



4th Sunday of the Year (A)

Mass Times and Intentions

Divine Office – Psalter Week 4



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| Saturday 31 st January | 5.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 1 st February | 11.00am | Ken Fidler |
| Monday 2nd February Presentation of the Lord | 9.30am | Kathleen Gurdon |
| Tuesday 3 rd February | 9.30am | Fr Dave Melly |
| Wednesday 4 th February | | NO MASS |
| Thursday 5 th February | 9.30am | Frank Maguire |
| Saturday 7 th February | 5.30pm | Brian Farrington |
| Sunday 8 th February | 11.00am | Peter Thompson |

Sunday Liturgy

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|---------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Proper of the Mass | | p. 127 |
| Profession of Faith | Nicene | p. 11 |
| Preface | Sundays II | p. 68 |
| Eucharistic Prayer | Prayer 3 | p. 28 |

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January



For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus, and the Feast of the Holy Name is celebrated on 3rd January. "All beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld should bend the knee at the name of Jesus, and every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:10)



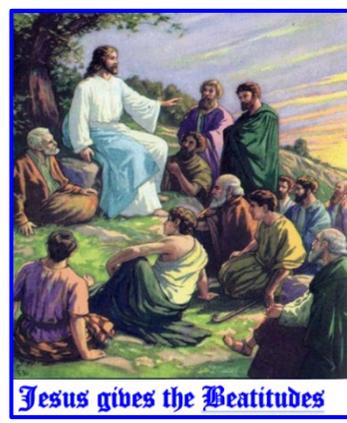


The Roman Catholic Parish of
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4th Sunday of the Year (A)

1st February 2026



Today's Gospel reading defines our Christian goal of eternal happiness and explains the attitudes and actions we need to take to reach it. The Beatitudes are best understood as being a framework for Christian living - our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. Unlike the Ten Commandments which stress the 'Thou Shalt Nots', Jesus presents the Beatitudes positively, as the virtues in life which will ultimately lead to the rewards of salvation – not in this world, but in the next.

Today's Gospel offers to us a contrasting message. If we were to accept the 'way to get ahead' messages of our culture today, we would think that happiness is defined by money, success and possessions - not unlike the people who heard Jesus teach on the day that he taught the Beatitudes. The crowd that day also associated happiness with material possessions and status. Yet, Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what this world might call happiness. 'Blessed' is sometimes translated as happy, fortunate, or favoured. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favour is upon those who are poor or hungry, those who mourn or those who are persecuted for their faith.

This Gospel is one of reversals - the people who Jesus calls 'blessed' and 'happy' are not people we think of as either blessed or happy! In fact, if anybody other than Jesus had proposed this we might have dismissed it as bizarre! But Jesus meant what he said and practiced what he preached and as followers of Jesus, we need to respond to the challenge of the Beatitudes in a similar way in our daily lives. The Beatitudes show us a new way of life, inviting us to identify with the poor, the meek, those who mourn or who hunger and thirst after justice. They challenge us to be compassionate people, to become the peacemakers in our dealings with one another, our families, and society at large - even when this approach to things exposes us to ridicule and persecution.



Offertory Collection/Donations

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

Mass for Marriage and Family Life

Archbishop John Sherrington will celebrate the Marriage and Family Life Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Sunday 8 February 2026 at 11.00. The Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows and a special blessing for those celebrating significant anniversaries. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gibberd Room. All are welcome.

Weekday Mass



If you are free during the day, have you ever thought of attending weekday Mass? There is no better way of sanctifying the day than listening to the Scriptures and receiving Christ's Body and Blood in Holy Communion. Our weekday Mass is a lovely opportunity to pray and reflect. Why not come and Join us?

World Day Of Prayer for the Sick

World Day of the Sick is a Catholic Church awareness day on February 11th, aimed at praying and sharing, sacrificing one's suffering for the welfare of the church, and urging everyone to see the face of Christ in his or her ailing brother or sister. The day falls on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, and it is an important occasion for individuals in the Catholic health ministry to reflect on caring for those who are sick as well as those who care for them. This year Pope Leo XIV asks us to reflect on this theme: "The compassion of the Samaritan: loving by bearing the pain of the other".

Confirmations in 2026

Anyone in Year 8 or above can now register to be Confirmed in 2026. Register: www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk. Anyone who has missed out on the Sacrament of Confirmation in previous years is also welcome to apply.

Racial Justice Sunday

This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday, a day the church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. The theme for Racial Justice Sunday this year is: 'Whoever loves God must also love his brother'. For more information go to: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/>

Feast Days This Week

Monday

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD – This feast, which used to be referred to as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, was originally a celebration of the Jerusalem Church, recalling the recognition of Jesus as Messiah by Simeon and Anna, and the revelation of him as the Light of the Nations. At the beginning of Mass we bless and light candles as a symbol of Christ as the Light of the Nations, who has forever conquered the darkness of sin and death.

Tuesday

St Blaise – He was born into a rich and noble family who raised him as a Christian. He was Bishop of Sivas in Armenia in the 4th Century, shortly before a new persecution of Christians began, and he offered his life in martyrdom for the Faith during the reign of the Emperor Licinius. In the Middle Ages veneration of him spread throughout the Church. He is the patron saint of wild animals and of those with maladies of the throat.

St Ansgar – He was born in France at the beginning of the 9th Century. He was educated in the monastery of Old Corbie and then in 826 set out to preach the Gospel in Denmark. Meeting with little success, he then went to Sweden at the invitation of King Bjorn, and built the first Christian church in that country. He was chosen to be Bishop of Hamburg, and was confirmed in this position by Pope Gregory IV who made him his Legate for Denmark and Sweden. He endured many difficulties in his work of evangelisation, but his spirit never failed. His success was due to his great preaching ability, his austerity and his holiness. He died in the year 865.

Wednesday

St Andrew Corsini - He was born in Florence on November 30, 1302, a member of the powerful Corsini family. Wild in his youth, Andrew was converted to a holy life by his mother and became a Carmelite monk. He studied in Paris and Avignon, France, returning to his birthplace. There he became known as the Apostle of Florence. He was called a prophet and miracle worker. Named as the bishop of Fiesole in 1349, Andrew fled the honour but was forced to accept the office, which he held for twelve years. He was sent by Pope Urban V to Bologna to settle disputes between the nobles and commoners, a mission he performed well. Andrew died in Fiesole on January 6, 1373. So many miracles took place at his death that Pope Eugenius IV permitted the immediate opening of his cause.

Thursday

St Agatha– She is one of the most celebrated early Christian Virgin Martyrs. Living in the 3rd Century, little is known about her except that she came from a family of importance and dedicated her life to God at an early age. She suffered torture for her faith, especially because of her determination to protect her purity, and offered her life in martyrdom at Catania in Sicily, probably during the persecution of Decius. She was then venerated throughout the Church from the earliest times, her early cult witnessed by the Martyrology of St Jerome and the Calendar of Carthage, and her name was inserted into the Roman Canon.

Friday

St Paul Miki and his Companions – Paul was born in Japan a 1564. He entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and preached the Gospel with great success, but when a persecution of Catholics arose he and twenty five others, comprising priests, brothers and laymen, Jesuits and Franciscans, doctors and catechists, were arrested and subjected to terrible tortures. Finally they were martyred by crucifixion at Nagasaki on 5th February 1597. From his cross, Paul preached to the people gathered there and prayed for forgiveness for his executioners.

Saturday

St Moses – An Arab hermit and bishop who is called "the Apostle of the Saracens." He lived in the desert regions of Syria and Egypt, caring for the local nomadic tribes. When the Romans imposed peace upon the Saracens, Queen Mavia, the Saracen ruler, demanded that Moses be consecrated a bishop. He accepted against his will and maintained the peace between the Saracens and Rome. The Saracens were a nomadic people of the Syro-Egyptian desert so designated by the Romans. He died in 372.