



# 33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

## PARISH SCHEDULE

Sun 19th	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45 Parish Meeting	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Holy Hour 12:15 Praying for our parish	
Mon 20th	Ordinary Time: Week 33 08:00 Mass	
	Requiem Mass 12:00 Winifred McDonagh	
Tue 21st	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 09:15 School Mass	
Wed 22nd	St. Cecilia	
Thu 23rd	Ordinary Time: Week 33	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 24th	Ss Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions	
	Parish Community 13:30 Flower Club	
Sat 25th	Adoration & Confession 11:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Sacramental Programme 11:30 Session 2	
	Ordinary Time: Week 33 12:00 Mass	
	Adoration & Confession 17:00 Quiet Prayer	
Sun 26th	Christ the King 17:30 Vigil Mass	
	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	Christ the King 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45-14:00 Christmas Fair	

## USING OUR TALENTS

So, we hear again today the “Parable of the Talents” and this time round it falls on “World Day of the Poor.” In our modern society, there is sometimes an emphasis on using our talents for our own good. Contestants on Dragon’s Den and The Apprentice are clearly out to compete with others and to serve themselves.

In Jesus’ parable two servants are rewarded for their great enterprise and used what they had been given to make even more. But the “wicked and lazy servant” who simply buried his master’s money is thrown out into the dark, where there is “weeping and grinding of teeth.” Why didn’t he make more of his talents?



It becomes clear that the “wicked servant” acted in fear and on hearsay of what his master was supposed to be like. Is it possible that our wrong ideas about what God is like are actually holding us back from making more of our lives?

We are all called to recognise the great gifts that God has given us, and then to offer them back in service, not of ourselves, but of others. When we do, we have been shown elsewhere that there will be a great growth, like that of the mustard seed. We are called to build up the Kingdom of God, not our own little kingdoms.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

At the Choir Meeting last week, we discussed Christmas Masses. I am sure you are aware that Christmas Day falls on a Monday this year. So, there will be the usual Masses on Saturday 23 December (5.30 p.m. at St Francis Church) and Sunday 24 December (10.30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church). On Christmas Eve, there will be an 11.00 p.m. “Midnight Mass”, starting with carols at 10.30 p.m. and justifying its title by ending just after midnight. On Monday 25 December there will be a Christmas Day Mass at Sacred Heart Church **at 10:30 a.m.** The only other Mass to be decided is a Christmas Mass for St Francis Church and this week, the regulars there will vote on its timing (either Sunday evening or early Monday morning).



## MASSES NEXT WEEK

Please note that next week, there will be Mass on Monday and Tuesday at the usual times, but no Mass on either Thursday or Friday.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

I was very pleased that there was a good attendance last week of the new Holy Hour which takes place from 9.15 – 10.15 a.m. every Sunday before morning Mass. Please make the most of this opportunity. From Advent, there will also be half an hour of Adoration before the Thursday 12.00 p.m. Mass.

## RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Let us pray for all doctors, nurses and midwives working in maternity wards, that their healing hands would be guided from above during any complications **Lord hear us.**

### PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH

#### MASS INTENTIONS:

*The greatest prayer we can offer is the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. If you would like a mass to be offered for a specific intention, detail this and enclose an offering of £10 or more in an envelope (noting if it should be kept private). Pass this to Fr. Kevin or place in the offertory basket.*

**ANNIVERSARY:** MICHAEL McCOURT, ELIZABETH ELSTONE,

**BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY:** JACQUELINE DEVLIN

**REST IN PEACE:** PATRICK WARD,

**SPECIAL INTENTION:** RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF MAUREEN DEVLIN

#### OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

AMBER McCOURT, ELIZABETH SENGHORE, LENNY, JOHN AND MARJORIE FISHER, MAGGIE JOYCE, SHEILA DOWNEY, TOMMY LOFTUS.

### SATURDAY MIDDAY MASS

Starting this weekend, there will be a Mass every Saturday at 12.00 p.m. Use it or lose it! Before this Mass, there is a Holy Hour in which Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place and there is opportunity for Confession. I am hoping and praying that Sacred Heart Church will become busy again on Saturdays.

### DEANERY MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

The Deanery of St. Clare invites you to attend the Requiem Mass for all deceased priests, religious and lay faithful. Mass will be celebrated at 11am at St Bernard's, Burnage on Wednesday 22nd November.

#### CONTACT US

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Kevin Murphy  
**Permanent Deacon:** Davie Nalikata  
**Administrator:** Minna Moffatt-Feldman

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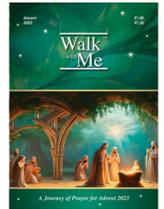
## ADVENT RETREAT EVENINGS

After the success of recent Pentecost and Advent Retreats, I am pleased to let you know that there will be three Thursday evening Advent retreat evenings. The format will be: Mass at 6.30 p.m., followed by praise and worship for about half an hour. There will then be a talk by a guest speaker and I have insisted this year that the talks are 30-40 minutes long. The evenings will finish with prayers, blessings, worship and consecration and then hospitality in the presbytery. Please put these in your diary:

- Thursday 7 December 6.30 p.m.  
"The Child of God at Christmas"
- Thursday 14 December 6.30 p.m.  
"The Love of the Father at Christmas"
- Thursday 21 December 6.30 p.m.  
"The Motherhood of Mary at Christmas"

### WALK WITH ME

The popular Advent "Walk With Me" booklets are now available at both churches, priced only £1.00. We did not sell all the copies last year, so I have ordered a reduced number. Please be sure to get your copy as early as possible, so that I can re-order if necessary.



### SOUP LUNCH FOR MARY'S MEALS AND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Also at the Choir Meeting, it was decided to hold the Christmas Concert after Mass on Sunday 24 December. There will be a charity lunch of soup and rolls in the Parish Centre, starting at 11.45 a.m. and then the concert will begin at about 12.15 p.m. All proceeds are going to support our parish project with Mary's Meals. Please could you volunteer to make a batch of soup, perhaps for up to 12 people?



### NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER

It is not too late to offer your help and certainly not too late to donate items for the fair. In particular, I am hoping to run a stall of good quality second-hand goods. In most homes, there are nearly always unwanted items sitting in cupboards. Please bring in your saleable leftover goods to help us raise money for the parish.

### CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

I am intending to start up a programme for our young people (Year 8 and above, but also older ones) who are seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024. This will begin in January. Some adults have also requested to receive the Sacrament and there will be a separate programme for them.



### PARISH OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND: 11&12th Nov		
 Basket		£152.60
 Basket		£494.50
 Online		£83.66

Please consider switching to making your offertory contributions by **Standing Order**. Forms are available at the back of each church, or you can set up with your bank directly using these details:

**TSDT SACRED HEART & ST FRANCIS GORTON,**  
20-55-34  
20707600

## 33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)



### First reading: Proverbs

A perfect wife - who can find her?  
A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,  
from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and not hurt she brings him  
all the days of her life.  
She is always busy with wool and with flax,  
she does her work with eager hands.  
She sets her hands to the distaff,  
her fingers grasp the spindle.  
She holds out her hand to the poor,  
she opens her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;  
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.  
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,  
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 127(128)

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.  
**O blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper.  
**O blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.  
**O blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life!  
**O blessed are those who fear the Lord.**

### Second reading: 1st Letter to Thessalonians

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

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But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Even if you have to die, says the Lord,  
keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.

**Alleluia!**

### **Gospel according to. Matthew**

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**