

Our mission of justice

SUNDAY *Plus*

19 OCTOBER 2025

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week I Year C**

World Mission Day

Witness to justice

"Why do the saints have followers?" asks [the French philosopher] Bergson. "They demand nothing; yet people do, of their own accord, what the saints would have them do. The saints do not need to exhort; all they need to do is be. Their very existence is a call to perfection."

We know this from our own experience. To many people, the teaching of the Church is valid; it is convincing to the mind. But if it

is to be efficacious, if it is to move them to action, it must be backed up by life; backed up by those who have accepted the Gospel, live the Gospel, and activate their personal, family and community lives with the justice of the Gospel.

This will not be easy. Let us be realistic. It is not easy to be just. True, the example of a Christian life, a just life, will be followed by many, will be an inspiration to many. But it will also be a sign that

is contradicted. How can it be otherwise? Christ himself was such a sign, and the servant is not greater than his master...

And very often, it is by suffering that the just man will bear witness, that "what he says is true". To bear witness by one's life is to put that life at the service of an ideal, no matter what it may cost. To bear witness by one's life is to be ready to lose it. We call those who have given up their lives for the Christian ideal, martyrs. What does "martyr" mean? It means, simply, "witness".

Pedro Arrupe SJ, Witnessing to Justice in the World

Deposition of the cross by Venetian artist Safet Zec, Rome, Italy. Photo by Sr Janet Fearn



Our Lady of the Way, Mother of Christ's missionary disciples and Queen of Missions, pray for us!  Amen.

The meaning of "mission"

If it should happen one day – and it could be today – that I become a victim of the terrorism which now seems ready to engulf all the foreigners living in Algeria, I would like my community, my Church and my family to remember that my life was GIVEN to God and to this country. I ask them to accept the fact that the One Master of all life was not a stranger to this brutal departure. I would ask them to pray for me: for how could I be found

worthy of such an offering?... For this life lost, totally mine and totally theirs, I thank God, who seems to have willed it entirely for the sake of that JOY in everything and in spite of everything...

And also, you, my last-minute friend, who will not have known what you were doing: Yes, I want this THANK YOU and this GOODBYE to be a "GOD-BLESS" for you, too, because in God's face, I see yours.

Testament of Dom Christian de Chergé, martyr, Tibhirine, 1 January 1994.

For full account: John W. Kiser, The Monks of Tibhirine: faith, love, and terror in Algeria, 2003, St Martin's Press.

Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming.

Pope Leo XIV

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Hope is real

[Hope] is something real, already accomplished in Christ, a gift daily bestowed upon us until the time when we will be one in the embrace of his love. Christian hope – as St Peter writes – is "an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading". Christian hope sustains the journey of our lives, even when the road ahead seems winding and exhausting. It opens our eyes to future possibilities whenever resignation or pessimism attempt to imprison us. It makes us see the promise of good at times when evil seems to prevail. Christian hope fills us with serenity when our hearts are burdened by sin and failure. It makes us dream of a new humanity and gives us courage in our efforts to build a fraternal and peaceful world, even when it seems barely worth the effort. Such is hope, the gift that the Lord bestowed on us in baptism.

Pope Francis, consignment and reading of the Bull of Indiction for the Jubilee 2025



READINGS

Today:
Exodus 17:8-13
2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:2
Luke 18:1-8

Monday:
Romans 4:20-25
Luke 12:13-21

Tuesday:
Romans 5:12, 15b,
17-19, 20b-21
Luke 12:35-38

Wednesday:
Romans 6:12-18
Luke 12:39-48

Thursday:
Romans 6:19-23
Luke 12:49-53

Friday:
Romans 7:18-25a
Luke 12:54-59

Saturday:
Romans 8:1-11
Luke 13:1-9

Next Sunday:
Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14



The Catholic Parish of St Mary & St John Fisher, Denton

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Parish Sister, Sr Dolores

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29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 19th October 2025

The Word This Week

Perhaps the hardest Olympic event is the marathon: not only does it demand strength and fitness, but it calls for immense perseverance and endurance. Life in general and the Christian life in particular, is a marathon. We will face hills and mountains as well as valleys and gentle slopes in life: we will face obstacles and pressures which will make us want to say, as the prophet Elijah did, "Lord, it is enough!" Especially in our lifetime of prayer, there will be times when we say "Lord, I can go no further." Jesus himself understands the need for perseverance in prayer, and the temptation to lose heart, which is why he offers us this parable and teaching today. And remember the thought from the first reading: sometimes we may need to hold each other in our praying!



Mass Times 19th October 2025		
Sunday 19th	Vigil - Saturday 18th Sunday Morning	4pm - Parish 11am - Sheila Muhally (LD)
Monday 20th	Mass	9.30— Tom Lally (RIP)
Tuesday 21st	No Mass	
Wednesday 22nd	Requiem Mass for Faith in Action meeting 6.30-8.30pm	10am - Margaret Read-Thorpe 6.30-7.30 New Youth Group KS2 6.30-8.30 Call to Lead
Thursday 23rd	Exposition Mass	6pm 6.30pm —Forgotten Souls
Friday 24th	Mass	9.30— Successful operation for Val
Saturday 25th Sunday 26th	Vigil Mass	4pm- -Irene Miller 11am —Parish
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Altar Server Training
(For all NEW servers)

There will be am Altar Servers training session for ALL NEW Altar Servers, on

Saturday 25th October at 10.30am

in the church.

The training will take no longer than 2 hours, and parents are welcome to attend.

Forms for any NEW server, should have been handed in to the Parish Office before this date.

Vigil Mass; 4pm St Mary’s, Denton ; 5pm St Josephs, Reddish; and 6.30pm Holy Family, Dane Bank
Sunday Morning; 9am St Joseph’s, Reddish; 10am Holy Family, Dane Bank and 11am St Mary’s, Denton

Mass Offerings

Tom Lally (RIP); Deceased members of the Lally family; Pat Collins (LD);

Please obtain permission from any living beneficiary of a Mass offering before sending it in.)

Recent deaths in our Parish

The death has occurred of Margaret Read-Thorpe. Her Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday 22nd October at 10am.. Our prayers and condolences go to her family and friends. May she rest in peace

The death has occurred of Lillian Gorman, her Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday 29th October at 10.30am. Our prayers and condolences go to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

World Mission Sunday

This weekend, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio - the Pope’s charity for world mission - we stand united as God’s global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. We are called to be ‘Missionaries Of Hope Among All Peoples’. We ask you to please remember the work of missionaries in your prayers this week. Find out more about the work of Missio and how to support the charity at missio.org.uk.

Scripture Course

Due to the interest in the Scripture course last year. We are putting on a new course which will start in October.

It will be held on a Wednesday Evening from 6.30m in the Parish Hall. The dates are:

2025 15th October; 12th November; 3rd December

2026 28th January; 11th February; 4th March; 1st April (Holy Week); 6th May; 11th June

What’s coming up in your parish

October

Wednesday 22nd October Faith in Action 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Parish Hall

Saturday 25th October 9.30am CATHOLICISM COURSE Parish Hall

November

Wednesday 12th November Scripture Course 6.30pm Parish Hall

Wednesday 19th November Faith in Action 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Parish Hall

Saturday November 29th 9.30am CATHOLICISM COURSE Parish Hall

December

Wednesday 3rd December Scripture Course 6.30pm in Parish Hall

Wednesday 17th December Faith in Action 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Parish Hall

Celebration of Human Dignity - Free Event

Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford is holding a free event on Sunday 26 October from 10.30am to 3pm at Sacred Heart Church and Parish Centre, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7WJ. The 'Celebration of Human Dignity' event, which is aligned with the memorial of St Pope John Paul II who championed human dignity and the value of human life in his many works, will include music, thought-provoking sessions and Sunday Mass celebrated by Bishop John Arnold.

Parish Administrator - Holy Cross and St Helen’s, Ashton-under-Lyne

Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent

Working Hours: 11 hours per week, between Mon-Fri, with some flexibility, as agreed with parish priest.

Location: St Ann’s Presbytery, 64-66 Burlington Street, Ashton-Under-Lyne, Lancs OL6 7D

Salary: £13.23 per hour, 60 hours holiday (equates to 5 weeks), plus bank holidays and 5 diocesan closure days (subject to pro rata)

Find out more and apply at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies>



New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, from 22nd October 2025, we will be offering a group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6.

The group will take place monthly and be from 6:30pm until 7:30pm.

Our Faith in Action young people will run it (though there will be adult supervision as well) and it will consist of liturgy alongside games and activities.

There is a maximum of 20 places and this will be on a first come first serve basis. The dates are as follows: 22/10/25; 19/11/25; 17/12/25; 21/01/26; 25/02/26; 18/03/26; 22/04/26; 20/05/26; 17/06/26

This is a lovely opportunity to allow our Faith in Action young people to develop their skills further as well as bringing the young of the Parish together.

If you are interested in your child attending or would like any further information please could you speak to Claire Cull after Sunday mass for a parental application form.

The Post Confirmation programme—A Call to Lead for our older young people will take place on the same evenings 6.30pm to 8.30pm

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PRAY
JUDGE
FEAR
RESPECT
WIDOW
JUSTICE
ENEMY
RIGHTS
WORRY
DEATH
FAITH
EARTH

