

 19th Sunday of the Year (A) Mass Times and Intentions Divine Office – Psalter Week 2 		
Saturday 8 th August	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 9 th August	11.00am	George Ross
Tuesday 11 th August	9.30am	Wedding Anniversary – Richard and Margaret Humphreys
Wednesday 12 th August		NO MASS
Thursday 13 th August	9.30am	The Chorley Family
Saturday 5 th August	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 6 th August	11.00am	Teresa Cash

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass

Profession of Faith	Nicene	p. 114
Preface	Sundays VI	p. 11
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 2	p. 67
		p. 24

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for August



For evangelisation in the city. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

August is the month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Her heart is venerated because it is the seat of her love, especially for her Divine Son, and for us after Jesus, as he died on the cross, declared her to be our Mother.



The Roman Catholic Parish of
Our Lady Help of Christians
 Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT
Administrator: Fr Andrew Rowlands VF
Deacon: Rev Tom Simms
 Email: smaaa@rcaol.org.uk Tel. 0151 546 9687



19th Sunday of the Year (A)

9th August 2026



Jesus walks on the water

In the First Reading, from the First Book of Kings we learn that the Prophet Elijah is running away from his homeland because he fears for his life. He is discouraged to the point of wanting to die. God calls on him to remember his mission. He feeds Elijah with earthly food and then stations him outside a cave in order to reveal Himself to the prophet. A gale-size wind develops, but God is not in the wind. Next is an earthquake, but God is not there either. Then fire nearly consumes the mountain, but God is not there. These natural phenomena are all traditional signs of God from the past, but no longer. Next Elijah is engulfed in silence and it is here that the prophet hears God who leads him to safety.

The Responsorial Psalm tells us that we must "listen" to what the Lord wants to say to us. We often make the mistake of "talking" too much in our prayers and listening too little. God will reveal Himself if we are willing to spend the time in faith listening for His voice which can come at any time or place and in any form.

In the Second Reading, from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans we hear Paul lamenting with great sorrow the stubbornness of the Jewish people who would not accept his teaching about Jesus even though Paul related Jesus' teaching to the great things the Father did for them. Christ reveals Himself to those who earnestly search for Him.

The Gospel Reading follows immediately after the one for the previous Sunday. It is the story of Jesus walking on the water and Peter asks if he can do the same. Peter was looking only at the spectacle of the miracle and not the miracle-worker, Jesus. Many times Jesus revealed His divine nature to the apostles in order to substantiate who He is. This was necessary because much would be expected of the apostles in the near future. We have the benefit of knowing all that God did for His people, the Jews, and through Jesus, the Christians; but do we really know who God is? A true understanding of God in Jesus Christ can only come to us through faith, which is planted in everyone in the Sacrament of Baptism; but it is up to us to nourish and develop this gift through the Eucharist, prayer, study and listening.



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 is Wednesday 12th August 2026 at 2pm in the Church Hall. All are welcome, especially some new men!

Evening Prayer with the Apostolic Nuncio

All are invited to assemble as our archdiocesan family at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Sunday 13th September at 3pm for the culmination of the Apostolic Nuncio's visit to the archdiocese. This date coincides with the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the Metropolitan Chapter of Liverpool. The celebration will take the form of Evening Prayer sung in the Cathedral. There will be a drinks reception after in the Crypt.

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!

Commemoration of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

This Sunday the anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki. Pax Christi will be leading a 'Lanterns for Peace Service' on the steps of St. Luke's Bombed Out Church (top of Bold St) at 2.00 pm. Enquiries: 07591 082195.

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 Lawrence – He was a deacon of the Church of Rome and died in the persecution of the Emperor Valerian four days after Pope St Sixtus II and his four fellow deacons, and many other clergy of the Church of Rome. He was buried on the Via Tiburtina at the Campo Verano near to where Constantine the Great built a basilica. In Rome five ancient basilicas are dedicated to him, including the one built over his tomb. With St Stephen, the First Martyr, he is the patron saint of deacons.

Tuesday

St Clare – She was a noblewoman, born at Assisi in 1193. She was moved by the preaching of St Francis, joined him at the Portiuncula and became a nun. She imitated his life of poverty and was the founder and ruler of an order of nuns, the Poor Clares. She led an austere life, abounding in works of charity and piety. She was joined by her sister, Agnes, and by other young women who wanted to show their devotion to Christ through lives of austerity. A great contemplative, her life was characterised by joy.

Wednesday

St Jane Frances de Chantal – Born in 1572, she was married at the age of twenty and had four children. She had a great care for the poor, feeding them with bread and soup when they came to her door. After her husband was killed in a hunting accident she deepened her spiritual life. With the encouragement of St Francis de Sales she founded the Visitation Order for women who were rejected by other orders because of poor health or age, and the members of the Order were to live their lives outside the cloister. She believed that all people should have a chance to live their calling regardless of their health. She was approached by many people for spiritual direction, and her advice always reflected her gentle and loving approach to spirituality. She died in 1641.

Thursday

Saints Pontianus and Hippolytus – Pontianus was ordained Bishop of Rome in 231, and in 235 was exiled by the Emperor Maximinus to Sardinia, together with the priest Hippolytus. Here he abdicated the papacy so that the Church might have an active leader. Both men were martyred in Sardinia, after which the body was buried in the cemetery of Callistus, while the of Pontianus body of Hippolytus was taken to the cemetery on the Via Tiburtina. Both martyrs have been venerated by the Roman Church from the 4th Century.

Friday

St Maximilian Mary Kolbe – His act of volunteering to die for another in Auschwitz is justly well known. But his rise to heroic holiness was not a sudden thing: had there been no concentration camps he would still have been an extraordinarily holy man. He was a member of the Order of Friars Minor, Conventual and was ordained to the priesthood in 1918. and his life was built on a vigorous devotion to Our Blessed Lady and a determination to use every modern means to win the world for Christ. He died in Auschwitz on 14th August 1941 after two weeks of starvation. He was canonized on 10th October 1982 by Pope St John Paul II who declared him to be "the patron of our difficult century".

Saturday

St Stephen of Hungary - He was born in Hungary, the son of Magyar chieftain Geza, about the year 969. He received baptism and in the year 1000 was crowned the first King of Hungary. He was a just, peaceful and religious king, keeping strictly to the laws of the Church and always seeking the good of his subjects. He was generous to the poor and oppressed, distributing alms in disguise. He established many diocese and did much to strengthen the life of the Church. He gave his patronage to church leaders, helped build churches, and was a supporter of the rights of the Holy See. He died in 1038, was canonized by Pope St Gregory VII in 1083 and is the patron saint of Hungary.

Sunday

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – We recall the dogmatically revealed truth of the bodily Assumption to heaven of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the end of her earthly life.