



26 January 2025

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)

Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. (Nehemiah 8:8)

Faith in Focus

There should be a law about it

Politicians know that to be successful they have to convince us they would pass better laws in four main areas: education, health, transport and earnings. Everything else just comes and goes.

Even though most of us don't like laws (we'd prefer fewer rather than more), we do recognise that they can be useful in regulating life for the common good. So we elect people to make laws that promote fairness and foster harmony in society.

The Jewish people were famous for their laws; they seemed to have one for every occasion. But when they were deported to Babylon in Iraq in exile, the new generations lost touch with their legal system. Upon their return to Jerusalem Ezra gathered them into an assembly and read the whole of the Law to them. They cried and wept, not because the laws were harsh, but because they showed the all-encompassing care that God had for them in setting up this legal system. That's why the psalmist sang about the Law of God being perfect and gladdening the heart.

All the Old Testament laws come to fulfilment in Christ. The wisdom of God once encased in legal codes is now distilled in the person of Jesus. And when we come across him in his home-town synagogue he takes the opportunity to tell people that the law is now fulfilled in their very presence. We know later that he would sum all of this up in two laws: love God and love your neighbour.

Unlike man-made laws, the law of God is not intended to be a burden to people. It's intended to set them free to get on with life.

God's law is ordered in such a way that the innate goodness and beauty of human life should be shared by all to the maximum. It encourages growth rather than restricts; it offers freedom rather than a straight-jacket. It looks at the whole picture rather than the interest of the moment.

So when Jesus says that the law and prophets are about to be fulfilled, what does he say will happen? The poor will get some good news, prisoners will be given their liberty, the blind will see again and oppressed people will be set free. If there's a politician out there, your time may be running out...

Votive lamps

This week, at Holy Name, the votive lamps burning either side of the Blessed Sacrament are for the **intentions of Caitlin George and the Ratcliffe family.**

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

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

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: By prior arrangement.

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: Please complete the pre-
printed envelopes and place in the Mass
intention box. 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 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: Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-
30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21



Psalm response

Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

Thank you

Your offerings this week total £1,049.86
and for St Anthony's Bread £73.62

Baptism

Congratulations to Oliver Liam Wildman
who receives the sacrament of baptism at
Our Lady & St Philomena on Sunday 26
January.

Fr Patsy

Fr Patsy will celebrate Mass at 6pm on
Saturday 1 February at Holy Name. This
provides us with an opportunity to thank Fr
Patsy for his services to our parishes and to
pray for his continued good health. At Fr
Patsy's request this is the only Mass he will
be celebrating in our Parishes.

SVP meeting

The parish SVP group meet on Tuesday 28
January at 7 pm in the Upper Room at Holy
Name. Everyone welcome.

Sacrament of confirmation

If you are in year 8 (or above) and would
like to receive the sacrament of
confirmation, register at the Liverpool
Archdiocesan confirmation website
<https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk>. Registration is
open until to 17 March.

Baptism preparation meeting

The next baptism preparation meeting is
Saturday 1 February at 11 am at Holy Name
Church. Baptism application forms are
available after Mass, from the parish office
or on the day of the meeting. Further details
are on the parish website.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day is marked on 27 January each year and this year marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration camp complex, and the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia.

‘We commit ourselves to stand against antisemitism, injustice and prejudice wherever it might be found. Together we remember the Holocaust and pray that love will triumph over evil.’ *Bishop Declan Lang*

Could you be a Deacon?

Diaconate information evening on Thursday 30 January (new date) with the Archbishop. Refreshments from 7 pm, evening starts at 7.30 pm. At St John’s Presbytery, 13 Powell Street, WN1 1XD

My Day by Day

The February ‘My Day by Day’ booklets are available in church.

Collections in 2024

The money paid to charities and appeals in 2024 from your donations totalled £8,431.18. The split is noted below. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Animate Youth	£144.71
APF World Missions	£404.90
Catholic Education	£146.84
Day for Life	£179.54
Holy Places	£236.60
Home Missions	£179.48
Lenten Alms	£227.30
Nugent Care	£59.74
Peter’s Pence	£189.94
Priests’ Training Fund	£462.10
Priests in Retirement	£671.64
World Communications	£165.65
CAFOD	£673.39
Mary’s Meals	£100.00
SVP	£1,476.82
Red Mission Boxes	£1,709.56
HCPT	£1,258.63
PACT	£144.34

Numbers galore

Numbers are 38 and 41. Rollover.

Mass for Jack Traynor

Jack Traynor’s cure during the first Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1923 has formally been declared a miracle. The cure of Jack Traynor is 71st official miracle to have happened at Lourdes, and the first person from England to be cured at the shrine.

A special Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at 7 pm on Tuesday 18 February at the Cathedral. A drinks reception will follow in the Cathedral Crypt. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to attend, please fill in the form

<https://forms.office.com/e/U9Vg0WK4pW>

As this is expected to be a popular event, the Cathedral need to know numbers in advance for both health and safety and catering purposes.

The archdiocese is looking into the prospect of sending free coaches from each deanery area. If you are interested in this, please note this on the form so they can gauge interest from every area. Please include your contact details so they can get in touch with further details.

If you are unable to access the form above, sign-up sheets are available in church. The names will be collated and a ‘block bookings’ for each church will be made online. **Please add your name to the sign-up sheets by Sunday 31 January.**

Catholic Pic

Unfortunately, printed copies of the January edition of the Catholic Pic have not yet arrived.

We remember in our prayers those who have died recently

Kathleen Clarke, Patricia ‘Pat’ Breen,
Carmel Louise Ventre, Fred Spike
May they rest in peace

Day	Time	Church	Intention
Third Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday 25th	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Baby Robyn, Mass of the Angels, family intentions, lately dead, 8 weeks old
Sunday 26th	9.30 am	St Philomena	People of our Parishes James Christopher Billington, RIP
	9.30 am	Hospital	Bob Banks, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Joseph Dann, lately dead David Taylor, lately dead
Monday 27th			No service
Tuesday 28th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Brenda Lewis and Pat Hodgson
Wednesday 29th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Derek and Marie Penketh, thank you
	6.30 pm	St Philomena	Confessions until 6.50 pm
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Marion Talbot, RIP Geoff Massingham, get well <i>Novena after Mass</i>
Thursday 30th	9.15 am	Holy Name	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.00 am	Holy Name	David Disley and Yvonne Gibbons
	12 noon	St Philomena	Requiem Mass: Patricia 'Pat' Breen, RIP
Friday 31st	10.00 am	St Philomena	Patrick Meila, RIP Michael Gerard, RIP
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord			
Saturday 1st	5.30 pm	Holy Name	Confessions until 5.50 pm
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Fr Patsy, thanksgiving and good health
Sunday 2nd	9.30 am	St Philomena	Shelagh Grundy, birthday intentions
	9.30 am	Hospital	Margaret Brabin
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Frances, 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

and thereafter monthly/annually

Delete as applicable

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

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LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

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