



9 March 2025

First Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Reflection on the Gospel

To remind us that Lent is a time of testing, the gospel reading of the First Sunday of Lent is always about the testing of Jesus. Through our fasting (or whatever that extra offering we make to the Lord during Lent may be) we enter into solidarity with the hardship undergone by Jesus in his Passion. Of course Lent is not a matter of testing out how far we can push ourselves (a sort of macho self-torture). Rather it is a period of preparation for the Passion and Resurrection - just like the forty years of Israel in the desert preparing for the Promised Land, or like the prophet Elijah's forty-day preparation before he encounters God on Mount Horeb, or like the forty days during which Christ prepared the apostles between Easter and the Ascension.

The point of Jesus' forty-day fast is to give some force in response to the devil's first temptation. To each of the devil's taunts Jesus replies with a word of scripture: if you rely on God's word you are unshakably safe, for God has created and arranged everything. Matthew and Luke have a different order for the second and third temptations: Matthew climaxes with Jesus as the Second Moses, like Moses seeing all the territories from a high mountain. Luke ends the scene as he begins and ends his gospel, at Jerusalem, the turning-point of the gospel - the place where Jesus rises from the dead and ascends to the Father. **We do not live on bread alone. How has the Word of God fed you? In the solitude of the desert Jesus prayed to his Father. Can you find solitude for prayer? What can you do during Lent to come closer to the Lord?**

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, Ampleforth

Reflection on the 1st reading

The first readings during Lent each year are wonderfully arranged, leading us from the beginnings of the history of God's People to a time of immediate preparation for the coming of Christ; each Sunday takes us further forward in the history of God's promises to his People. This year's readings commence with the profession of faith about God's care of his People; Israelite priests had to make this when presenting their offering. Surprisingly this profession starts not with the promises to Abraham but with the wanderings of the nomadic tribes down to Egypt. It was first in Egypt that God made them his people, rescuing them from slavery. In this version of the history of Israel the decisive moment was not the call of Abraham but the exodus from Egypt. But in the readings over the next few Sundays we will work forward through the call of Abraham, the call of Moses, the first Passover in Canaan and the promise of a New Covenant after the People return from the Babylonian Exile. These readings provide a record of God's constant presence as he prepares the People for the coming of his Son at the Incarnation, and the revelation of God in the Cross and through the Resurrection at Easter.

Votive lamps

This week, at Holy Name, the votive lamps burning either side of the Blessed Sacrament are for the **intentions of J Schumacher and the Waldron family.**

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

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: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

2nd reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13



Psalm response

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Thank you

Your offerings this week total £1,237.46.

Baptism

Congratulations to Amanda Rose Karimi,
Tobias Edwin Karimi and Timothy Edwin
Karimi who receive the sacrament of
baptism at Our Lady & St Philomena on
Sunday 9 March.

Welcome

We welcome James Niall Thomas
Campbell and Isla Mae Ryan to Mass at
Holy Name this weekend as they will
receive the sacrament of baptism on Sunday
16 March.

Congratulations

Congratulations and best wishes to Gokul
Das P. G. and Merin Varghest who
celebrate their convalidation at Holy Name
on Saturday 15 March.

Stations of the Cross

During Lent we will be observing and
reflecting on the Stations of the Cross. At
Our Lady & St Philomena on a Wednesday
evening at 6.30 pm and at Holy Name on a
Friday evening at 7 pm. Please come and
join us.

Stations of the Cross at Blessed Sacrament
each Thursday after 6 pm Mass.

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 - March

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

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 to start a conversation. Email vocations@rcaol.co.uk or call 0151 727 2493

CAFOD Family Fast Day

There is a collection next weekend to support CAFOD's Family Fast Day. Your donations help CAFOD support communities suffering the impacts of war, poverty and climate change. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at <https://cafod.org.uk> or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

SVP meeting

The parish SVP group meet on Tuesday 11 March at 7 pm in the Upper Room at Holy Name. Everyone welcome.

Recruitment

The archdiocese is recruiting a parish administrator. To apply <https://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers>

Big Lent walk

Join CAFOD's big Lent walk as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200 km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your big Lent walk. Sign up at <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

Numbers galore

Numbers are 19 and 25. Rollover.

Caritas survey

Caritas Social Action Network, the official agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference for domestic social action is conducting a survey to gather insights into the lived experiences of Catholic families. Focused on understanding the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the broader effects of the current economic climate. The survey closes 25 March and is available at <https://csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey>

Sacrament of confirmation

Registration for confirmation is open until 17 March at the Archdiocesan website <https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk>.

Mary's Meals

For 'Pray in May', Mary's Meals are launching fortnightly prayer and reflection emails to support you as you pray for the work of Mary's Meals.

Each email will include updates on their work, a reflection from a team member and suggested prayer points and themes to help you walk in prayer with the children and communities they support. You can sign up for the fortnightly prayer and reflection emails at <https://marysmeals.org>

Asylum link fundraiser

Asylum Link Merseyside's fundraiser 7 pm Saturday 15 March at St Anne's Church, Overbury Street, L7 3HJ

To book your £5 tickets, which includes refreshments call in, phone Illa on 0151 709 1713, or contact us info@asylumlink.org.uk

Catholic Pic

The March edition of the Catholic Pic is available in church. Thanks to Derek for collecting them.

We remember in our prayers those who have died recently

Anthony Brough, Thomas Kennedy
May they rest in peace

Day	Time	Church	Intention
First Sunday of Lent			
Saturday 8th	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Jim Ratcliffe, anniversary Joan McDonald, lately dead
Sunday 9th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Linda Edwards, Pat Duffy, Ann Divine, Ann Templeton and Pat Dower, birthdays
	9.30 am	Hospital	Betty McGuinness, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Motcha Mary and Davidu, death anniversary
Monday 10th	10.15 am	Holy Name	Funeral: Anthony Brough, RIP
Tuesday 11th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Richard Brocken, 10 th memorial anniversary Stephen Thompson, healing
Wednesday 12th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Holy Souls
	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Stations of the cross
	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Confessions until 6.50 pm
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Walter Finn, birthday and thanksgiving George Neild, RIP Novena after Mass
Thursday 13th	9.15 am	Holy Name	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.00 am	Holy Name	Chris Gavin, strength and love
Friday 14th	10.00 am	St Philomena	Pat Breen, RIP Kathy Atkinson and Kathy Roberts, intentions
	7.00 pm	Holy Name	Stations of the cross
Second Sunday of Lent			
Saturday 15th	2.00 pm	Holy Name	Convalidation: Gokul Das P.G. and Merin Varghest
	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes John Schumacher, birthday
Sunday 16th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Ritchie Sharock, birthday Geoff Jones, RIP
	9.30 am	Hospital	Special intention
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Jeanette Hennigan, lately dead Grace Mary Billows, lately dead

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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