

BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th June 2024

(Sunday cycle year B, weekday cycle year 2, psalter week 3)

DAY FOR LIFE



*“It is the smallest of all the seeds,
yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all”*

Every Life Is Worth Living

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living. Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THIS WEEK

Sat 15 th	10.30am	Joe Moorby	BVM
	SECOND COLLECTION: DAY FOR LIFE		Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
	6.00pm	For the Parish	
Sun 16 th	9.30am	Stephen Dowse	
Mon 17 th	No Mass today		Feria
Tue 18 th	9.30am	Margaret Hindle	St John Rigby (memorial)
Wed 19 th	9.30am	Welfare of our school	Feria
Thu 20 th	9.30am	Anne and Peter Chadwick	Feria
Fri 21 st	9.30am	Holy Souls	St Aloysius Gonzaga (memorial)
Sat 22 nd	10.30am	Vocations	Ss John Fisher and Thomas More (feast)
	6.00pm	For the Parish	Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sun 23 rd	9.30am	Hilda Warbrick	

First Saturday of the Month: Confessions at 10.00am, Anointing of the sick during 10.30am Mass

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop
Sat 15 th		G Hopkinson		G Hopkinson		Not open
Sun 16 th		F Fordyce		J Kitchen		Not open
Bidding prayers	L Gardner	Children's Liturgy	F Fordyce, G Fowler	Collection counters	L & M Gardner	
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop
Sat 22 nd		L Gardner		G Hopkinson		Not open
Sun 23 rd		K Slater		S Schofield		Not open
Bidding prayers	J Beeley	Children's Liturgy	L Worswick	Collection counters	B Kellett & M Russell	

Last weekend: attendance: 116, collection: £345.10 – thank you!

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:26–34: The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed.

After Lent, the Easter season and three Sundays of feast days – Pentecost, Most Holy Trinity, and Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – the Church returns to Ordinary Time. This Sunday's Gospel from Mark carries a significant message regarding faith and the Kingdom of God.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus appears reluctant to reveal his identity as the Son of God. After performing miracles of healing, he warns those cured to tell no one (see Mark 1:44, 3:12, 5:43, 7:36, and 8:26). Also, when preaching, Jesus chooses to speak to the crowds in parables, leaving them to discern his message. Only to his disciples does he explain the parable's meaning, and he does this in private at a later time.

Today's Gospel Reading consists of two parables about seeds. In the first, Jesus tells those gathered that this is "how it is with the kingdom of God." A man scatters seed which over time sprouts and develops. Then when the grain is ripe, the man harvests his crop. The emphasis in the parable is on the seed, which seemingly has the power to grow on its own. In this it is like the Kingdom of God. While on earth, Jesus planted the seeds of the kingdom by his life, miracles, teaching, and suffering. However, the kingdom is not yet fully established. Although already present in Jesus and his group of twelve, it has yet to come to fruition; just as the seed in the parable needs time to grow, so does God's kingdom.

The second parable focuses on the tiny mustard seed. Though not the smallest of all seeds, it is most likely the smallest that a first-century farmer in Jesus' part of the world would have sown. Small as the mustard seed is, it develops into a tree. Though the mustard tree generally averages only nine to twelve feet in height, it has a wide expanse and provides a nesting place for birds. Just as the tree welcomes the birds, so is God's kingdom welcoming and open to many.

These parables help us discern something about the kingdom of God and our own faith. In God we live and move and have our being, but God is a mystery and his kingdom, though present, has not yet come into its fullness. Today, the Kingdom of God is present in the Church. The mission of proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom given to the Apostles is now given to us. But just as seeds need time to come to fruition, so does the Kingdom of God. That is why in the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "thy kingdom come". We know that it will come in its fullness at the end of time. All we need is faith.

(Loyola Press)

This week's Saints

St John Rigby was born in 1570, Harrock Hall, Chorley. In 1600, the daughter of his employer was due to stand trial at the Old Bailey for recusancy. She was too poorly to attend so John stood in for her and was compelled to admit to his own Catholicism. He was twice given a chance to recant but refused to. Before he was hung, he gave a piece of gold to the executioner as he climbed on to the cart saying 'Take this as a token that I freely forgive thee and the others that have been accessory to my death'.

St Aloysius Gonzaga (1568-91) of Spain. Born into an influential family, desirous of joining the military, marching around with a pike as a boy even firing off a cannon without permission. Yet he felt called to the religious life, though a problem with his kidneys made military life less likely.

He joined the Jesuits and as a novice worked among those suffering from the plague until he himself caught it, eventually dying at such a young age but with the name of Jesus on his lips.

Ss John Fisher (1469-1535) and **Thomas More** (1477-1535) John Fisher was Bishop of Rochester and Thomas More, Lord Chancellor and friend of King Henry VIII. Both refused to acknowledge the king as Supreme Head of the Church as opposed to the Pope. Both were charged with treason and beheaded.

The **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** will meet **this Tuesday** at 6.00pm. If you have anything you would like to be raised at the meeting, please let me or any committee member know – there's a list of names on the noticeboard.

GENERAL ELECTION: CAFOD and the SVP ask for your help to answer Pope Francis' call to support the most vulnerable by contacting your parliamentary candidates before the General Election. They've made it easy – just follow this link on CAFOD's website and you can use the prepared email or amend it, and when you send it, it will reach all your candidates: <https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/150354/action/1>. Cardinal Nichols and the Bishops Conference are urging us to voice our support for the most vulnerable and the environment too.

There is presently some water ingress into the sacristy due to some damage to the slates which needs fixing urgently. We have engaged the services of a roofer to address this issue and whilst he is on site, we have requested that he assesses the general condition of all the roofs and gutters of the church and presbytery. This will necessitate some disruption while the **SCAFFOLDING** is erected, although we do not anticipate any safety concerns for parishioners. We apologise for any inconvenience that this essential maintenance is carried out.

We currently have an opportunity for members of our parish community to become **FOUNDATION GOVERNORS** at our Primary School.

What are Foundation Governors? Foundation Governors are practising Catholics who are appointed by Liverpool Archdiocese. Foundation Governors have a specific duty, different from other Governors, to primarily safeguard the Catholic ethos of our school. They volunteer their time to work as part of a Governing Board to challenge and support our school to ensure it provides the highest quality education possible to its pupils. They set the vision for our school, support its strategic direction and approve the school budget.

What does this involve? Attending an evening meeting each half term (2 hours maximum) and reading papers beforehand in order to be able to ask questions within the meeting. Each of our Governors is also linked with an area of the curriculum and meets with the Lead for that area each term for an hour and can also be linked to a particular class. There is a comprehensive training programme that our school purchases each year in order to support our Governors within their role and two compulsory training courses that must be completed annually (a commitment of about two hours).

What skills do I need to have? Parishioners who have skills, experience or a background in education are always helpful, as are any parishioners who have experience in Finance, Health and Safety, Buildings, HR or Technology. The skills that are most important though are a knowledge of our local community and the ability to read the information that is presented to us and use that information to ask questions to ensure that our school continues to develop.

What do Governors not do? Governors are not involved in the day-to-day, operational running of the school and they do not represent the views of any particular stakeholders within the community such as parents or organisations within the local area.

If any parishioners are interested in volunteering their time to support their parish and parish school, please do speak to me in the first instance.

MISSALETTES FOR SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME can be used on ferial days of the same week – the readings, psalm and Gospel acclamation will be different but the antiphons and prayers are the same.

THIS SUNDAY is the **DAY FOR LIFE** when we are asked to support by prayer and by the **SECOND COLLECTION** the work of the Church to ensure that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. More information at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/life-issues/day-for-life/>.

Also **THIS WEEKEND** there is a **FOODBANK COLLECTION**.

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick or housebound including Michael Bolton, Isaac Wilson, Fr Laurence Mayne and Bill Warbrick as well as for those who have died and whose anniversaries occur about this time.

DURING ORDINARY TIME (SUMMER) ie up to September, we are asked to pray for these intentions: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

100 CLUB: The winner for week 27 is number 25, Brian and Nuala Joyce.

The **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS** have been updated. Each bag is now themed around certain bible tales or topics and contains a variety of resources including soft toys, finger puppets, colouring sheets and puzzles to help the children learn more about their faith. We hope that these bags will be developed as more resources are found and that they will be enjoyed. We ask that they are shown the same care as has gone into them – thank you!

Bidding Prayers for the 11th Sunday – 15th and 16th June 2024

Priest: Let us together turn to the God of love and ask for help.

Reader: We pray for Pope Francis, Bishop Malcolm and all the clergy who lead us in faith. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all who are standing for election in July that, if elected, they will serve with integrity. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all those who have died recently and for those who mourn them, may they be comforted. Lord in your mercy...

Let us pray for all those who are suffering mentally, physically, or spiritually, especially people in our Parish community. Lord in your mercy...

On this Day for Life we think especially of pregnant women and their unborn babies. May they receive all the help they need. Lord in your mercy...

Let us ask for the prayers of Mary our Mother as we say.... Hail Mary.....

Let us take a moment to pray in silence for all our needs.

Priest: Almighty God, answer our prayers and grant that we may live more fully in your love each day. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Priest: As we thank God for the gift of his Son in Holy Communion, let us remember those of our Parish who are sick or housebound.

All: May the body and blood of your Son, which we now send to them through our Eucharistic Ministers, bring them consolation and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.