



St Stephen's Newsletter

Archdiocese of Liverpool Registered Charity No. 1199714

Winwick, Longford, Orford, Houghton Green, Fearnhead
Cinnamon Brow, Poulton, Risley, Birchwood

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SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) 23 FEBRUARY 2025

Saturday 22 February	5.00pm Confessions 5.30pm Mass: Maureen Gallagher, James O'Neill
Sunday 23 February	10.45am Mass: Bill Heffernon/ Parishioners <i>After Mass: Coffee/Tea/Refreshments</i>
Tues 25 Feb	No Mass Today
Wed 26 Feb	10am: Eucharistic Service <i>Followed by Coffee/Tea/Toast</i>
Thu 27 Feb	No Mass Today
Fri 28 Feb	12pm: Deanery Mass at St Joseph Penketh (WA5 2BB) No Devotions or Mass Today

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) 2 MARCH 2025

Saturday 1 March	5.00pm Confessions 5.30pm Mass: Hines Family
Sunday 2 March	10.45am Mass: Mary Malone/ Parishioners <i>After Mass: Coffee/Tea/Refreshments</i>

Feasts & Celebrations This Week...

1 March. Feast: St David (Bishop & Patron of Wales) Saint David was a monk who in the 6th Century became bishop of Mynyw (now St Davids). David was a native of Wales, very few details are known about his life. The oldest written evidence about him comes from Ireland in the Catalogue of the Saints (800AD). He is traditionally believed to be the son of Saint Non and the grandson of Ceredig ap Cunedda, king of Ceredigion. The Welsh annals placed his death 569 but Phillimore's dating revised this to 601.

From Fr John's desk... You may have noticed the box in the church foyer collecting items to help toward the local food bank. On the side of the box is a list of specific items which are needed. Please support this if you can. For more info speak with Karen McElroy (Parish Council). I have been reflecting on what we might do to mark the Jubilee Year 2025 - My thought is that we might host the Carlo Acutis Exhibition in the Lady Chapel seeing that Blessed Carlo will be made a saint later this year. It wont be cheap to set up because we will need to erect boards and have the exhibition professional printed but I think it will be worth while and will bring visitors to the parish. I welcome other ideas!

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please remember in prayer:



Anne Bland, Cecilia Taylor,
Shirley Byrne, Vin Mulholland,
Laura & Barrie Cooper, Howard
Buxton.

LADIES GUILD

4th March 2025

7.30pm



St Stephen's - De Paul Room

A warm welcome to the ladies of
St Bridget's and St Stephen's
and neighbouring parishes.

St Stephen's
Church Foyer



SATURDAY
8th March at 7.30pm
(and every 2nd Saturday
of the month!)

Pray Through Singing

Monday
10th March 2025 at 7pm
St Stephen's Church



De Paul Room

St Oliver's Tote

Nest Of Hope 2025



A Special Collection
Will be taken later in the Year

PARISH BONUS BALL

19 February 2025

Lucy



Wins £25

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.*

COLLECT

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.

In those days: Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph with three thousand chosen men of Israel to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

David and Abishai went to the army by night. And there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head, and Abner and the army lay round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'God has given your enemy into your hand this day. Now please let me pin him to the earth with one stroke of the spear, and I will not strike him twice.' But David said to Abishai, 'Do not destroy him, for who can put out his hand against the LORD's anointed and be guiltless?' So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul's head, and they went away. No man saw it or knew it, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the LORD had fallen upon them.

Then David went over to the other side and stood far off on the top of the hill, with a great space between them. David said, 'Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and take it. The LORD rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the LORD's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 8. 10.
12-13. R. 8a

R: The LORD is compassionate and gracious.

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R.**
3. The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**
4. As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions.
As a father has compassion on his children,
the LORD's compassion is on those who fear him. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 13:34

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

'If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we celebrate your mysteries, O Lord,
with the observance that is your due,
we humbly ask you,
that what we offer to the honour of your majesty
may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.*

Or

*Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,
the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that we may experience the effects of the salvation
which is pledged to us by these mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.