

SUNDAY PLUS

Follow me



by Sr Janet Fearn FMDM

Fact really can be stranger than fiction. As the burglar left the crime scene, he forgot to carry away his holdall containing a couple of letters bearing his name and address. Unsurprisingly, he soon found himself with a court appearance and jail sentence.

Another strange but true story involved a man who stole a wooden bench from outside a pub. Finding it too heavy to carry, he dragged the seat home – and the police officer merely followed the trail through the grass and down the muddy lane...

"Mr Big" often escapes paying the penalty of his crimes. It's the small fry who are caught out, often through their own blunders.

The rich young man in today's Gospel tried hard to live a virtuous life and wanted to do more than the bare minimum

required to reach heaven. Perhaps he hoped that Jesus would tell him to give a hefty donation to the poor people in the neighbourhood or to offer a bullock rather than a goat as a sin offering in the Temple sacrifice – but to give up everything. Did Jesus really mean that? Surely not!

It is hard to be anonymously good! Too often, we want to do the right thing but also want other people to know just how hard we are trying. The small donations receive less publicity than the philanthropic millions which can bring about real changes in society – but Jesus praised the elderly widow who, in her poverty, gave more than she could afford. He pitied the rich young man who kept hold of his fortune.

Where do I stand?

Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.

Loving Lord, be close to those in prison and to their families for whom life can become extremely painful. Watch over and support all those who are imprisoned within their own hearts and life situations, that they will find the freedom for which they long. Amen.

Jesus needs YOU!

by "a prison visitor"

Three-quarters of prison inmates cannot read, write or count to the standard expected of an 11-year-old. They depend on someone else to write letters on their behalf or to read out the messages from their families and friends.

The reoffending rate drops by 80 per cent if the person leaves prison and goes straight into a job. How many return to crime because illiteracy limits their employment possibilities, so that, once again amongst the "bored-on-benefits", there's little hope of a hopeful, challenging future?

Catholic education has a wonderful tradition of

Feast of the week
Friday 15 October

St Teresa of Avila
(1515-1582)

"We had to run many dangers. At no part of the road were the risks greater than within a few leagues of Burgos, at a place called Los Pontes. The rivers were so high that the water in places covered everything, neither road nor the smallest footpath could be seen: only water everywhere, and two abysses on each side. It seemed foolhardiness to advance, especially in a carriage, for if one strayed ever

so little off the road (then invisible), one must have perished."

Teresa led her frightened companions across the swollen river on foot. The current was so strong that she slipped, and was almost carried away. "Oh, my Lord!" she exclaimed, "When will you stop scattering obstacles in our path?" "Do not complain, daughter," the Divine Master answered, "for this is how I treat my friends." "Ah, Lord, it is also on that account that you have so few!" Teresa replied.

Adapted from The Life of Saint Teresa: taken from the French of A Carmelite Nun

helping children to reach for the stars even if the star for which they are reaching is as simple as being able to recite the alphabet or count to ten. Teachers in Catholic schools have made a name for themselves because of their preparedness to go the extra mile on behalf of their pupils.

Some people are illiterate because their families had never learned to read and write, but how many only needed a Good Samaritan?

"You cannot talk about paying a debt to society from a jail cell without windows. There is no humane punishment without a horizon. No one can change their life if they don't see a horizon. And so many times we are used to blocking the view of our inmates."

Pope Francis

Today: Wisdom 7:7-11 Hebrews 4:12-13 Mark 10:17-30
Monday: Romans 1:1-7 Luke 11:29-32
Tuesday: Romans 2:1-11 Luke 11:37-41
Wednesday: Romans 2:1-11 Luke 11:42-46
Thursday: Romans 3:21-30 Luke 11:47-54
Friday: Romans 4:1-8 Luke 12:1-7
Saturday: Romans 4:13, 16-18 Luke 12:8-12
Next Sunday: Isaiah 53:10-11 Hebrews 4:14-16 Mark 10:35-45

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

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10TH OCTOBER 2021 TWENTY EIGHTTH 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/channel/UC...) (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 10th October DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR PRISONERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS	TWENTY EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5.30pm 7.00pm 9.30am 11.00am	Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady's St Vincent's Our Lady's	Our Parish Family Rose Anne Mellett Our Parish Family Edward Bartle
Mon 11th Oct	Ferial (St John XIII Pp)	9.30am	St. Ambrose	Tom Davies RIP
Tues 12th Oct	Ferial (St Wilfrid, B)	9.30am 1.30pm	Our Lady's OLATA – Requiem Mass	Marie O'Neil RIP Alice Dignan RIP
Wed 13th Oct	Ferial (St Edward The Confessor, K)	9.30am	St. Vincent's	Pat Ridings RIP anniversary
Thurs 14th Oct	Ferial (St Callistus I, Pp, M)	9.30am 7.00pm	St Ambrose Our Lady's-	Maureen Colgan RIP Elaine Hallworth Tksgiving
Fri 15th Oct	St Teresa Of Avila, V,D	9.30am 1.00pm	St. Vincent's SV —Requiem Mass	Gordon Allan RIP Barbara Donovan RIP
Sat 16th Oct	Ferial (St Hedwig, R., St Margaret Mary Alacoque, V,R., BVM)	9.30am	Our Lady's	Pat & Ken Whitehead RIP
Sun 17th October	TWENTY NINETH 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	Seamus Colgan RIP Pat & Ken Whitehead RIP Our Parish Family Philip Flanagan RIP Ann Aiden Owen—Baptism

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 12 families currently attending the baptism course dates 9,16 and 23 October, for the baptism of their children and for our very committed catechists.

First Holy Communion: We pray for this year's 1st Communicants and for those enrolling for next year's classes, for those not in Catholic schools, starting soon. Please send names to the parish office. Would you consider volunteering as a Catechist?

Confirmation: Please pray for the 40 young parishioners who have enrolled for Confirmation, and for the Catechists, as they begin their preparatory sessions.

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, 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 and Mary Sweetman.

Recently Departed:

May the souls of Peter Anthony Connelly and may the souls of all recently departed rest in peace. Barbara Donovan (mother of Rosy Hickman, St Vincents). Rosy would like to thank all those parishioners who have kept Barbara in their prayers.

Anniversaries

Bridget O'Brien, Dorcas Roche, Annie Lahan, Margaret Whiteman, Margaret Dove, George Jackson Fox, Katherine Conlon, Hannah Ready, Terry Lahan, Gertrude Florence Bennett, Rita Morris McAlear, Helen Borrell, Margaret Cherrington, Bernard Joseph Smallwood, Harry Wilson, Rita Mary Ryan, Eliza J Kelly, Steven Beveridge, Gary White, Thomas ANSELL, Marion Traynor, Philip John Flanagan.

General Notices:

Year of St. Joseph: "Jesus and Mary themselves obey and offer their homage to Joseph, for they reverence what the hand of God has established in him, namely, the authority of spouse and the authority of father" 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.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2022—29th July - 5th August 2022 We very much look forward to returning as a Diocese to Lourdes next year. The dates for our Diocesan Pilgrimage have been confirmed as being from 29th July to 4th August (by air); 28th July to 5th August (overland). Full details, itineraries and booking forms will soon be available on the Shrewsbury Pilgrimage Website: www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or from the Pilgrimage Office at St Alban's, 30 Mill Lane, Wallasey CH44 5UD sezzyj@hotmail.co.uk

PRISONERS SUNDAY – Information for Prisoner's Sunday on 10th October has been circulated to the parishes. I think you will appreciate how difficult the past year has been for many prisoners and their families with visits restricted and prisoners remaining in their cells for up to 23 hours a day. The collection for PACT is a voluntary one, however, the needs are especially great this year.

RIGHT TO LIFE - Baroness Meacher's assisted suicide Bill will likely have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on 22 October, and the pro-assisted suicide lobby have been further increasing pressure on peers to support this dangerous bill. Peers need to know that any assisted suicide law would be fundamentally unsafe and that now is the time to invest in better palliative and end-of-life care instead. For further details go to: www.righttolife.org.uk

Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality – Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality – Meeting today (Sunday) 2pm at St Columba's, Chester, CH2 1PL. Either, attend in person or via Zoom. Contact: secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk / 07451 249267.

Mass Attendance: – Can Offertory collectors please count and record the attendance for masses for this weekend? Please include all those present at all Sunday Masses (i.e., Saturday evening & Sunday) celebrated in our parishes on 9th/10th October.

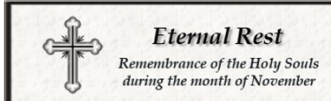
It's Father Martin's first anniversary at The 3 parishes. He started 1.10.2020 at the middle of the pandemic. May we offer him our thanks for the work he does for us, our prayers for his continued spiritual guidance and our gratitude for the difference he makes in our daily lives.

Last weekend's collections (excludes standing orders) : OLATA- £642.42 St Ambrose- £193.80 CAFOD- £90.28 St Vincent's- £166.11 CAFOD- £147.00
THANK YOU!

OCTOBER - Is traditionally the month of the Rosary. 'Continue to say the Rosary every day in honour of Our Lady of the Rosary, to obtain the peace of the world and the end of the war...' - Our Lady of Fatima, to the 3 children on July 13, 1917. We had made available some rosary beads, with leaflets on how to pray the rosary, near all the statues on Our Lady in our three parishes. Please help yourself to one. Would you seriously consider praying the rosary every day this month, please?



NOVEMBER HOLY SOULS - There are brown envelopes at the back of the church for us to remember our dear departed ones in November. Please return as soon as possible to the Church or through the Presbytery letter box.



SYNOD 2021 2023 - As you know, this Sunday, the Holy Father will open Synod 2021 2023 in Rome, the following Sunday (17 October) the Diocesan Phase of the Synod will begin. We are encouraged to use the seven days in-between as a time of spiritual preparation. Please find attached, at the back of our churches, and on our websites, a set of Prayer Themes for each of the seven days.

CELEBRATE - "We want to help the children you love find God in everyday life. CELEBRATE is running the Parenting for Faith course on Zoom and we'd love to see you there! The Parenting for Faith course is for you! It's not just mums and dads who long for children and teens to know God for themselves. Whether you're a parent, guardian, grandparent, family member, friend, or catechist, you can help the young people in your life develop a vibrant and connected relationship with God – whatever their age!" Go to: www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith.

Our Lady's News:

The Saturday evening Mass at Our Lady's: 'As we all know, this Mass was stopped when the three parishes were linked. Our Lady's was to have only one Sunday Mass at 11am. The Saturday evening at Our Lady's (and the Sunday evening at St Vincent's) was only reintroduced to enable social distancing. We have now stopped the Sunday evening Mass at St Vincent's because the numbers have dropped, as people have returned to their normal Sunday morning Mass. At Our Lady's, however, the numbers at the Saturday evening Mass are still reasonable, so I intend to keep it going for as long as that lasts. It also offers an opportunity for those who prefer the organ mixed with contemporary (guitars etc) worship. Those who would rather have only the organ will have the option of attending the 11am on Sunday. We thank all who are offering their time and talent to make this possible. Fr Martin.

Children's Liturgy: Hand sanitisers will be available and surfaces will be wiped down. The leaders will be wearing face masks as per the diocese guidance and we respectfully ask any parents/ guardians to wear a face mask if attending with children. Please can we ask that children do not attend if they have been in contact with anyone who is covid positive, have a temperature, cough or cold symptoms to avoid spreading viruses to others.

Shopping for Environmental Justice: We are invited to join a Zoom Meeting to hear more how we can help growers of so many foods which delight and nourish us. Speaker—Stephan Donnelly of the Fairtrade Foundation. To register for the meeting, contact SKeithTaylor@outlook.com

St Ambrose News:

Community sponsorship news: - our family are settling in well. The little girls has started big school this week. Appointments to get the family into the system are filling up the time. Health care needs are being met by the team and most importantly the family has started to learn English. Please keep the team supporting the family and the family in your prayers.

St Vincent's News:

Harvest Mass—Thank you all very much for your generous contributions, everything has been delivered to Wellspring and Chelwood this week.

The Amaretti concert for the SVP raised £900 towards the SVP camp and was a very enjoyable evening.

Prayer Group is on Monday after Service of Word and Communion at 10am. We have coffee after Mass next Sunday.

Bramhall Methodist church is having an Eco Festival next week from 14th-16th October. There will be a display in church from 10am to 8pm. Entry £5 to see the craft and flower displays which are always beautiful there. They will also serve refreshments 11-4pm. Pledge to take action to save God's Creation.

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

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

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