

 14th Sunday of the Year (A) Mass Times and Intentions Divine Office – Psalter Week 2 		
Saturday 4 th July	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 5 th July	11.00am	Paul and Ann Lowrey
Tuesday 7 th July	9.30am	Special Intention (TC)
Wednesday 8 th July		NO MASS
Thursday 9 th	9.30am	John Shacklock
Saturday 11 th July	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 12 th July	11.00am	Beverley Hitchmore

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass

Profession of Faith	Nicene	p. 99
Preface	Sundays II	p. 11
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 3	p. 69
		p. 27

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for July



For respect for human life. Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, from conception to natural death, recognising it as a gift from God.

July is the month of the Precious Blood. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through his Blood.

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14th Sunday of the Year (A)

5th July 2026



The Prophet Zechariah

In the First Reading, from the Prophet Zechariah, we hear the prophet exhorting the people of Israel to turn back to the Lord with sincerity of heart and He will accept them into His presence. He will come, not as a conquering warrior, but as a "Prince of Peace," and not as the evil kings of the monarchy who rode in on horse and chariots, but he will come on a lowly beast of burden. The latter is a reference to His entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

The Responsorial Psalm is a song of praise and thanksgiving for the goodness and benevolence of God. The psalmist exhorts us to put our trust in the Lord and not in the foolishness of this world. The last two lines of this portion of the Psalm are repeated in many songs and prayers. They give us comfort because they tell us of a loving God.

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans. This passage is an excerpt from Paul's longer teaching on the "the flesh versus the spirit." He is saying that we, as committed Christians, are living in the spirit and not in the flesh such as a glove is moved by the hand within it. The important point is that those of us who are committed to Jesus Christ and are living according to His teachings need not worry about the things of this world because we have the Spirit of Christ (the Holy Spirit) dwelling within us, giving us that special peace. However, for those who only say or think they are Christians but live otherwise, these do not have the Spirit of Christ within them; and they "do not belong to Christ."

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew. This scripture passage is one of the most comforting in all the gospels. Here Jesus invites us to go to Him to be refreshed. When we hear of all the troubles of the world today, it is comforting to know that there is someone we can go to who will refresh us and help us to deal with the trials of daily life. This is the time to talk to Him as if He were your divine counsellor, your closest friend, because that is what He is, or wants to be for you.



Offertory Collection/Donations

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

50 Plus Group

The next meeting of the 50 Plus Group will be at 2.00pm this coming Wednesday, 8th July, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

Portico Fundraisers

Coffee morning on the 12th July after Mass. We will also have a £1 sale of new and newly new recipe books including gluten free meals; meals for one; pasta dishes, and many more.

CAFOD Venezuelan Appeal

CAFOD is one of the charities that make up the UK Disasters Emergency Committee. They have appealed for urgent funds to help the victim of the Venezuela earthquakes. Donations can be made by cash in the basket at the back of Church or by using the card reader. Thanks you.

Annual Lourdes Mass

The Lourdes Mass before the departure of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place at 3.00pm on Sunday 19th July at the Metropolitan Cathedral. Archbishop John Sherrington will preside and all are welcome.

Annual Yewtree Cemetery Mass

The Mass at Yewtree Cemetery for those buried there will be offered at 3.00pm on Sunday 12th July. Since this is an open air Mass you will need to bring appropriate clothing for the weather,

Sea Sunday

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. Sea Sunday is Sunday 12th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. You can donate by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5.

A Mother's Warmth Icon Exhibition

The Metropolitan Cathedral will be hosting Mother's Warmth, an exhibition by Bulgarian artist and iconographer Ian Kostov. Through contemporary artwork inspired by the image of the Virgin Mary as Mother, the exhibition considers how compassion and care for one another can bring hope and healing in a divided world marked by division, anxiety and conflict. Admission free, and the exhibition is open from 30th June – 30th August.

Feast Days This Week

Monday

St Maria Goretti – She was born at Ancona in Italy of a poor family in the year 1890, the third out of six children. Her family were so poor that when she was six they had to sell their farm and work for other farmers. She spent her childhood near Nettuno in poverty, helping her mother in the domestic chores. Marias father became very sick and died when she was nine. She was a religious girl and much given to prayer. In the year 1902, while defending her chastity against a man trying to violate her, she preferred to die rather than give way, and was repeatedly stabbed with a knife. She underwent surgery without anaesthesia, and halfway through the surgery she forgave and prayed for her attacker. She died twenty hours after the attack. She was canonised by Pope Pius XII on 24th June 1950 in a ceremony attended by her mother and four brothers and sisters, and a congregation of 500,000 mostly young people who had gathered from around the world.

Tuesday

Blessed Ralph Milner – He was born at Stocksteads, Hampshire, and was a convert to Catholicism. He was arrested for his Catholic faith on the day he received his First Communion. Ralph was allowed leave from prison and aided priests and other Catholics. He was executed at Winchester on July 7th 1591 for giving assistance to Blessed Roger Dickinson. He was beatified in 1929.

Wednesday

St Veronica Guilianni – She was born near Milan in the year 1660 and entered the Capuchins at Cittidi Castello, Umbria, in the year 1677. She remained there for the rest of her life and served as novice mistress for thirty four years. A mystic, she was a recipient of a stigmata in 1697, and also received many visions, the accounts of which are quite detailed. She impressed her fellow nuns by remaining remarkably practical despite her numerous ecstatic experiences. Veronica was named Abbess of the convent in 1716, remaining in that role until her death in the year 1727. She has been described as one of the most extraordinary mystics of her era.

Thursday

St Augustine Zhao Rong and his Companions – Augustine was a Chinese soldier who accompanied Bishop John Gabriel Taurin Dufresse to his martyrdom in Beijing. Not long after his baptism he was ordained a diocesan priest. He was martyred with his 119 companions, who comprised of 87 Chinese and 33 foreign born missionaries, in the year 1815. They included children, parents, catechists, labourers and four diocesan priests. Among them was an 18 year old young man, Chi Zhuizi, who cried out to those who had just cut off his right arm and were preparing to flay him alive: "Every piece of my flesh, every drop of my blood, will tell you that I am a Christian."

Friday

Blessed Emmanuel Ruiz - He was born of humble parents in Santander in Spain. He became a Franciscan and served as a missionary in Damascus. This was a time when anti-Christian riots shook Syria, and thousands lost their lives in just a short time. Among these were Emmanuel, superior of the Franciscan Convent, seven other friars and three laymen. After refusing to renounce their faith and become Muslims they were subjected to horrible tortures before being martyred.

Saturday

St Benedict – The Patriarch of Western Monasticism and co-patron of Europe, a man of great prudence and moderation. He was born at Norcia in Umbria about 480. After studying in Rome he led a life of solitude in Subiaco and gathered disciples around him, and then went on to Monte Cassino. Here he founded a well known monastery and wrote his Rule, a remarkable work which was to produce a monastic way of life which was complete, orderly and workable. The monasteries which followed his Rule made an enormous contribution to Western spirituality and culture, and his Rule remains the most common and influential used by monasteries and monks. They were centres of learning, hospitality and medicine in a way that was hardly forseen by Benedict himself. He died on 21st March 547, but from the end of the 8th Century he has been venerated on this date throughout the world.