



11 May 2025

## 4th Sunday of Easter (Year C)

### Reflection on the Gospel

Jesus' teaching on the Good Shepherd is the nearest saying approaching a parable in John's gospel. It is so important that the Church puts it before us on the fourth Sunday of Easter in each of the three cycles of readings.

Apart from its obvious sense of Jesus looking after his sheep – and silly, confused sheep at that – this image receives special meaning from the figure of the shepherd in the Old Testament. God is the primary shepherd of Israel, who pastures his sheep in pastures green so that they fear no evil (Psalm 23).

In Ezekiel 34 God promises to free Israel from the self-centred shepherds who keep the sheep for their own advantage, and to send them a true shepherd after his own heart, a second King David, who will tend them as God himself would care for them. Thus, in putting before us each year in Eastertide this proclamation that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, the Church is affirming the risen Christ as the divine Shepherd who tends his flocks.

Particularly in these verses we see the unity of the risen Christ and the Father in their role of shepherds of the sheep, just as in our second reading from the Book of Revelation we see the unity of the LORD God and the Lamb, both revered on the one throne.

**What is involved in imitating Christ as shepherd?**

*Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, Ampleforth*

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

In the Acts of the Apostles we witness the Christian message spreading to the ends of the earth. Yet three times Paul, as he does this, is rejected by his own people and forced to turn to the gentiles: once here in Asia Minor, once in Greece and finally in Rome. Each time he does so with a biblical gesture, shaking the dust off his feet, shaking out his cloak, finally in Rome quoting the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah ('You will indeed listen, but never understand ...').

Perhaps in God's providence this rejection of Paul's preaching was the means by which the Gospel reached beyond Judaism.

**What can I do to help the mission to bring Christ (like Paul) to all nations?**

## Votive lamps

This week, at Holy Name, the votive lamps burning either side of the Blessed Sacrament are for the **intentions of Catherine and Francis Reynolds and Jean and William Sheridan.**

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

**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: Acts 13:14, 43b-52

2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Revelation 7:9, 13a,  
14b-17

Gospel: John 10:27-30



## Psalm response

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

## Thank you

Your offerings this week total £1,026.77

## Baptism

Congratulations to Covie Maudie Lewis  
and Dolcy Parr who receive the sacrament  
of baptism at Holy Name on Sunday 11  
May.

## Welcome

We welcome Alice Elizabeth Murtagh-  
McGivern and Willow Ware at Holy Name  
this weekend as they will receive the  
sacrament of baptism on Sunday 18 May.

## Priest Training Fund

There is a retiring collection this weekend  
for the Priest Training Fund. If you are a  
taxpayer and don't use offertory envelopes,  
gift aid envelopes for the Priest Training  
Fund are available in church. Completing  
the envelope increases your donation by  
25% at no cost to you.

## Vocation to priesthood

This Sunday we celebrate World Day of  
Prayer for Vocations. If you feel God might  
be calling you to serve His people and the  
Church as a priest, please feel free to chat to  
the Archdiocesan vocation Director Fr Ron  
Johnson on 0151 727 2493 or email  
[vocations@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:vocations@rcaol.co.uk)

## Medjugorje pilgrimage

The parish pilgrimage to Medjugorje  
departs next week on Thursday 15 May. We  
pray for a safe journey, and a relaxing and a  
prayerful time in Medjugorje. Thanks to  
everyone who has organised the pilgrimage.

## Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

O God pastor and ruler of all the faithful, look with mercy upon Pope Leo XIV who you have appointed to shepherd the Universal Church.

Renew deep within him the spirit of Holiness to be the shepherd, the guide of the Church for the needs of the world today in 2025.

Through Christ our Lord Amen.

Holy Mary, mother of the Church, pray for us!

Saints Peter and Paul, apostles of Rome. Pray for us!

## May procession

There is a May procession at Our Lady & St Philomena at Mass this Sunday.

## Vocations weekend

Vocations weekend for women on the theme 'Discerning God's call in your life'. From Friday 23 to Sunday 25 May at FCJ centre at St Hugh's, Liverpool, L15 2HY

Jesus invites us to 'Come and See' - the weekend gives you the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call. You can stay for the weekend or just Saturday. Organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus.

For more information contact Sr Lynne at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or go to <https://fcjsisters.org>

## Numbers galore

Numbers are 29 and 42. Rollover.

## Gift aid envelope number 25

Can the person who has envelope number 25 at Our Lady & St Philomena please see Chris Sinnott at Mass or call into the parish office so that a gift aid declaration can be completed. Thanks.

## New archbishop

The Installation of John Sherrington as the 10<sup>th</sup> archbishop of Liverpool takes place at the Cathedral on Tuesday 27 May at 12 noon.

For the Mass, each parish is allocated tickets for two individuals. Names will be drawn at random. Please add your name and contact number to the lists in each church.

**The lists close on Sunday 18 May. The date has been extended to give people more time to put their name down.**

Please note you must make your own way to the Cathedral and be seated by 11.30 am.

## Christian Life program at Holy

### Name

The program begins on Saturday 10 May at Holy Name Church and runs for eight consecutive Saturdays from 1 to 5 pm.

Open to all married couples, as well as single men and women. Refreshments served afterward. Further details on church noticeboard.

## Deanery minutes

The latest minutes from our deanery synodal council are available in church, on the noticeboard and the parish website.

## Recruitment

The archdiocese is recruiting a choral director. To apply

<https://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers>

## Parish office

Due to holidays, the parish office is closed on Thursday 15 and Friday 16 May, it reopens on Monday 19 May.

## We remember in our prayers those who have died recently

Alice Margaret Ainsworth  
Bernadette Callery, Neil Anthony Lovell,  
Walter Alan Dodd  
May they rest in peace

Day	Time	Church	Intention
<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>			
Saturday 10th	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Jim Ratcliffe, birthday remembrance Matthew and Isobel Crerand, keep them strong
Sunday 11th	9.30 am	St Philomena	People of our Parishes Suzanne Williamson Cavanagh, 3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary, RIP
	9.30 am	Hospital	Betty M <sup>c</sup> Guinness, lately dead
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Jimmy M <sup>c</sup> Coy, 96 <sup>th</sup> birthday, RIP
Monday 12th	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Holy Name</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Bernadette Callery, RIP</b>
Tuesday 13th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Frank Dibbert, lately dead
	<b>12.45 pm</b>	<b>Holy Name</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Alice Margaret Ainsworth, RIP</b>
Wednesday 14th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Bernadette Callery, lately dead
	6.30 pm	<i>St Philomena</i>	<i>Confessions until 6.50 pm</i>
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	John M <sup>c</sup> Clean, RIP Mary Dunnavon, birthday <i>Novena after Mass</i>
Thursday 15th	<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>Holy Name</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>
	10.00 am	Holy Name	Pauline Cecchetto, special intention
Friday 16th	10.00 am	St Philomena	James Hanley, RIP Alison Shudall, birthday
<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>			
Saturday 17th	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Neil Anthony Lovell, lately dead
Sunday 18th	9.30 am	St Philomena	John Coysh, RIP Patrick Cullen, lately dead
	9.30 am	Hospital	Special intention
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Patrick Long, birthday remembrance Peter M <sup>c</sup> Crieth, special intention

**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**

Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA | [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

Archdiocese of Liverpool. Registered Charity Number 1199714

**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**

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