

 17th Sunday of the Year (A) Mass Times and Intentions Divine Office – Psalter Week 1 		
Saturday 25 th July	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 26 th July	11.00am	Ken Fidler
Tuesday 28 th July	9.30am	Pat Dyas
Wednesday 29 th July	7.00pm	Holy Souls
Thursday 30 th July	9.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 1 st August	5.30pm	David John Morris (Anniversary)
Sunday 2 nd August	11.00am	People of the Parish

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass

Profession of Faith	Nicene	p. 108
Preface	Sundays IV	p. 11
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 2	p. 67
		p. 24

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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17th Sunday of the Year (A) 26th July 2026



Parable of the Hidden Treasure

In the First Reading, from the First Book of Kings, we hear how King Solomon inherits the throne of his father, David, at a very young age. This is an awesome task and Solomon knows he is not mature enough to fulfil it properly. God offers divine help but disguises it within an offer of anything that Solomon might want. Solomon asks for wisdom and knowledge to enable him to serve God and His people as God would want him to.

The Responsorial Psalm picks up the theme of the joy that comes from obedience to the will of God, and fulfilling our role in His Plan of Salvation. This "Plan" is, in reality, God's desire to bring everyone back to the "kingdom," but He will not force us.

In the Second Reading, from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, we hear one of Paul's strange statements; but his insight into the ways of the Kingdom was far better than ours, so we have to dig a little to find out what he means. The "all things work together, etc." is straight forward, and means that regardless of how confusing or difficult daily life might get, if we are following in the footsteps of Christ then they will head us to the Kingdom of the Father. The second part says that all humankind is destined for heaven. This is not predestination, as some people believe. It means that God's original intention (and still existing desire) is for all people to be with Him in heaven; but only those who fulfil what is asked of them will reach the throne of God.

The Gospel Reading from Matthew continues the same theme from last Sunday's readings, but with a twist. Jesus uses simple examples from daily life to describe the "Kingdom of Heaven" (or the Kingdom of God, which are the same) such as buried treasure, a fine pearl, things hard to find, yet have value and are worthy of our efforts. These are symbols of the faith given to us at baptism, but we must nourish and use our faith, because as Jesus says, "At the last judgment, the angels will separate those who fulfilled their role from those who did not."



Offertory Collection/Donations

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

Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

Many of our friends, colleagues parishioners and young people are away currently on Pilgrimage in Lourdes.

You can follow what they're up to on Instagram by following "*knowsleycoach2*" "*lourdescoach9*" or "*liverpoolarchdiocesetolourdes*"

Mass on Holiday

When you are on holiday, especially in a foreign country, it can be difficult to find Sunday Mass. The website www.masstimes.org has listings of times and places for Mass all over the world.

St Edmund Arrowsmith

The annual pilgrimage to the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith takes place on Sunday 30th August at the Church of St Oswald and St Edmund Arrowsmith, Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, WN4 9NP. Mass will be celebrated by at **3.00pm**, followed by Veneration of the Holy Hand. The Principal Celebrant will be Fr John Hogan of the Diocese of Meath, Ireland. He is the author of the most recent CTS booklet on the life of St Edmund Arrowsmith. All are welcome!

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.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

This Sunday the Church celebrates World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. This is close to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Leo: "I will never forget you". This highlights God's enduring love in old age and serves as a message of comfort for older people who may feel lonely. Prayer for Grandparents. Lord, we thank you for grandparents and elderly relatives. We are grateful for the love, care and the advice they give to us. Protect them Lord, in all that they do, as we continue to be blessed by their wisdom. Guide them in their earthly pilgrimage and always keep them close to your heart. Amen

Pilgrimage Mass in honour of Blessed Dominic Barberi

Mass in honour of Blessed Dominic Barberi will be celebrated at St Anne and Blessed Dominic, Monastery Road, Sutton, at 12.00pm on Monday 31st August. The Principal Celebrant will be Bishop Tom Neylon.

Feast Days This Week

Monday

St Pantaleon – Pantaleon came from Nicomedia near the Black Sea in Asia. He was such a famous doctor that the Emperor chose him as his own physician. He was a Christian, but influences from the pagan court caused him to abandon his faith. Encouraged by a priest called Hermolaos, he re-joined the Church, and imitated Our Lord's charity by taking care of poor sick people for no charge for his medical services. When the Emperor Diocletian began his persecution, he was accused of being a Christian, and he was martyred for refusing to deny his faith.

Tuesday

Pope St Innocent I – He was born at Albano, Italy, and became Pope, succeeding St Anastasius I, on December 22nd in the year 401. During his pontificate he emphasised papal supremacy, commending the Bishops of Africa for referring to the Pope for confirmation the decrees of the Council of Carthage which condemned Palagianism. It was his confirmation of these decrees that caused St Augustine to say "Roma locuta, causa finitas" (Rome has spoken, the matter is ended). Innocent strongly favoured clerical celibacy, fought the unjust removal of St John Chrysostom, and vainly sought help from the Emperor Honorius at Ravenna when the Goths captured and sacked Rome. He died in Rome on 12th March in the year 417.

Wednesday

St Martha – She was the sister of Lazarus and Mary. She received Christ into her home at Bethany, which was especially loved by him. He gently reproved her for her complaint that her sister Mary did not help her sufficiently in the preparations. These words of Christ were traditionally represented as indicating the excellence of the contemplative life over the cares of the active life. Christ once again had supper there just six days before his Passion. It was at her request that the Lord raised Lazarus from the dead, and she elicited from him the words, "I am the Resurrection and the Life", expressing her faith in his divine power.

Thursday

St Peter Chrysologus – He was born about the year 380 at Imola in Emilia. He was ordained priest about the year 424 and was chosen to be Bishop of Ravenna. He looked after the people entrusted to him with meticulous care, and taught them with his sermons and writings. He was called "Chrysologus" (golden-worded) because of his exceptional eloquence as a preacher. He condemned Arianism and Monophysitism as heresies and beautifully explained the Apostle's Creed, the mystery of the Incarnation and other topics in simple and clear language. He died about the year 450, and was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1729.

Friday

St Ignatius Loyola – He was born in 1491 at Loyola in northern Spain. His early life was led at Court and in the army, and later he was converted to a life of holiness. He studied theology at Paris and gathered companions around him, and after wards at Rome he founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). He wished the priests of his Order to be willing to go anywhere or undertake any work for the good of the Church. Obedience to the Pope was to be their hallmark. He is one of the great Christian leaders, and exercised a very fruitful apostolate by his written work and by the formation of his disciples who were outstanding in the reform of the Church. He died in Rome in 1556.

Saturday

St Alphonsus Ligouri – He was born at Naples in 1696. He studied law and took his doctors degree in both canon and civil law, was ordained to the priesthood and later founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists). In order to promote among the faithful a truly Christian life he spent his time in preaching and in writing, especially about moral theology of which discipline he is acknowledged to be the master. He was chosen to be Bishop of Sant' Agata dei Goti, and accepted reluctantly, but soon gave up the post and returned to his own Congregation where he died at Nocera dei Pagani in Campagna in 1787. He was a good preacher and a writer, arriving in his writing and preaching at simplicity, gentleness and intelligibility.