



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**NORDEN**

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**12th September 2021 Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

### The Word This Week



As we follow through the Gospel of Saint Mark we come to an important turning point this week: after the preaching, the miracles and the journey so far, Simon Peter publicly recognises Jesus as the Messiah. But there is an important point, which is brought out by the choice of first reading today: this Messiah is a king who is destined to be rejected and killed. Jesus knows this very well, and rebukes Peter when he tries to lead him on a different path. From this point on, Saint Mark's Gospel leads to the cross: Jesus himself accepts his own cross, and reminds all his followers that the cross is a part of following him. If we are considering the question "Who is Jesus?", these scripture passages give us a deep insight into the mission of salvation that he accepts for us.

## NEWS & NOTES

### Emerging from Lockdown

The big news this week is that the Parish Centre is open for business again. Oh, and the toilet in Church is available too! Next weekend we will resume refreshments after Sunday Masses, and our social activities are also resuming—see elsewhere for a note on "Getting Together."

### Season of Creation 2021

**From the Joint Message of Pope Francis, Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby:**

"For more than a year, we have all experienced the devastating effects of a global pandemic—all of us, whether poor or wealthy, weak or strong. Some were more protected or vulnerable than others, but the rapidly-spreading infection meant that we have depended on each other in our efforts to stay safe. We realised that, in facing this worldwide calamity, no one is safe until everyone is safe, that our ac-

tions really do affect one another, and that what we do today affects what happens tomorrow. These are not new lessons, but we have had to face them anew. May we not waste this moment. We must decide what kind of world we want to leave to future generations. God mandates: 'Choose life, so that you and your children might live' (Dt 30:19). We must choose to live differently; we must choose life. September is celebrated by many Christians as the Season of Creation, an opportunity to pray and care for God's creation. As world leaders prepare to meet in November at Glasgow to deliberate on the future of our planet, we pray for them and consider what the choices we must all make. Accordingly, as leaders of our Churches, we call on everyone, whatever their belief or worldview, to endeavour to listen to the cry of the earth and of people who are poor, examining their behaviour and pledging meaningful sacrifices for the sake of the earth which God has given us. ... Each of us, individually, must take responsibility for the ways we use our resources. This path requires an ever-closer collaboration among all churches in their commitment to care for creation. Together, as communities, churches, cities and nations, we must change route and discover new ways of working together to break down the traditional barriers between peoples, to stop competing for resources and start collaborating. ... This is the first time that the three of us feel compelled to address together the urgency of environmental sustainability, its impact on persistent poverty, and the importance of global cooperation. Together, on behalf of our communities, we appeal to the heart and mind of every Christian, every believer and every person of good will. We pray for our leaders who will gather in Glasgow to decide the future of our planet and its people. Again, we recall Scripture: 'choose life, so that you and your children may live' (Dt 30:19)."

Read the whole message at <https://tinyurl.com/ygvzwlxs>

### Education Sunday

Today we observe Education Sunday, a day when we pray for all involved in Education (especially

**STAY WITH US, LORD, ON OUR JOURNEY!**



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PLEASE RE-RECYCLE!

Catholic Education) in our country—for pupils and students, teachers and lecturers, staff and governors. We pray in particular for our own young people and schools: special prayers for children in Years 1 and 2, 8 and 9 and 13, who are returning to school or college after almost two year of disruptions which interrupted their start at new schools!

“Over the last eighteen months we have seen an upheaval affecting everyone in our society, the like of which has not been witnessed since the end of the Second World War. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed not only aspects of how we live our lives but has given us a chance to reflect on the fragility and preciousness of human life, on human solidarity, and the capacity to show love and support to our neighbours. Like many other front-line workers, teachers, school leaders, and support staff have exemplified this love throughout the pandemic, going above and beyond to support the young people in their care. It is only right therefore that on Education Sunday, we take this opportunity to offer prayers of thanksgiving for all who work in our Catholic schools and colleges, and to express our gratitude for their outstanding dedication and professionalism, especially during the pandemic. Throughout the challenges they have faced in two national lockdowns, two sets of exam cohorts, and a managed return to schooling, the staff of all our schools have exemplified what it means to follow the command of Our Lord Jesus Christ to love our neighbour. On behalf of the Catholic Education Service, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to them and my appreciation for the vocation and mission they exercise in the community of the Church.

*Rt Rev Marcus Stock (Bishop of Leeds—Chair of the Catholic Education Service)*

## Getting (BACK) Together!

Our regular Tuesday afternoon gatherings are back! Starting on **Tuesday 21st September** from 1.00—3.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre. All are welcome for cuppas and cakes, chat and friendship!

## First Holy Communions

We are beginning our programme for children who have just started in Year 4 very soon—this is a last call for any baptised children not at Saint Vincent’s Primary School in Year 4 or above who would like to make their First Communion this year: please get in touch with Fr James **by this Friday**. Thank you.

## Weekend Welcomers

It’s not a difficult job—just greeting people, handing out sheets, helping anyone with questions—but it makes a huge difference to everyone who comes to Saint Vincent’s, especially visitors or (in the current situation) people returning to Church after a long lockdown absence. No particular skills are required, except being able to smile and greet people kindly! Please sign up on (yet another) list in the porch, and I will work out a rota to cover our Saturday night and Sunday morning Masses. Thank you!

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Every year Macmillan Cancer Relief invite individuals and communities to host a coffee morning at the end of September, to raise awareness of and funds for their work. We will be hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Parish Centre on **Sunday 26th September** after our morning Masses—if anyone would like to bake any cakes or biscuits, please do so, and drop them off either on Saturday 25th after evening Mass or first thing on the Sunday morning. Thank you.

## The “Forget-Me-Not Café”

The idea is to hold a monthly drop in café in the Parish Centre: there will be a friendly welcome, a hot drink and a piece of cake and some structured activity aimed at the dementia sufferer. Obviously we will need a team of volunteers to make this work (some of you already expressed an interest last year!): jobs will include welcoming people, sitting and having a chat, making and serving drinks and cake (homemade if there are any bakers out there who can’t come and help but might be willing to make us a cake), and tidying up afterwards. Nothing too difficult, a friendly face and a bit of patience with guests is all that we’d ask. So if you are interested in volunteering and are available once a month on a weekday morning please contact **Annmarie Thetford** on **0743 200 4256**, or leave your name and contact number with Father James and Annmarie will get back to you (please get in touch even if you already volunteered last year). Please also think if there are families that might benefit from this venture, and begin to extend invitations to them! Thank you.

## Rochdale Food Bank

The Food Bank currently has a surplus of pasta and breakfast cereal, but is in URGENT NEED of **Tinned Soups, Tinned Meat, Tinned Tomatoes, Cuppa Soup, Noodles/Instant Meals, Tinned Fish, Custard, Jam, Milk, Pasta/Cooking Sauces, Sugar, Tea/Coffee/Hot Chocolate, Tinned Veg, Fruit Juice, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Potatoes**. They are also very short of PERSONAL TOILETRIES. A “shopping list” is available by the donations box.

## Big Sleep Out 2021



The Big Sleep Out is returning this autumn with a special hybrid event, asking people to raise funds to support rough sleepers by sleeping outdoors overnight at Xaverian College, Manchester, from 7.00 p.m. this Friday 17th September, or by “boycotting their bed” from their own home. To find out more and register visit <https://cornerstonecds.org.uk/big-sleepout/>

## The Saint Joseph Project

It is hoped (transport problems permitting!) that the statue will be arriving late October, and I am tenta-

tively planning a celebratory Mass to install and bless the statue sometime in November—perhaps linked to the Holy Souls and all those whose funerals we celebrated during the lockdown. While you can donate anytime, I am setting a deadline for names to be included in the Memorial Book of **Sunday 3rd October**. Please use the envelopes at the back of Church, on which you can also write the name of anyone to be included in the Memorial Book. Your envelopes with donations—great or small—can be posted through the Presbytery letterbox, or placed in the Sunday collection box (cheques should be made to “Saint Vincent’s Norden”).

## Primary School Open Days

Our Primary School is hosting Open Days for parents interested in Reception places in September 2022. They are on Monday 4th October at 9.30 a.m. & 1.40 p.m. and Thursday 7th October at 9.30 a.m. & 1.40 p.m. Please contact school for more information.

## Vacancy

The SVP in Salford Diocese is looking to employ a Membership Support Officer (MSO) post. This person would be employed 2.5 days a week to help sustain and build up the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul across the Diocese. The job is currently posted on Indeed: Membership Support Officer - Manchester - Indeed.com or direct from the SVP page: Work with us | St Vincent de Paul Society (svp.org.uk) The closing date for CVs is 13th September.”

## IN OUR PRAYERS ...

### World Hunger Prayer Focus 7: HAITI

“Haiti ranks 169 out of 189 countries on the 2019 Human Development Index. The country has one of the highest levels of chronic food insecurity in the world with more than half of its total population chronically food insecure and 22 percent of children chronically malnourished. Underlying drivers of this situation include extreme poverty and frequent natural disasters. On the 2020 Climate Risk Index, Haiti is third among the countries most affected by severe weather events. The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis conducted in September 2020 showed that, there are currently 4 million people (42% of the population) facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above). From March to June 2021, this is projected to increase to 4.4 million people (46% of the population)” *(WFP Briefing July 2021)*

Haiti has sadly been in the news again recently, after the “double whammy” of a devastating earthquake followed by a monstrous tropical storm, this on top of its pre-existing problems with chronic hunger affecting half the population, the impact of

Hurricane Matthew in 2016, and the awful earthquake of 2010 which left over 200,00 dead. Haiti is particularly vulnerable to such extremes of weather, and the effects of ongoing climate change can only make things worse. The political situation in Haiti is also perilous, after the assassination of President Jovenel Moise on 7th July and the coronavirus pandemic, which is greatly worsening the already fragile humanitarian situation. CAFOD and its partners (Caritas Haiti) are already working hard to bring much needed relief to the suffering population—CAFOD has an emergency appeal for Haiti at the moment.

Pray for: immediate relief after the earthquake; for political stability in the country to allow aid to reach those in need; for acting President Ariel Henry and for all government officials; for Cardinal Chibly Languois and the Catholic Church in Haiti: for Caritas Haiti and CAFOD and the work of aid organisations in response to the emergencies.

**“Almighty God, in our distress and grief help us to remember that you love us. We do not understand why this great disaster has happened but help us to trust you. Loving Lord, for those who have died, give them eternal rest for those who are bereaved, comfort and console them for those who are hurt, heal and strengthen them. Lord God, enable us to help our suffering brothers and sisters in whatever way we can. Heavenly Father be with us now and always. Amen.”** *(Diana Ng-Sutherland, CAFOD)*

## Requests for Masses and Prayers

**Recently Deceased:** Ronnie McIntyre, P. J. Reylon  
**Anniversaries:** John Patrick Farrell.  
**Other:** Anne Hancock.

### NATIONAL CYCLE OF PRAYER

During Ordinary Time (Autumn) we are asked to pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and Their Families.

### HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION (September)

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle: We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

### DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

We pray, this week, for the people of the parish of The Sacred Heart of Jesus, Westhoughton, for Father Barry Lomax, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school. May they profess, by their lives, that Jesus is the Christ.



## THIS WEEK

TWENTY FOURTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

*Church opens half an hour before Mass*

**Monday 13th September**

St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

**Tuesday 14th September**

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9.30 a.m.

MASS

**Wednesday 15th September**

Our Lady of Sorrows

9.30 a.m.

MASS

**Thursday 16th September**

St Cornelius, Pope & St Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

9.30 a.m.

MASS

**Friday 17th September**

St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9.30 a.m.

MASS

**Saturday 18th September**

Weekday

12.00

Baptisms

6.00—6.15 p.m.

Confessions

6.30 p.m.

First MASS of Sunday

**Sunday 19th September**

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00 a.m.

MASS

11.00 a.m.

MASS

## NEXT WEEK'S GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him. They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

## PRACTICALITIES

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS:** Back next Sunday! Everyone is very welcome to stay behind after Sunday morning Masses and share a cuppa! Tea and Coffee are served in the Parish Centre after 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. Masses. *The Wednesday Coffee morning will also be resuming soon—watch this space!*

**TOILETS:** The toilet is located near the side entrance: children should not go out of Church unaccompanied. Please use the disinfectant wipes to clean all surfaces **after every use**—dispose of them in the bin but do not flush them down the toilet. Thank you.

**PARISH CENTRE:** The Parish Centre is now open again for parish use and outside bookings. Please contact **Robert Allen** on 0758 320 7810 for all enquiries.

## SUNDAY GOSPEL WORDSEARCH

R	H	T	A	E	D	O	R	C	P
A	E	C	N	U	O	N	E	R	H
N	C	W	S	A	T	A	O	A	S
A	C	R	O	S	S	P	J	E	S
T	H	H	I	L	H	I	R	S	U
A	C	R	S	E	L	D	E	R	S
S	H	I	T	E	E	O	F	E	N
C	E	S	T	F	S	U	F	F	H
W	N	O	I	T	S	E	U	Q	O
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JESUS QUESTION JOHN CHRIST

STRICT SUFFER ELDERS DEATH

CROSS PROPHETS RENOUNCE LIFE

