



22 January 2023

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

The Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on them. (Isaiah 8:23)

Faith in Focus

Quite a surprise

We all have our own prejudices. Some of us wouldn't touch a German white wine if it were on prescription. Others would always go for a week's bed and breakfast at Mrs Higginbottom's boarding house in Eastbourne rather than a luxury holiday abroad in the sun. A new fashion design business would have an uphill struggle if it opened in Scunthorpe and a gourmet restaurant would have to prove itself to survive in West Bromwich. (Apologies to anyone who lives in these towns!)

The same was true in Jesus's day. Of all the chic places to be found, the land of Zebulun and Naphtali, in northern Palestine, was not exactly at the top of the list. It had been attacked by the Assyrians and many people had been deported. So it's with a sense of irony that Matthew remembers Isaiah's prophecy about how God would make these places great. And now the eyes of the world look to Zebulun and Naphtali as the place from which God's promised Messiah has come.

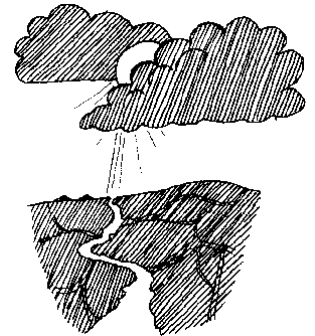
We have to fight against letting our prejudices get the better of us. For our God is a God of surprises. Just when

we think we have got it all sewn up and we know what to expect, God pops up in the most unusual of

circumstances and makes a nonsense of our best predictions. The pages of religious history are littered with the underdog proving victorious.

That's because God doesn't march to the same beat as we do. God is bigger than we can ever imagine and he chooses to work things out in his own way and not in ours. It's only our puny expectations that prevent us from doing great things. We have learned not to expect much, even of God. And although God tells us to pray for the Holy Spirit in our lives so that we will accomplish wonders and marvels, we sometimes need some convincing.

As this year of Matthew's gospel unfolds we will be invited to set no limits on what God can do in our lives, to expect the un hoped for, to await more than we could ever dream of. Alternatively we could put our faith on hold and try another week at Mrs Higginbottom's. There are no surprises there.



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

Clergy: Father John Hindley

Based at: Holy Name Presbytery, Moss Pits Lane, Fazakerley, L10 9LG

Telephone: 0151 476 0289

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, Tuesday, Thursday and 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 12 noon at Holy Name. Please see Fr 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 weekly collection. Please also specify the reason for the intention, i.e. lately dead, anniversary etc. For a particular day, please request early. To enable more Mass intentions to be said in the parish and not sent away, the Mass will be shared unless you request otherwise.

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.

Covid19: Face coverings are optional.



Archdiocese of Liverpool
Registered Charity Number 1199714

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 access to the Mass readings. If the QR code does not work, download a QR code reader from App Store or Google Play Store.

Readings at Mass

1st reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Psalm Response: The Lord is my light and my help.

Thank you

Your offerings this week total £882.76 and for Pax Christi £177.54

SVP meeting

The parish SVP group meet on Tuesday 24 January at 7 pm in the Upper Room at Holy Name. Everyone welcome.

Lepra: World leprosy day

World leprosy day is the weekend of 28 and 29 January and a retiring collection for Lepra will be taken next weekend.

Two short films prepared by Lepra are on the parish website. For more information on the work of Lepra <https://lepra.org.uk>

Churches together in Merseyside

The 2023 Ecumenical NewsBrief prepared by Churches together in Merseyside, including dates of events is on the parish website.

Numbers galore

Numbers are 31 and 37. Double rollover.

A message from CAFOD

The church relies on people getting involved. Our church, our world needs you. Could your new year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish?

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools?

Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support provided.

See <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer> for more information or contact Colette at cbyrne@cafod.org.uk or 07779 804242

Change to charitable status

On 1 January 2023 the Archdiocese of Liverpool became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in only the second such restructure since the 1850s.

As a CIO, the full charity name is now 'Archdiocese of Liverpool' (previously it was Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated) and there is a new charity number 1199714. The 'eagle eyed' may have noticed these changes already at the foot of page 2 of the newsletter!

There is no impact to parishioners in terms of gift aid, standing orders or current offertory envelopes. The offertory envelopes for the new tax year (6 April) will have the new charity number.

Feeding Liverpool

The Queen of Greens bus is a new mobile greengrocer bringing affordable fresh fruit and vegetables to communities across Liverpool and Knowsley to boost access to healthy food and tackle health inequalities.

It visits 29 stops each week including schools, health and community centres including Aintree hospital on a Thursday 9.00 am to 10.30 am.

You can pay by cash or card. Healthy Start cards and Alexandra Rose vouchers also accepted.

See church noticeboards for list of all the stops.

Go to <https://feedingliverpool.org> for more details.

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 is now open and closes on 17 March.

Knock pilgrimage

Escorted pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, from 26 to 30 June. £699 per person sharing. Price includes flight, transfers, 4 nights in Knock House hotel with full board. Single supplement £150.

All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr Peyton Centre and National Museum.

Contact Patricia on 01268 762278, or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Go to <http://knockpilgrimages.com> or see church noticeboard for more details.

Day	Time	Church	Intention
Third Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday 21st	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Sadie Nutman, 5-year-old girl, who is sick Ellen Hobin, lately dead
Sunday 22nd	9.30 am	St Philomena	People of our Parishes Boney M Varghese, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Mrs Theresa Stoneley, 32 years away from home
Monday 23rd			No service
Tuesday 24th	10.00 am	Holy Name	David Marsh Maria Stewart, lately dead
	1.30 pm	HMP Altcourse	Billy Roach, RIP
Wednesday 25th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Billy Fagan, lately dead (Our family) Mary and Alex and our children - thanksgiving for all blessings
	11.15 am	St Philomena	Requiem Mass: William John Quinn, RIP
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Eucharistic service (Followed by Novena)
Thursday 26th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Eucharistic service
Friday 27th	10.00 am	St Philomena	Eucharistic service
Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday 28th	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Maria Miller, lately dead
Sunday 29th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Sr Kathleen, 80 th birthday Maureen Egerton, deceased
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Teresa Peters, lately dead Colbeck family, special intentions
<p>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently Maria Martin, Bethany Jade Price, Stefan Ashworth, William John Quinn Angela Mary Dempsey, Ann Davies, Linda Smedley, Margaret Milne May they rest in peace</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

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

Account number

Signature

Date



LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA | www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated Registered Charity No. 232709

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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£.....

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

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Date

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