

SUNDAY PLUS

Be generous

A heart full of love

by Fr Royston Price C.Ss.R.

The Gospel today is quite forceful in reminding us of a pitfall to be avoided in our Christian life, as well as the corrective for it. John reports an instance of someone doing the Lord's work, but who isn't part of their group: surely they should be stopped? Jesus tells us that there can be no room for factionalism or cliques within the Church. We might belong to some group or movement, but we should be very careful about our attitude to the apostolic work of others. The Church isn't a "one-party state" and there is plenty of room for legitimate variation in spirituality, culture and emphasis. What does matter is being grounded in Jesus Christ: Love made flesh. The centrality of love is Our Lord's answer to the problem of factions and

divisions. Our actions, thoughts and entire life should be infused with divine love. When we are acting in love, then whatever we do can be a way of spreading the Kingdom of God. Even something objectively tiny like offering someone a glass of water, when done out of love acquires a tremendous and eternal dignity.

When our heart is full of divine love, then we can appreciate the unity and diversity of the Church. The body of Christ is made up of many members and each of us is called to a unique mission and ministry; as long as we are deeply rooted in Christ, then we can see the work of others not as a threat to our own cherished projects, but as another part of the wonderful work of God in the world.

Fr Royston Price, a recently ordained priest, is the Vocations Director for the Redemptorist London Province.



Lord of love, you invite us to give "not less than everything" when we follow you. Teach us to give mercy, compassion, companionship and love to the people we meet on our journey towards you. Amen.

Be merciful

by Katie Knight

Her visit to A&E with a feigned illness gave the young woman the excuse to search for safety and distance from an abusive husband. Once there, she shuddered, went down on her knees and, convulsed with sobs, begged to be admitted, even if only overnight. "My husband will beat me again if I go home. I cannot go home. Please let me stay in the hospital."

Police and social workers can be afraid of "interfering" in cases of domestic violence lest they accidentally make a bad situation worse. Frequently the Church is a refuge, offering support in ways beyond the capabilities of statutory bodies. A listening ear, an open heart, an encouraging smile might be all

Feast of the week
Monday 27 September

St Vincent de Paul
(1581-1660)

"If you consider the poor in the light of faith, then you will observe that they are taking the place of the Son of God who chose to be poor.

Since Christ willed to be born poor, he chose for himself disciples who were poor. He made himself the servant of the poor and shared their poverty. He went so far as to say that he would consider every deed

which either helps or harms the poor as done for or against himself. Since God surely loves the poor, he also loves those who love the poor. For when one person holds another dear, he also includes in his affection anyone who loves or serves the one he loves. That is why we hope that God will love us for the sake of the poor. So when we visit the poor and needy, we try to understand the poor and weak. We sympathize with them so fully that we can echo Paul's words: I have become all things to all people."

From the writings of St Vincent de Paul

that is needed for someone to take the first step towards safety. A smile might make the difference between fear and courage, between abuse and freedom.

A parish filled with smiling and compassionate faces can offer help and hope. A smile can make the difference.

Katie Knight is a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

"What a beautiful truth of faith this is for our lives: the mercy of God! God's love for us is so great, so deep; it is an unending love, one which always takes us by the hand and supports us, lifts us up and leads us on."

Pope Francis

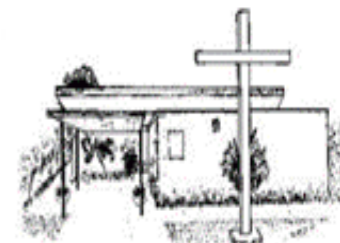
Newsletter for the Parishes of
Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose and St. Vincent de Paul

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Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Onuoha Email: frifeanyimom@yahoo.com Deacon: Rev. Moses Ibeh

26TH September 2021 TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

You can join us via this Live Stream link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport> (for Our Lady's church)
OR click on tinyurl.com/stockportparishes or [Stockport Parishes - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) (for both St. Vincent's and St. Ambrose')

IN LINE WITH GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES, WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE SIGN IN AT THE DOOR FOR TRACK AND TRACE USING THE QR CODE OR PAPER, THOUGH NOT REQUIRED BY LAW, WE STILL PLEAD THAT YOU WEAR A FACE COVERING, AND GIVE PEOPLE SOME SPACE UNTIL THE PANDEMIC IS OVER.



Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sun 26th September	TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST)	5.30pm 7.00pm 9.30am 11.00am 1.00pm	Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady's St Vincent's - F.H.C Thanksgiving Our Lady's - F.H.C Thanksgiving OLATA- Baptism	Our Parish Family Our Parish Family Our Parish Family Peter Callaghan—Anniversary Jayden Hannon
Mon 27th Sept	St Vincent De Paul, P	9.30am	St. Ambrose	Service of Word and Communion
Tues 28th Sept	Ferial	9.30am	Our Lady's	Service of Word and Communion
Wed 29th Sept	Ss MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS.	9.30am	St. Vincent's	Maureen Colgan RIP
Thurs 30th Sept	St Jerome, P, D	11.00am 7.00pm	Requiem Mass— OLATA Our Lady's	Thomas Davies Service of Word and Communion
Fri 1st Oct	St Theresa Of The Child Jesus, V	9.30am	St. Vincent's	Service of Word and Communion
Sat 2nd Oct	Guardian Angels	9.30am	Our Lady's	Tom Darkin 100th Birthday
Sun 3rd October	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5.30pm 7.00pm 9.30am 11.00am 1.00pm	Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady's St Vincent's - Our Lady's - St Vincent's- Baptism	Our Parish Family Allen Canta bday 60thThkssgiving Caroline Ezeokeke RIP Julia Callaghan 1st Anniversary Norah Emily Hamilton

There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every weekday morning before Mass from 8:30am to 9:30am.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available after 9.30am Mass on Saturday morning and by appointment.

Please pray for:

Baptisms: Please pray for the many families currently attending the baptism course for the baptism of their children and for our very committed catechists.

First Holy Communion: Please may we pray for our children who will be making their first Holy Communion this weekend.

Confirmation: Please pray for the 60 young parishioners who have enrolled for Confirmation, and for the Catechists, as they begin their preparatory sessions **this Wednesday, the 22nd.**

The Sick:

In St. Vincent's: We remember in our prayers all the intentions on the St. Vincent's Prayer Board. Please add your intentions to the Prayer Board in church and you can see who is in need of our prayers on our website under "Thoughts for the week".

In Our Lady's: Irene Cox, Lee Abernathy, Janice Cook, Tom Davis, Eileen Melia, Annie Topping, Theresa Burrows, Josephine O'Hagan, Denise Corlet, Nora Reade, Tommy Higgins, Marie Kenefick, Eileen Mains, Beryl Collins, Josie Vaughan, Michael Heath, Honora Hague, Victoria Russell, Sophie Mansfield, Mary Brett, Vivienne Goostry, John Wynne, Vincent Tracey, Ronald Fury, Veronica Gallagher, Aine O'Callaghan, Mary Murphy, Catherine Tracey, Kathleen Bond, Jordan Harris, Alana Walsh, Jean Egginton, Mary Glindon and Sean O'Callaghan.

In St. Ambrose's: Mavis Doggett, Terry Skorzewski, Khia Whitehead, Eleanor Loftus, Mary Andrusiak, Carl Stanley, C. Wootton, Mary Sein, Paul Thuoc, Barry Lloyd, Andrew Way, Mary Young, Irene Walker, Veronica Norbury, John Holt, Imelda Judge, Veronica Lane, Joanna Winter, Pat Judge, Paul McClure, Helen Jenkins, Marie Hughes, Paul Morrell and Mary Sweetman.

Recently Departed:

May the souls of Marie O'Neil, Bernard Reily, Thomas Davies and may the souls of all recently departed rest in peace.

Anniversaries

Patrick Coneelly, Blanche Mulhall, Mavis Needham, Joseph Connolly, Frances Gould, Peter Christopher Callaghan, Ann Diffley, James Little, Jack Hibbert, Mary Darkin, Michael Canning, Gail Cook, Irene Garnett, Ebenezer Hope, Sarah Bohan, John Grundy, Peter Callaghan, Julie Callaghan

General Notices:

Year of St. Joseph: *"He (St Joseph) belongs to the working-class, and he bore the burdens of poverty for himself and the Holy Family, whose tender and vigilant head he was" Pope Pius XI*

Prayer intentions: During Ordinary Time (autumn) ie, from September to Christ the King we are asked to pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; the Harvest; the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families.

Fr Martin on Retreat: 'It has just dawned on me that we are almost coming to the end of the year and I am yet to have my annual canonical retreat. I will be away in Walsingham on retreat from Monday evening till Friday. You will be in my prayers. Please pray for me.'

SVP Stockport—We provide practical assistance to the Parish and local community. We also visit & befriend local people who might feel isolated or have asked for our assistance. We can support anyone, of any age. We have kept in touch with people by telephone throughout the pandemic. In fact, some people prefer this as it is more convenient for them. If you think that our work could help you, or anyone you know, then please contact us by email SecretaryF180701@svp.org.uk or phone/text on 07546426570. Facebook page SVP Stockport.

Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality – Next Meeting - Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality, Sunday 10th October at 2pm at St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, Chester, CH2 1PL. This is a hybrid meeting with the option to attend in person or via Zoom. Please register your attendance and make any requests for the online password, apologies or items for the agenda at secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk or text/call 07451 249267.

Mass Attendance: – Can Offertory collectors please count and record the attendance for masses for these weekends? Please include all those present at all Sunday Masses (i.e., Saturday evening & Sunday) celebrated in our parishes on the named weekends.

- 25th/26th September
- 2nd/3rd October
- 9th/10th October

CCRS (Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies) :begins this month with in-person classes on Thursday morning at St Columba's Chester. There is also an online learning option, with an in-person seminar in Wythenshawe or Birkenhead. This is an excellent course for anyone who would like to learn more about our faith or lead in a school or parish. Please register in advance - information is available. from ccrs@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Second Collection—for Home Mission Sunday: – There will be collection for **Home Mission today** the third Sunday in September.

Last weekend's collections(excludes standing orders) : **OLATA-£824.85 St Ambrose- £189.00 St Vincent's- £173.20**
THANK YOU!

SUPPORTING REFUGEES FROM AFGHANISTAN Almost 15,000 people have been evacuated in the past few weeks from Afghanistan to the United Kingdom amid those harrowing scenes we witnessed in media reports. The Catholic Church is already active in its support of the refugees through many of its charitable societies and agencies. I hope we will be able to offer support to Local Authorities in material assistance and welcome. The Home Office will soon be launching a new Afghan Citizens' Resettlement Scheme to accommodate an estimated 20,000 refugees. The expertise parishes have gained from the resettlement of Syrian refugees may be of assistance. The plight of refugees who have fled across the borders of Afghanistan to neighbouring countries is the focus of a special appeal launched by CAFOD.

Jobs advert for St Ambrose College, Hale Barns –Cook and support staff– term time only. Application can be done on their website– office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Our Lady's News:

Children's Liturgy: Will resume in church on **Sunday, October 3**. Depending on numbers, it will hold in the main hall instead of the Guild room. Watch the space. We thank the catechists for organizing this.

Our Lady's Offertory Envelopes: As more parishioners are returning to Mass would you please check to see if your box of envelopes is waiting to be collected from the table at the back of Church. If you don't have a box but would like one please post your name, address and telephone number through the Presbytery door and Tom Horan will contact you. May we take this opportunity to thank all those Parishioners who have made donations and legacies to the Church for various reasons such as flowers, maintenance etc. During this very difficult time it is very much appreciated.

The **St. Vincent de Paul Society** is still a very active presence in Our Lady's. If anyone would like support from them, perhaps a call or chat, or if you know of anyone who might appreciate their contact, please ring Dennis on 0161 485 1256. Maybe you have some time to spare and would like to join them in helping others? If so, as above, please ring Dennis.

St Ambrose News:

Second Collection:– for Cafod next weekend, 02/03 October 2021. Please be as generous as you can.

RIP: We pray for the repose of our dear Tom Davies, a very committed parishioner, and for his family. His funeral will be on **30th September, 11am**, at St Ambrose church. There will be no 9.30am Mass that morning.

St Vincent's News:

- **St Vincent's Feast day**, which falls on 27th Sept, will be celebrated **today, 26th September**, with the **9.30am** First Communion Thanksgiving Mass & refreshment and an **Afternoon tea party at 3pm**. Bouncy castle for the children.

- **Monday Prayer Group**, preceded by Service of Word and Communion at 10am.

- **Harvest Festival Mass- Sunday 3rd October**. Please bring your food and toiletries donations to church that morning. We will be splitting everything between Wellspring and Chelwood Foodbank.

• **Fundraising concerts locally:** Harmony '96 Silver Celebration choral concert. Bramhall Baptist Church Saturday 2nd October 7.30pm £5 Proceeds to Tearfund's Haiti Earthquake appeal.

• **Fish Lip Soup Big Band**, Stockport County Ground, Saturday 2nd October 7.30pm £10 Proceeds to Wellspring, Stockport

- **St Ambrose & St Vincent's Community Sponsorship Group** are pleased to announce that our family arrived this week. They are very tired after a delay at the airport for 2 days but otherwise fit and well. Thank you everyone for your prayers and support.

- **Ultimate Book Club** -The minister of Bramhall Methodist Church, Rev Sarah Parkin, is going to speak on 2 & 3 John at our next meeting on October 3rd at 2pm. Recordings of our last speaker and previous speakers are on the BMC web site.

Our Parish Schools:

Schools are back to normal this week after summer holidays and the lifting of Covid restrictions. Please pray for our young people and for all who have care for them. Every blessing for a happy and fruitful Autumn Term.

Our Lady's Primary: We congratulate our children, who made their First Forgiveness on Friday, as they make their first Holy Communion after such a long delay due to the pandemic!

Newsletter items: Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to the Parish Office by lunchtime on Thursday.

[Links for online giving to the Parishes: Please check our websites.](#)

Our Lady and the Apostles, Shaw Heath, Stockport SK3 8BQ St. Ambrose, Adswood Road, Stockport, SK3 3QA, St. Vincent de Paul, 29 Handley Road, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 3EX

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