



6 April 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Reflection on the Gospel

Why this reading from John in the middle of the Year of Luke? All the other gospels during this Lenten season have been from Luke. The answer is that it is an independent, floating story which does not even fit into the Gospel of John. In early manuscripts of the gospels this story moves around and is found in various places before it becomes anchored as an example of Jesus' teachings just after he says, 'Our Law does not allow us to pass judgement on anyone without first giving them a hearing' (John 7:51). It is appropriate for this Year of Luke because the tone of the story and the theme of welcome for the repentant sinner are both thoroughly Lukan, a theme which is constantly stressed in Luke's Gospel (for example, in the Parable of the Prodigal Son).

What did Jesus write on the ground, or was it that he was just doodling to allow the accusers time to reflect on their self-righteousness? The latter is certainly one of the main concerns of St Luke's Gospel, where it is made clear that you cannot be a follower of Christ without first admitting your sinfulness: when Peter meets Jesus, he tells Jesus to go away, because he (Peter) is a sinner; Zacchaeus recognises that he is a sinner and promises to make multiple restitution for his embezzlements; the woman at the supper weeps for her sins at Jesus' feet.

Why do you think Jesus wrote on the ground? Do I find myself judging others too quickly and too often?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, Ampleforth

Reflection on the 1st reading

During Lent we have been working through the story of Israel preparing – or being prepared – for the coming of Christ: we have

heard of Adam, Abraham, Moses, the monarchy, and now we hear of the promise of a new beginning. For that is what Easter is.

This part of Isaiah was written during the Exile of the Jews in Babylon, a traumatic event which seemed to them to be the end of all their hopes; it seemed to be permanent condition of exile and slavery, far from their beloved Jerusalem - 'There we sat and wept,' says the Psalmist. But the prophet (whose work is attributed to Isaiah) set out to re-invigorate them with the promise that they would return to Jerusalem, and that the wonders of the Exodus from Egypt would be renewed. There would be a new road across the desert and miraculous supplies of water for the travellers. The desert would bloom afresh (for the slightest supply of water brings the withered plants to life in the spring), and the curious beasts of the desert, jackals and ostriches, would praise the Lord.

There is a lesson for us too. Our trust in God teaches us – and our own experience eventually grudgingly reinforces this – that seemingly total disaster can become a source of strength and instruction.

In what way would you wish to be transformed by the new beginning of Easter?

Votive lamps

This week, at Holy Name, the votive lamps burning either side of the Blessed Sacrament are for the **intentions of Kathy Bennett and family, and the Doran family, RIP.**

This week, at Our Lady & St Philomena, the votive lamp burning before the relic of St Philomena is for the **intentions of the Mackenzie family.**

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

Clergy:

Fr Mark Fairhurst, Parish Priest

Fr Anthony Afaako, Assistant Priest

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

Telephone: 0151 476 0289

Email: holyname@rcaol.org.uk

Facebook: HolyNameandStPhilomena

www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com

Serving the Churches of:

Holy Name, Moss Pits Lane, 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: Our Lady & St Philomena each
Sunday at 11 am, Holy Name each Sunday at
12.15 pm. Not 5th Sunday of the month.

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.

Rosary: Before each weekday Mass.

Novena: After Wednesday evening Mass at
Our Lady & St Philomena.

Exposition: Holy Name, Thursday at 9.15 am

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: Complete a pre-printed
envelope and place in the Mass intention box.
Please specify the reason for the intention, i.e.
lately dead, anniversary etc. For a particular
day, please request early. The Mass may 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.



Archdiocese of Liverpool
Registered Charity Number 1199714

Readings at Mass

Scan the QR code for the Mass readings.

1st reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

2nd reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11



Psalm response

What great deeds the Lord worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.

Thank you

Your offerings this week total £920.56, for
St Anthony's Bread £157.75 and a further
£247.00 for HCPT.

Baptism

Congratulations to Jude Ian Smith and
Zachary Smart who receive the sacrament of
baptism at Our Lady & St Philomena on
Sunday 6 April.

Congratulations to Averie Haygarth who
receives the sacrament of baptism at Holy
Name on Sunday 6 April.

Welcome

We welcome Rhaya Mary Roche and Jamie
David McCarthy at Our Lady & St
Philomena this weekend as they receive the
sacrament of baptism on Saturday 12 April.

Stations of the cross

The stations of the cross at Holy Name on
Tuesday 8 April at 2 pm will be led by the
year 5 children from Holy Name School. All
welcome.

Assisted suicide legislation

Right to Life UK have an online form for
you to contact your MP on this matter. At
<https://righttolife.org.uk/asvote>

Postcards are also available in church this
weekend to send to your MP.

Mass times in our family of parishes

Holy Name

Saturday 6 pm and Sunday 11 am

Our Lady & St Philomena

Sunday 9.30 am

Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 4.30 pm and Sunday 10 am

Pope's intention - April

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Easter Triduum

The Easter services in our family of parishes will be celebrated on:

Maundy Thursday, 17 April

6.00 pm - Blessed Sacrament (*followed by Watching until night prayer at 8 pm*)

7.30 pm - Our Lady & St Philomena (*followed by Watching until final prayer at 9 pm*)

Good Friday service, 18 April

3.00 pm - Holy Name

3.00 pm - Blessed Sacrament

Easter Vigil, 19 April

6.00 pm - Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm - Holy Name

These will be the only Masses on this day.

Easter Sunday, 20 April

9.30 am - Our Lady & St Philomena

10.00 am - Blessed Sacrament

11.00 am - Holy Name

Music for the Easter Triduum

There will be a rehearsal for the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil services after the 11 am Mass at Holy Name on Sunday 13 April. It is open to singers from Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena's.

Memorial garden

The memorial garden at Our Lady & St Philomena is open each Sunday after Mass for quiet prayer and reflection.

Numbers galore

Numbers are 17 and 31. Rollover.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

CAFOD Family Fast Day envelopes can be returned throughout Lent and will help CAFOD support the people of Myanmar after the recent earthquake.

Chrism Mass

Wednesday 16 April at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral. At the Mass, Archbishop Malcolm blesses the holy oils that are used throughout the archdiocese for celebrations of the sacraments in the next year.

The Archbishop also invites priests of the archdiocese to renew the promises they made at their ordination. All welcome.

Lenten vocation

Jubilee 2025, Pilgrims of Hope need priests on the journey! If you feel God might be calling you to serve His people and the Church as a priest, contact the Archdiocesan vocation Director on 0151 727 2493 or email vocations@rcaol.co.uk

Easter raffle

Raffle tickets to win Easter egg hampers are now available. All proceeds go to support the work of the SVP.

Way of the cross procession

Way of the Cross procession on Saturday 12 April at 1 pm. From Blessed Sacrament Shine to the Cathedral, with final blessing from Archbishop Malcolm. All welcome.

Catholic Pic

The April edition of the Catholic Pic is on the parish website and Facebook page. Printed copies have not arrived.

My Day by Day

The Easter 'My Day by Day' booklets are available in church.

Lourdes pilgrimage

The archdiocese pilgrimage to Lourdes is from 24 to 31 July. For more information:

- See church noticeboard and website
- <https://liverpool-lourdes.org.uk>
- Tel: 07484 911623
- Email: lourdespilgrimage@rcaol.org.uk

Recruitment

The archdiocese is recruiting a Catholic social action and youth ministry coordinator. <https://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers>

Day	Time	Church	Intention
Fifth Sunday of Lent			
Saturday 5th	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Gary Baker, lately dead
Sunday 6th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Billy and Colette Shudall In thanksgiving
	9.30 am	Hospital	Marie Melia, RIP
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Isabella Claire Suaverdez, 1 st birthday Ann Tierney, lately dead
Monday 7th			No service
Tuesday 8th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Cathy Kelly, anniversary Angela Wainwright, RIP
	2.00 pm	Holy Name	Stations of the cross: Led by Holy Name School
Wednesday 9th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Ida Deckman, lately dead John Riley, RIP
	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Stations of the cross
	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Confessions until 6.50 pm
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Linda Edwards, birthday wishes Fr Anthony, birthday Novena after Mass
Thursday 10th	9.15 am	Holy Name	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.00 am	Holy Name	Holy Souls
	1.45 pm	Holy Name	Requiem Mass: Francis Roberts, RIP
Friday 11th	1.00 pm	St Philomena	Requiem Mass: Mary Robinson
	7.00 pm	Holy Name	Stations of the cross
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord			
Saturday 12th	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Anthony Conaghan, lately dead Paul Gavin, RIP
Sunday 13th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Winnie McKenzie, 90 th birthday Shelagh Philips, RIP
	9.30 am	Hospital	David Anthony Byrne, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Thomas Ellison, RIP
<p>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently Francis Roberts, Mary Robinson, Martin John Burke, Mary Fleming Patricia Ann Denson, Eileen Cody. 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

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

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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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LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

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