27th Sunday of the Year (A)

Mass Times and Intentions

Divine Office – Psalter Week 3

Saturday 3rd October	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 4th October	11.00am	Teresa Cash
Tuesday 6th October	9.30am	William and Harriet Ross
Wednesday 7th October	7.00pm	Holy Souls
Thursday 8th October	9.30am	Special Intention (TB)
Saturday 10th October	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11th October	11.00am	Sandra Nixon (Speedy Recovery)

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass		**p. 137**
Profession of Faith	Nicene	p. 11
Preface	Sundays IV	p. 67
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 2	p. 24

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for October

For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. The Rosary is primarily a scriptural prayer that draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centred on the great events of the Incarnation and Redemption

The Roman Catholic Parish of
Our Lady Help of Christians
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27th Sunday of the Year (A)

4th October 2026



In the First Reading, from the Prophet Isaiah, the Prophet is telling a story or a parable using the vineyard as a metaphor for Judah and the Jewish people who, during that time period, were falling further away from God and neglecting the faith and structure that Moses had established. Here also, God, through the prophet, is warning the people that this response to His love will only result in the vineyard being destroyed in the near future, and it was; but a small remnant always seemed to keep it alive only to be destroyed again for the same reasons.

The Responsorial Psalm is a poem about the history of Judaism beginning with the time spent in Egypt where the Israelite People came together as a nation. God brought these enslaved people out under the leadership of Moses who gave them structure and a sense of Hope, but the people did not do their part to nourish this "plant or vine." The people begged God for help and He gave it generously, over and over, but they abused or neglected His love.

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians. In connection with the other readings for this Sunday, this passage is telling us that God is not asking us to do great or unusual things for His Church, but each one of us should do his or her part according to the gifts given him or her, and that we should take care to nourish these gifts. As a result, the peace of God will come forth.

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew. In this passage, we have a similar story about the vineyard. We should see the first "servants" as the early prophets (such as Elijah or Elisha) and the second group of servants as the later prophets (such as Isaiah and Ezekiel) who were sent to teach and exhort the Jewish people. Of course, the "son" who is killed by his own people is Christ, Himself. With this knowledge, the story should be more understandable. The point to be made here is: Are we, today, observing the teachings of Jesus Christ and His church the way we should, or are we just going through the motions and not bearing the fruit that is expected of each one of us?

Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

Social Evening

Many thanks to all those who supported our last evening. It raised a very generous £140.00. Our next event will be at 7.00pm on Tuesday 27th October..

Parish Development Strategy

Next weekend all the parishes in the Knowsley Deanery will launch the Parish Development Strategy (PDS). This is being rolled out across all the deaneries of the Archdiocese.
Knowsley Deanery is the 7th Deanery to be involved – next month St Helens Deanery also begins.
The PDS will help us shape the future church in our part of the country. We will explore the vision that drives us and then make proposals as to how we can make this happen. The voices of all of us matter in this. We are guided by the Pastoral Plan and the realities of the present time., remembering always that it is God's Church and we are tasked with handing on a vibrant, healthy and sustainable church to those who will come after us.
A leaflet explaining what will happen will be made available next weekend.

Knitters and Stitchers

You will soon see the poppy project we have been creating during the year. There is an opportunity to sponsor a poppy with the name of your loved one. Envelopes are available at the back of Church for your information and donation. Please return them to the shop. Funds raised will go to the maintenance of our Church with a donation to the Royal British Legion.
Thank you again, Knitters & Stitchers

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Friday 2nd October is our day of solidarity and support for those most in need in our world. We are encouraged do without some food or some luxury (we fast) and donate the money we save to the work of CAFOD with those in need. Fast Day envelopes are available in the porch and can be returned over the next couple of weeks. Your generosity offers is very much appreciated.

St Helens Choral Society

St Helens Choral Society present 'Songs of Autumn' A mix of traditional folk songs and Broadway favourites on Saturday 17th October, 7.00pm at St Luke's Church, Knowsley Road. Admission £15 including a programme (under 16s £1) pay on the door.

Mary's Meals Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Join us on Saturday 28th November for a festive wreath making event and help raise money for Mary's Meals. Two sessions are available: 10am – 12pm or 2pm – 4pm. There More information on the poster in the porch.

Feast Days This Week

Monday – **St Faustina Kowalska –** She was born Helena Kowalska in Poland in 1905 into a poor religious family. She wished to enter the religious life at an early age but at age 16 became a housekeeper to support her family. At age 20 she entered the order of the Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Mercy, taking the name Sister Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament. She received visions of Jesus who revealed himself as the King of Divine Mercy, and was tasked with promoting the cause of Divine Mercy. The first image of Divine Mercy was created in 1934. She spent the rest of her life promoting the cause until her death in 1938. She was canonised by Pope St John Paul II on 30th April 2000, and he established that the octave day of Easter, Low Sunday, would henceforth be retitled for Divine Mercy.

Tuesday – **St Bruno –** He was born at Cologne about 1053. After being educated at Paris and being ordained priest, he taught theology, but wanting to lead the life of a solitary he founded the monastery of La Grande Chartreuse in a desolate, mountainous, alpine area. He and his companions embraced a life of poverty, manual work and prayer, roughly following the Rule of St Benedict, and thus began the Carthusian Order. He was called to Rome against his wishes by Pope Urban II to be his adviser and helper in the needs of the Church, but was eventually allowed to return to the monastic life, and he founded the monastery of St Mary at La Torre in Calabria. He died in Calabria in 1101.

Wednesday – **Our Lady of the Rosary –** This feast was instituted by Pope Saint Pius V in thanksgiving for the naval victory at Lepanto, during which the Turks were defeated and which prevented Islam overrunning Europe. It was said that the Christians were victorious because of the help of the holy Mother of God, whose help was invoked by the saying of the Rosary. In modern times successive Popes have urged the faithful to pray the Rosary – to meditate on the mysteries of Christ in union with Mary, who was in a special manner associated with the incarnation, passion and glorious resurrection of her Son.

Thursday – **SS Palatias and Laurentia –** Two Christian martyrs who were put to death in the year 302 during the persecutions of the Church launched by the Emperor Diocletian. According to tradition, Palatias was a noblewoman who resided in the city on Ancona, Italy. Converted to the faith by her slave, Laurentia, they were both arrested and martyred at Fermo, near Ancona.

Friday – **St John Henry Newman** – He was born in London in the year 1801. He was an English theologian and poet, first an Anglican priest and later a Catholic priest after first being drawn to the high church tradition in the Church of England. As an Anglican he was influential in the Oxford Movement, which argued for the reinstatement of some older Christian traditions of faith in the Anglican liturgy. He was received into the Catholic Church by Blessed Dominic Barberi in 1845. He continued as an influential religious leader and founded the Birmingham Oratory. He was created a Cardinal by Pope Leo XIII in 1879. He died in Birmingham on 11th August 1890 aged 89 years old and was canonised by Pope Francis on 13th October 2019.

Saturday – **St Paulinus of York –** Living in the 7th Century, he was sent to England by Pope Gregory I, to advance the cause of evangelisation undertaken by St Augustine. He laboured for 24 years in Kent and was ordained bishop. He was also responsible for advancing Christianity in Northumbria, baptising the pagan King Edwin on Easter Sunday in 627, and then converting thousands of other Northumbrians. Following the defeat and death of Edwin by pagan Mercians at the Battle of Hatfield in 633 Paulinus was driven from his See and returned to Kent. He became Bishop of Rochester, a position he held until his death in the year 644