



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
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Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time **Sunday 7th September 2025**
Mass on Monday 8th September is at 10 am instead of the usual 6.30 pm

Page 133	Wisdom 9: 13-18	Philemon 9-10, 12-17	Gospel Luke 14: 25-33
<p>In the first reading from Wisdom says we can't know God's ways on our own it is beyond human capacity. We need the Holy Spirit to guide us as our earthly concerns cloud our judgement. Trust in God's wisdom to make the right choices in life and help us see beyond our own fears and desires that lead us to make decisions that bring real peace, meaning and fulfilment. In the second reading St Paul is an old man now and in prison. Onesimus has been accompanying St Paul, originally as a servant, from very soon after his conversion as has become a brother disciple. He sends him back to Philemon not as a slave but as a fellow disciple and brother in Christ. This indicates how faith in Christ changes how we see and treat others. Luke's Gospel is a great challenge of how we must be real followers of Him. Jesus uses hyperbole to stress the need for total commitment, putting Him first above all else, including relationships, possessions and personal plans. Discipleship requires being "all in". When we make Jesus our priority, everything else falls into place. Loving Jesus helps us love others better because our lives are grounded in Him. Are we fully committed or holding back? We must live as true disciples of Jesus. M</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
<p>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Irene Delves RIP Theophilus Thomas RIP</p>		<p>Saturday 6th St Bega, anchoress of Cumbria Irish princess born in the 7th century. Escaped from Ireland after being promised in marriage to a pagan Viking prince as she wanted to stay a virgin and devote her life to Christ. She had a bracelet with a cross as a token of her heavenly betrothal. She landed at St Bees on the west coast of Cumbria, south of the present day town of Whitehaven. She built herself a cell in the grove of the forest near the seashore. Lived in solitude as an anchoress dedicating her life to God for many years. When the area was raided by pirates St Oswald, King of Northumbria advised her to join a convent as a nun for her protection. She received the veil from St Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne. Established a convent at St Bees from land she obtained by the <i>snow miracle</i> from the local landowner. St Bees Priory became famous and helped the oppressed and poor. Many miracles were associated with Abbess Bega. She died 690 just after St Hilda of Whitby.</p>	
<p>9.30 am Mass</p>		<p>Sunday 7th September Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Thanksgiving Mass for the Bile family</p>	
<p>10 am Mass Thanksgiving Mass for Ashini Lenus</p>		<p>Monday 8th September Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mary's birth and early life is not recorded in the Bible. The "Protoevangelium of James", finally written in the 2nd century, states Joachim and Anne as the parents of Mary. They were wealthy and pious members of the Jewish tribe of Judah. They prayed for children but remained childless for many years until the arrival of Mary. St Augustine of Hippo described the birth of the Virgin Mary as an event of cosmic and historic significance and an appropriate prelude to the birth of Jesus Christ. Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when Mary was one year old, her father "made a great feast and invited the priests, the scribes, the elders and all the people of Israel". Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph.</p>	
<p>10 am Mass Michael and Maura Duggan RIP (Kay's parents)</p>		<p>Tuesday 9th St Peter Claver. Born 1580 in Spain. Went to Jesuit Barcelona University. Noted for his intelligence and devotion. Joined Jesuits. He was sent to study on island of Majorca. Advised by the humble porter Alphonsus Rodriguez to help slaves in the new Spanish colonies. Sent to Cartagena in Colombia one of the main ports for the slave trade. Studied theology and ordained a priest in 1616. Started to work with missionary Fr Alonso de Sandoval SJ who had worked for 40 years to minister to the slaves brought in terrible conditions from Africa. Fr Peter visited slaves on the ships as soon as they arrived, at slave markets and where they worked. When he visited plantations or the mines he stayed with the slaves as the owners were not pleased to see Fr Peter. He preached about the love of Jesus for everyone and was hearing Confessions and preparing baptism at the rate of 5,000 a year. He developed a team of assistants to help in his work. In 1650 caught a very virulent form of the plague and became inactive. Died 8th September 1654.</p>	
<p>SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm</p>		<p>Wednesday 10th St Ambrose Barlow Born in 1585 near Manchester in Lancashire son of a knight in Barlow Hall. Family were reluctant converts to Church of England. Ambrose served as a page to a relative. Converted back to Catholicism aged 22. Went to English College in Douai, France. Then became a Benedictine monk and joined Downside Abbey in Somerset. Then part of English mission in Lancashire and returned to his home Barlow Hall. Then moved to nearby Morleys Hall where a pension for a priest was made available to him. Ministered in the area for 24 years. Often visited Wardley Hall, today the residence of the Bishop of Salford. Arrested 4 times but released. In March 1641 King Charles I decreed that all Catholic priests must leave the country within a month.</p>	

6.30 pm Mass For a speedy recovery for Ruba	More than a month later Ambrose was arrested saying Mass at Morleys Hall. Taken to Lancaster Castle. Condemned to death. Martyred September 1641. His cousin Francis Downes rescued his skull and preserved it at Wardley Hall, still there today. One of the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales.
10 am Mass For a speedy recovery for Ruba	Thursday 11th St John Gabriel Perboyre Born 1802 in France. Ordained a Vincentian priest in 1826. His brother Louis died while on a voyage for mission work in China. John Gabriel volunteered to take his place. Arrived Macau, China in 1835 and began to study the language. Five months later he arrived at Ho-Nan and started his missionary work serving the poverty stricken people. In 1838 moved to a mission in Hubei. In 1839 religious persecution started. Arrested by soldiers, tortured and had a series of trials at which he admitted to be a Christian missionary. Refused to disclose information on other missionaries or denounce his faith. He was martyred tied to a cross and strangled by a rope around his neck on 11th September 1840.
NO MASS	Friday 12th St Guy of Anderlecht Born about 950 into a poor very pious family in Anderlecht a village near Brusels, Belgium. They were not able to afford to give him an education but instructed him in the Christian faith and its practices. From young he visited and cared for the poor and sick and lived a simple agricultural life. When Guy worked tilling the fields, an angel took over so he could spend more time in prayer. At age 14 he was made sacristan of his parish church. He shared his meager wages with the poor. He was then persuaded by a merchant to enter into a business with him to make more money to give to the poor. When the venture failed he considered it a sign that God wanted him to continue living a life of humble poverty. As penance for his greed he made pilgrimages on foot to Rome and the Holy Land. He returned home and died there in 1012 aged about 62.
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Trevor Delves for a successful treatment	Saturday 13th St Notburga of Eben Devout peasant born 1265 in Austrian Tyrol. Cook for Count Henry of Rattenburg. Gave food to the poor. Countess Ottilia ordered her to feed all leftovers to the pigs. When Notburga did not obey the Countess had her dismissed. Then worked for a farmer reaping corn. He agreed she would be free to attend church each week. One Saturday evening the vesper bell and she began to leave. The farmer told her she must continue cutting the grain as the weather was about to change. Notburga said: "Let the sickle decide between us". She threw the sickle in the air and it stayed suspended in the air. The farmer astonished let her go. Meanwhile Count Henry had remarried but suffered many difficulties which he ascribed to his dismissal of Notburga. He rehired her as his housekeeper and the estate began to prosper again. Notburger resumed feeding the poor and continued happily till her death on 13 th September 1313
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 14th September The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION	
Your prayers are needed for the following people	
Sue Chandler Hazel Sale Mary Light Trevor Delves Fr Shaun Budden Ann Drumgoole	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass on Monday 8th September is at 10 am instead of usual 6.30 pm due to a special event in the evening

Many thanks to all who contributed to the appeal last weekend to cover the food for our 50th anniversary.

With the gift aid added the total collected came to: £359.86

Fundraising raffle from this weekend for refurbishment project and new chairs for the church

Tickets will be available after Masses up to Friday 26th September - £1 each or £5 a strip. Prizes include a £25 M&S voucher, wine, chocolates, biscuits and toiletries

We need a couple of Gazebos to erect in the garden for our 50th anniversary on Sunday 28th September

Has anyone a Gazebo we could borrow for the morning? If so please speak to Fr Thomas, Joe McMahon or Liz.

Need for more Children's Liturgists for the liturgy at the 9.30 am Sunday Mass

We need a few more individuals over 18 who are willing to have DBS check, to attend safeguarding training and work with some very lovely people who are already Children's Liturgists to continue this important ministry. Please come forward as we need you !! Further information can be obtained from Liz Challand.

St Vincent de Paul Repository – Volunteer required.

The Repository, currently in the Church Porch, holds a number of items and cards available for parishioners to purchase at very reasonable prices. We need a volunteer to take on this role and hope that one of our parishioners will be interested. The Repository is usually open following weekend Masses and at the discretion of the new volunteer. If you are interested in this position, please speak to Fr Thomas or Renee Sharp for more information.

Next SVP Social on Wednesday 3rd September – 1pm to 3 pm

This is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along with your friends.

No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of two hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pa

Church painting and refurbishment project from September. People needed to assist in this work.

If you are good with a paint brush please offer your services. Volunteers please contact Liz Challand.

Parish collection for last weekend 30th and 31st August

							50 th Anniversary food		
Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Candle money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£47	£11.75	£122.10	£242.54	£51.98	£475.37	£76.83	£45 (£11.25)	303.61	£912.06