



23 January 2022

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)

Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. (Nehemiah 8:8)

Faith in Focus

There should be a law about it

Politicians know that to be successful they have to convince us they would pass better laws in the main areas such as: education, health, transport, security and earnings. Everything else just comes and goes.

Even though most of us don't like laws (we'd prefer fewer rather than more), we do recognise that they can be useful in regulating life for the common good. So we elect people to make laws that promote fairness and foster harmony in society.

The Jewish people were famous for their laws; they seemed to have one for every occasion. But when they were deported to Babylon in Iraq in exile, the new generations lost touch with their legal system. Upon their return to Jerusalem Ezra gathered them into an assembly and read the whole of the Law to them. They cried and wept, not because the laws were harsh, but because they showed the all-encompassing care that God had for them in setting up this legal system. That's why the psalmist sang about the Law of God being perfect and gladdening the heart.

All the Old Testament laws come to fulfilment in Christ. The wisdom of

God once encased in legal codes is now distilled in the person of Jesus. And when we come across him in his home-town synagogue he takes the opportunity to tell people that the law is now fulfilled in their very presence. We know later that he would sum all of this up in two laws: love God and love your neighbour.

Unlike man-made laws, the law of God is not intended to be a burden to people. It's intended to set them free to get on with life. God's law is ordered in such a way that the innate goodness and beauty of human life should be shared by all to the maximum. It encourages growth rather than restricts; it offers freedom rather than a straight-jacket. It looks at the whole picture rather than the interest of the moment.

So when Jesus says that the law and prophets are about to be fulfilled, what does he say will happen? The poor will get some good news, prisoners will be given their liberty, the blind will see again and oppressed people will be set free. If there's a politician out there, your time may be running out...



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

Clergy: Father John Hindley

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Email: holyname@rcaol.org.uk

www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com

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 to Friday from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm, and 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm.

Baptisms: By prior arrangement. Baptisms take place on the 1st Saturday of the month at 11.00 am at St Philomena's, and 3rd Sunday of the month at 11.00 am Mass at Holy Name. Please see Father John at a weekend Mass.

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

Funerals and Marriages: By arrangement.

Visits to sick and housebound: Please contact the parish office.

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 or hand in to the Parish Office by Thursday morning.

Repository: Open before and after Mass.



Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan
Trustees Incorporated
Registered Charity Number 232709

Parish Social Media

Facebook: [HolyNameandStPhilomena](https://www.facebook.com/HolyNameandStPhilomena)

Twitter: [@holyphilomena](https://twitter.com/holyphilomena)

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

QR code



Scan this QR code for a website where the readings can be found. If the QR code does not work, download a QR code reader from App Store or Google Play store.

Readings at Mass

1st reading: Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Response to the Psalm: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Thank you

Your offerings this week total £922.00, and for Pax Christi £137.71

Parish consultative group

The next meeting is Tuesday 25 January at 7.30 pm in the Russell Room at St Philomena's. All welcome.

Sacrament of confirmation

Any young person currently in year 8 (or above) is welcome to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. For more information and to register, go to the Liverpool Archdiocesan Confirmation website <https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk>

Registration closes on Monday 21 March.

Social Media

The Archdiocese of Liverpool has launched new social media channels on Facebook and Instagram. The links are on the parish website and below:

<https://facebook.com/liverpoolarchdiocese>

<https://instagram.com/liverpoolarchdiocese/>

Lepra: World Leprosy Day

Over 7 million people are currently affected by leprosy across the world, and each day 600 people are diagnosed with leprosy, more than 50 of these are children. The mission of Lepra is to beat leprosy – so that all cases are easily diagnosed, treated and leave no disability or discrimination.

A short film prepared by Lepra is on the parish website, and for more information on the work of Lepra go to

<https://lepra.org.uk>

World leprosy day is the weekend of 29 and 30 January, and a retiring collection for Lepra will be taken at the end of Mass next weekend.

Date night in a box

Care for the family, a Christian charity, offer couples ‘Date night in a box’, the opportunity to start 2022 by spending time together with those who matter most. For more information go to

<https://careforthefamily.org.uk>

Aid to the Church in Need

The mission of Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is to support the Catholic faithful and other Christians where they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need.

More than 330 projects across 76 countries were paid out in 2021 – one of the best years on record and achieved despite the covid pandemic.

To find out more and to support the work of ACN go to <https://acnuk.org>

Archdiocesan recruitment

The Archdiocese is recruiting for a Pastoral Development Administrator at St Margaret Clitherow Centre. For further details and to apply

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs

Service at the Cathedral

Week of prayer for Christian Unity - Joint choral evening prayer on Sunday 23 January from 3 to 4 pm at the Metropolitan Cathedral. Sung by the choirs of both Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral and Liverpool Cathedral. All welcome.

Synod 2020: Deanery reps

The new Dean has established a Deanery Synodal Council to take the Synod 2020 proposals forward at a deanery level. Thank you to Richard Lavery and Sr Kathleen who have agreed to represent our parishes.

Celebration party

A free ‘thank you’ celebration party is planned for the evening of Shrove Tuesday, 1 March in the Holy Name Social Club. All welcome.

To help with catering arrangements, please sign up on the sheets at the back of church if you would like to come along.

Universe Catholic Weekly

The new online Catholic newspaper ‘Universe Catholic Weekly’ is available for £20 a quarter (13 copies) via:

<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk>

Tel: 0743 661 7650

E: sales@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Numbers Galore

Numbers are 38 and 49. No winner, rollover.

Word for today

The people cried when Ezra read them God’s law, not because of its severity but because of its over-arching goodness and mercy. For Christians the wisdom of God took shape in the person of Jesus and in his summary of all laws: love God and love your neighbour as yourself.

Day	Time	Church	Intention
Third Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday 22nd	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Mary George
Sunday 23rd	9.30 am	St Philomena	John Ord & Cathy Fracleton
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes
Monday 24th			No service
Tuesday 25th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Andrew Devine
Wednesday 26th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Florence M ^c Gee
	12.15 pm	St Philomena	Funeral: Paul Donafee, RIP
	6.30 pm	<i>St Philomena</i>	<i>Confessions until 6.50 pm</i>
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Monica Murphy (birthday remembrance) (Followed by Novena)
Thursday 27th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Mr & Mrs Hallam (golden wedding anniversary)
	10.40 am	Anfield crematorium	Funeral: Veronica McIver, RIP
Friday 28th	10.00 am	St Philomena	Sheila Rossiter
Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday 29th	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Eileen M ^c Quaid (1 st anniversary)
Sunday 30th	9.30 am	St Philomena	People of our Parishes
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Betty Kent (lately dead)
<p>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently: Jacqueline Mason, Paul Donafee, Veronica McIver, Joan Coburn May they rest in peace</p>			
<p>COVID-19 guidance: When coming to a church service a face covering must be worn unless exempt or children under the age of 11</p>			
<p>Mass is uploaded daily to https://tinyurl.com/yyto5d26</p>			

Name of parish Holy Name 148

Name and address of your own bank **To** The Manager
Address

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Please pay to

Bank name HSBC plc
Address 99-101 Lord Street
LIVERPOOL
L2 6PG

Sort code 40-29-12

Parish bank account number **for the credit of**
Account name 148 Holy Name Presbytery
Account number 91543830

the sum of
(in words)

(in figures) £.....

commencing

and thereafter monthly/annually

Delete as applicable

until you receive further notice from me/us in writing

Please insert the title and number of
your own bank account **and debit my account accordingly**

Account name

Account number

Signature

Date



LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

Name of parish

Our Lady and St Philomena 168

Name and address of your own bank

To

The Manager

Address

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.....

Please pay to

Bank name

HSBC plc

Address

99-101 Lord Street
LIVERPOOL
L2 6PG

Sort code

40-29-12

Parish bank account number

for the credit of

Account name

168 Archdiocese of Liverpool
St Philomena V M Presbytery

Account number

61544446

the sum of

(in words)

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(in figures)

£.....

commencing

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Delete as applicable

and thereafter

monthly/annually

until you receive further notice from me/us in writing

**Please insert the title and number of
your own bank account**

and debit my account accordingly

Account name

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Account number

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Signature

.....

Date

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LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

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