divorce or already divorced, either recently or at any time in the past.

Meetings are free, confidential, informative and affirming.

For further details please contact Maureen O'Brien [m.obrien@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.obrien@rcaol.org.uk)

Day	Time	Church	Intention
<b>Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>			
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	St Philomena	Megan Morrey
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Mary O'Dowd
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Name	Tony Brennan
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Name	Irene McGowan
	10.00 am	St Philomena	<b>Requiem: Kathleen Wells</b>
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Confessions until 6.50pm
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Mark Lynn, RIP
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Name	Margaret Mia M <sup>c</sup> Carthy, lately dead
	10.00 am	St Philomena	John Gorman, RIP
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Name	Stella Butcher (very ill)
	10.30 am	St Philomena	Kenny Douglas, RIP
<b>Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>			
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Marie Mooney
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	St Philomena	People of our Parishes
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Lucas family
<b>COVID-19 Guidance</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When coming to Mass or a funeral, a face covering must be worn.</li> <li>• The number of attendees at a funeral is limited to a maximum of thirty, and to maintain social distancing, only invited family and friends should attend.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently:</b>  Margaret Gibbons, John Michael Banks, Joseph Thomas Vincent Edwards,  Timothy Cowell, Carol Braithwaite, Veronica Smith, Tony Brennan,  Dennis Menezes  May they rest in peace</p>			
Mass is uploaded daily to <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yyto5d26">https://tinyurl.com/yyto5d26</a>			