



6th Sunday of the Year (B)

Mass Times and Intentions

Divine Office – Psalter Week 2



Saturday 10 th February	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11 th February	11.00am	Anne Holden
Tuesday 13 th February	9.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 14 th February Ash Wednesday	11.00am 7.00pm	People of the Parish Harriet and William Ross
Thursday 15 th February Followed by Exposition	9.15am	Joe Cunningham
Friday 16 th February	9.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 17 th February	5.30pm	Gerard Gilgannon
Sunday 18 th February	11.00am	Peter Heaps

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass		p. 137
Penitential Rite	Form C	p.
Profession of Faith	Nicene	p. 11
Preface	Prayer IV	p. 32
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 4	p. 32

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention



For the terminally ill. We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

February is the month of the Holy Family. "By his obedience to Mary and Joseph, as well as by his humble work in the long years at Nazareth, Jesus gives us the example of holiness in the daily life of family and work." *From the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 564.*



The Roman Catholic Parish of
Our Lady Help of Christians
 Portico Lane, Prescot, L34 2QT

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6th Sunday of the Year (B)

11th February 2024



In the **First Reading** from the Book of Leviticus we read about one of the basic Mosaic laws that was imposed on the Jewish people for health reasons, the separation of people with contagious diseases. There was nothing basically wrong with this concept originally; however, over time the practice and the understanding became a sign that God punished sinners with diseases, suffering, and leprosy which was the worst of all punishments, except for crucifixion.

The **Responsorial Psalm** is a song that could and should be sung by a leper or a sinner who has been cured or forgiven. One is physical and the other is spiritual; but God is the "miracle worker" in both cases.

The **Second Reading** is from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians. In this passage, Paul is exhorting his flock to be aware of the intent and purpose of all our actions. To avoid sin, or the appearance of sin, do everything for the "greater honour and glory of God." This is not as difficult as one might think. It requires some effort at the beginning, but becomes a natural mindset over time.

The **Gospel Reading** is taken from the Gospel of Mark. This gospel passage has two messages: The simple story of the leper cured by Jesus and the command by Jesus not to reveal the details to anyone. Here the leper comes to Jesus in desperation "begging" to be healed. Jesus does not shrink away as most Jews of that day would. Rather, Jesus heals the leper immediately, but then tells him not to reveal the details except to "show yourself to the priest as Moses prescribed." Jesus did not want sensational fame or notoriety; it hindered His mission. Rather, He wanted all people to come to Him out of faith and trust, but in the quiet of their heart



Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

The Season of Lent

This Wednesday we begin the Season of Lent, the wonderful season of penance and spiritual renewal that prepares us to celebrate the great feast of the Lord's Death and



Resurrection at Easter. To help us in our preparation the Church encourages us to practice faithfully the disciplines of prayer, fasting and abstinence. Now is the time to decide to give up something that we will really miss, to commit to extra time in prayer especially through a more frequent celebration of Mass if

possible, and to be generous to those less fortunate than ourselves through our almsgiving.

Ash Wednesday – The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday this coming Wednesday, 14th February. Ashes will be blessed during Mass, and this year we can once again receive the ashes on our foreheads in the usual way. Mass will be celebrated here at **11.00am** and **7.00pm**. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

CAFOD's Lent Fast Day takes place on Friday 23rd February. We are encouraged to do without some food or luxury and donate the money we save to the work of CAFOD. Fast Day envelopes are available at the back of Church.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Registration for Confirmations for those in Year 8 (or above) will open on the 15th January 2024 and will close on 15th March 2024. Register at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk web site.

50 Plus Group

The next meeting of the 50 Plus Group is on Wednesday 14th February 2024 at 2:00pm in the Church Hall.

Minsteracres Holiday/Retreat

Come and have a holiday in beautiful Northumberland, July 26th to August 1st, includes travel to and from Minsteracres, 2 full day and 3 half day excursions, full board, evening bar, and evenings of family fun, all for £580. (no single supplement) Deposit £50 by the end of February and balance by the end of June. Contact Margaret 07814906645 or Jo 0151 426 2161.

Liverpool Bach Collective

The next event takes place at St Paul's, 10 Spring Grove, West Derby, L12 8SL at 6.30pm this Sunday, 11th February. A preparation for Lent, which begins three days after this performance on Ash Wednesday. The text dwells on the nature of sin and the need to overcome it. A solo cantata, sung by Danny Townley (countertenor), accompanied by a baroque string ensemble. There will be a retiring collection to offset costs.

Exposition and Benediction

There will be a period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 9.15am Mass this coming Thursday to help us with our Lenten preparation. The service will end with Benediction.

Quiet Day

The Cenacle Sisters would like to invite you to a quiet day of retreat based around Ignatian spirituality. There will be time for guided meditation, quiet reflection and an opportunity to access the Chapel and gardens. Saturday 24th February 10.30am – 4.00pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Please bring a packed lunch. Face coverings to be worn in communal areas and hand sanitizer also available. An offering of £10 is suggested, but give what's right for you. Tel 0151 722 2271. Tithebarn Grove off Lance Lane, L15 6TW

Feast Days This Week

Wednesday

St Cyril and St Methodius – They were born at Salonika of a prominent senatorial Christian family, and after becoming priests they were educated at Constantinople. In the year 863 they were sent by the Emperor to Moravia to preach the Faith. They both translated the liturgical books into the Slavonic language using the Cyrillic Alphabet which they invented. They believed people should celebrate the liturgy in their own language. However, in their work they met opposition from German bishops so they returned towards Byzantium. They were called to Rome and here Cyril died on 14th February in the year 869. Methodius was consecrated bishop and went to Pannonia in Hungary where he laboured ceaselessly in preaching the Gospel. He endured many hardships because of jealousy, though he had the support of the Holy See. He died on 6th April 885 in Czechoslovakia. They are co-patron Saints of Europe, and are now called the apostles of the Slavs.

Friday

St Walfrid – Born in Pisa, he was a prosperous and honoured citizen. He married, and had five sons and at least one daughter. After a time, Walfrid and his wife Thesia felt that they were being called to the religious life. They built an abbey for the men, and eighteen miles away a convent for women, in which Walfrid's wife and daughter Rattruda took the veil. The new foundation attracted many novices, as soon there were sixty monks. He ruled the abbey wisely for ten years until his death in the year 765, and was succeeded by his son Gimfrid.

Saturday

The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order – These seven men were born at Florence in Italy and were originally prosperous merchants. At the time Florence was deeply affected both by relaxed morality and the Cathar heresy, which among other things rejected the sacraments and the doctrines of hell and purgatory. They then led lives as hermits on Monte Senario, venerating especially the Blessed Virgin Mary. They wrote a rule based on St Augustine and the Dominican Constitutions, adopted the black habit of an Augustinian monk and lived as mendicant friars. They then preached through the length and breadth of Tuscany, and founded the Order of Servites which in the year 1304 received the approval of the Holy See. They are venerated on this day which is said to be the day on which St Alexis Falconieri, one of the seven, died, in the year 1310. All seven were beatified by Pope Clement XI, and canonised in 1887 by Pope Leo XIII. Today the Servite Order minister in nearly all the countries of North and South America, as well as Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia.