



2 March 2025

## Eighth of Ordinary Time (Year C)

### Reflection on the Gospel

Matthew gathered together the teaching of Jesus on the basic requirements of Christian morality into the Sermon on the Mount; that formed a sort of manifesto for the Kingdom of Heaven, starting with the eight Beatitudes. Luke gathers many of the same teachings into his 'Sermon on the Plain', starting with four Beatitudes. This has provided the gospel readings for the last three Sundays. Matthew, writing for Christians of Jewish origin, stressed Jesus' teaching on law, and how Jesus made it more interior and often more demanding. Luke, always aware of the needs of the poor, stresses more our social obligations. As he draws to a conclusion, he gives us two of Jesus' warnings, expressed in the vivid language and with the fierce exaggeration and wit that is so characteristic of Jesus' teachings. The first, the splinter and the log, warns us to use the same standards in judging ourselves as we use in judging others. The second, the sound and rotten fruit, is perhaps a double warning. You can judge people only by their actions. More profoundly, it is also a challenge: don't flatter yourself on your achievements until you are good through and through, until the store of goodness in your heart is really overflowing.

*Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, Ampleforth*

### Reflection on the 1<sup>st</sup> reading

The wise sage of Jerusalem collected many proverbs and pithy sayings. Most of them are severely practical, as in this short reading. Here he presents us with four images of testing someone by their speech.

He does not deny that there are other ways of proving a person's worth and generosity, but these four aspects of testing by speech are as clear as any. This reading is chosen to introduce the sayings of the gospel reading on discerning people by their fruits. There is no way of telling what people are, except by how they act.

In fact, the Book of Sirach is rather a favourite with Luke. He takes at least two of his sayings and transforms them into parables to illustrate two of his special emphases in Jesus' teaching. Luke is the evangelist of prayer, and a saying on a widow's earnest prayers (Sirach 35:14) illustrates the need to persevere in prayer in Luke 18:1-8 (the Parable of the Unjust Judge), and the Rich Fool (Sirach 11:19) is used to illustrate the acute dangers of hoarding wealth in Luke 12:16-21.

### Votive lamps

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

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

### 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**

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](mailto:holyname@rcaol.org.uk)

Facebook: HolyNameandStPhilomena

[www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

1<sup>st</sup> reading: Sirach 27:4-7

2<sup>nd</sup> reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45



## Psalm response

It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.

## Thank you

Your offerings this week total £992.93.

The collection at the funeral for Frank  
Melia raised £331.00 for the Red Mission  
Boxes (Missio). Frank was a generous  
supporter and local secretary for Missio at  
Our Lady & St Philomena for many years.

## Baptism

Congratulations to Kane Henry Ross  
Bennett who receives the sacrament of  
baptism at Holy Name on Sunday 2 March.

## Ash Wednesday

In our family of parishes, Masses on Ash  
Wednesday 5 March, will be celebrated at

Holy Name at 10 am

Blessed Sacrament at 12 noon

Holy Name at 6 pm

Blessed Sacrament at 6 pm

Our Lady & St Philomena at 7 pm

## 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 (starting 12 March) and  
at Holy Name on a Friday evening at 7 pm  
(starting 7 March). Please come and join us.

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

## St Patrick's night

Enjoy an early St Patrick's night on Friday  
7 March at 6.30 pm in the Russell Room.  
Buffet, entertainment and bingo. Tickets £3.

## My Day by Day

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

## 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.

## Reflections on the Gospel

The reflections on the Gospel and 1<sup>st</sup> reading are taken from the 'Wednesday Word'. The reflections are written by Fr Henry Wansbrough. Fr Henry is a monk of Ampleforth Abbey, general editor of the New Jerusalem Bible and for many years, was a member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission. Available at <https://www.wednesdayword.org>

## Catholic Pic

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

## Numbers galore

Numbers are 9 and 15. Three winners.

## LGBTQ+ Catholics

The next LGBTQ+ Catholics Mass is on Sunday 2 March at 2 pm at All Saints, High Street, Golborne, Warrington, WA3 3BG, Followed by refreshments. All welcome.

## First Communion

The preparation meetings are taking a break over Lent and Easter. They restart on Wednesday 30 April at 6 pm in the Russell Room at Our Lady & St Philomena. Children who attend Holy Name or St Philomena schools do not need to attend; preparation takes place in school.

## Prayer centre

St Joseph's Prayer centre, Formby offer day visits, residential stays, retreats and events. For more information see church noticeboards, phone 01704 875850, email [theprayercentre.stj@psmgs.org.uk](mailto:theprayercentre.stj@psmgs.org.uk) or visit <https://stjosephsprayercentre.com>

## Sacrament of confirmation

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

## Missio magazine

The spring edition of 'Mission Today' is in church; for 'Red Box holders' or anyone interested in the work of Missio.

## Film: Bonhoeffer

A new Christian film 'Bonhoeffer' at Odeon cinemas from 7 to 9 March. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German theologian, pastor and anti-Nazi dissident whose life and work left a profound impact on Christian theology and resistance movements. <https://bonhoefferfilm.com>

## Offertory envelopes

New offertory envelopes are available.

### Our Lady & St Philomena

No. 1 to 25: Gift aid donation

No. 26 and above: Donation not gift aided

### Holy Name

No. 1 to 35: Gift aid donation

No. 36 and above: Donation not gift aided

If you believe you are not in the right category, please contact the parish office.

If you do not pay tax, spare envelopes are available for you to take and use.

If you pay tax, please consider gift aiding your donation – **the parish gains an extra 25% from all your donations at no cost to yourself.** Please contact the parish office for the simple form and envelopes.

## Work experience opportunity

The SVP and CAFOD offer residential work experience for young adults from 22 to 27 June in London. All accommodation costs, meals and travel covered. Candidates must have completed their 1st or 2nd year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20 April. More information from [KeziaH@svp.org.uk](mailto:KeziaH@svp.org.uk) or [khutchinson@cafod.org.uk](mailto:khutchinson@cafod.org.uk)

Day	Time	Church	Intention
<b>Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>			
Saturday 1st	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Maureen Taylor, RIP James McGuinness, lately dead
Sunday 2nd	9.30 am	St Philomena	Marie Melia, 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary Frank Melia, RIP
	9.30 am	Hospital	Jimmy O'Donovan, RIP
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Terry Doran, RIP
Monday 3rd			No service
Tuesday 4th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Brenda Owens, lately dead Jason Morland
Wednesday 5th <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	10.00 am	Holy Name	Frank Melia, lately dead T.M. Sebastian, RIP
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Angela Wainright, RIP John Riley, RIP
	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Confessions until 6.50 pm
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Linda Brennan, RIP James Patrick Carter, RIP <i>Novena after Mass</i>
Thursday 6th	9.15 am	Holy Name	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>
	10.00 am	Holy Name	Paul Gavin, RIP John Smith, RIP
Friday 7th	1.30 pm	St Philomena	<b>Requiem Mass: Thomas Kennedy, RIP</b>
	7.00 pm	Holy Name	<b>Stations of the cross</b>
<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>			
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 M <sup>c</sup> Guinness, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Motcha Mary and Davidu, death anniversary
<p><b>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently</b>  Anthony Brough, Thomas Kennedy, Dorothy Crellin. May they rest in peace</p>			

**Name of parish** Holy Name 148

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

.....

.....

.....

**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**

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**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)**

.....

**(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](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

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