

**Catholic Church Communities of
St. Anne & Blessed Dominic and St. Vincent de Paul**



Newsletter

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Parish Office Hours: Monday and Friday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

This Sunday	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)	
28 th September 2025	Sunday Cycle: Year C	Weekday Cycle: Year 1

THIS WEEK				
Saturday 27th September	5:00 pm	M	St A&B	People of the Parish
Sunday 28th September FAMILY MASS	9:30 am	M	St V	Ruth Lawrenson, George Drought, Mary Ginnelly
	11:00am	M	St A&B	Nora & Edmund Roughley, John McCooey, Alan Molyneux
Wednesday 1st October	12noon	M	St A&B	Kevin Jones, Brian Heaton
Friday 3rd October	12noon	M	St A&B	Sheila Muir
Saturday 4th October	5:00 pm	M	St A&B	Special intention
Sunday 5th October	9:30am	M	St V	Margaret Jones' 80th Birthday
	11:00am	M	St A&B	People of the Parish

Please remember in your Prayers:

Lately died: Sheila Muir, Mary Ashcroft.

Anniversaries: Ruth Lawrenson, Nora & Edmund Roughley, George Drought, John McCooey, Alan Molyneux, Mary Ginnelly.

Lord, Your Friend Whom You love is sick:

Barbara Wright, Margaret Edwards, Cath Heaton, Mandy Bennett, Annie Lee, Kathleen Valentine, Helen Smith, Cerys McKenna, Christine Terry, Moyra Lyon, Brian Fortune, Geraldine Roberts, Terry Drury, Laura Mahon, Pat Burns, Isobelle McDonald, Anne Whitehouse, Alan McMillan, Alex MacMillan, Sam Glover, Alex Downey, Joan Mary Cyril.

**Second Collection this weekend is for Archbishop Emeritus Malcolm.
Thank you for your support.**

Scripture readings are about our attitude in the face of suffering and how our innocence can become a crime. The Gospel reading, in the story that Jesus tells us of two men, teaches us that there are no excuses for not to act with compassion.

The story is about a rich man and a poor man, and it is presented in two scenes. The initial scene is about the rich man who is wealthy not only in clothes and food, but also in privilege and in freedom he enjoys from the worry that besets the poor. His privilege blinds him to the poor man who lies at his gate, covered in sores and who sees the traffic that is heading for the rich man's table.

The poor man does not expect to be invited to the table, but he wishes only for the scraps that fall from the rich man's table. The scraps were regarded as dogfood, and that is what Lazarus desires. Lazarus dies at the gate of the rich man. There is no mention of his funeral and burial. Later, "the rich man died and was buried", no doubt with a rented crowd of mourners. So ends the first scene.

In the next scene, we are in the other world and there is a reversal of fortunes. Lazarus now reclines in the place of honour at the heavenly banquet, and in contrast, the rich man is in agony, and the flames which surround him represent the destruction of everything he valued. The agony that the rich man is enduring educates him; it awakens in him a compassion for his brothers, and he hopes that Lazarus can return to earth and warn them. His sudden compassion is not enough, and no warning can be given to his brothers. Unlike the clever steward in last week's parable, the rich man did not use his time and resources to ensure that he would be welcomed in the future. Even though he did nothing to Lazarus, he was not innocent. In the face of suffering, you have to act. Suffering destroys all innocence, all neutrality, every attempt to say "there nothing I could do; I didn't know."

We who are still on earth represent the rich man's brothers. Like them, we have the teachings of Scripture, and we have Lazarus at the gate. We also have someone who did rise from the dead, Jesus Christ. That is more than enough, and therefore no excuses for not to act with compassion.

FAMILY MASS

We welcome children preparing for their First Holy Communion, and their families to our first family Mass this Sunday 28th of September. We pray that the Lord will enkindle in them the fire of the Spirit that they received when they were baptised.

This year First Holy Communion programme will include 6 preparation sessions and 6 Family Masses; both will take place in our two churches. St Vincent de Paul Church for those in Holy Spirit school and Parr area, and St Anne & Blessed Dominic Church for those in St Anne's school and Sutton area.

I would like to make it clear that children who have signed up for this year First Holy Communion programme must attend with their parents/carers both the 6 preparation sessions and the 6 family Masses or will not be accepted to make their First Holy Communion.

Schools and the parish office will keep a register of attendance.

Parents/carers with children in year 4 (age 8) in another school but who would like their children to sign up for the First Holy Communion programme are advised to contact one of our two schools (St Anne's and Holy Spirit) close to where they live. Our schools are happy to welcome their children to join the programme. St Anne's tel. 01744 671 909; Holy Spirit's tel. 01744 678 670.

Invitation and second collection this weekend.

You are all invited at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Friday 3 October at 7 pm to attend Holy Mass that Archbishop John will offer in thanksgiving for Archbishop Emeritus Malcolm's ministry as Metropolitan Archbishop of Liverpool and to a drink's reception that will follow in the Cathedral Crypt. Archbishop John would like to offer Archbishop Emeritus our thanks both materially and spiritually, so he would like us to contribute in the form of offerings of prayer and as a parish in taking up a collection for him. This will take place this weekend. Thank you.