



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

# Newsletter

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Year B

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### Mass Times

Sunday (streamed)	10.00
Monday	07:30
Tuesday	07:30
Wednesday	09.00
Thursday	07:30
Friday	09.00
Saturday	09.00

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY  
JANUARY 18TH – 25TH

*Abide in my love...  
you shall bear fruit*

John 15:5-9



### Mass Intentions

- Sun 24: Eileen Lyons
- Mon 25: Teresa Leahy
- Tue 26: Veronica Finnigan
- Wed 27: Elizabeth Almond
- Thu 28: Maureen Maguire
- Fri 29: Tommy Baxter
- Sat 30: Johnny Birch
- Sun 31: William & Marion Reid

### Homily Notes

Our readings speak of repentance, of turning away: Jesus says ‘repent, and believe in the good news’; Jonah proclaims God’s warning to the city of Nineveh, so the citizens repent, and mourn; St Paul writes to the early Church in Corinth of repentance as a radical reorientation of their ways of living and attitudes; and the psalmist repents of sin and transgression in a heartfelt prayer to God for guidance. Yet the readings also speak of calling, of a turning towards something, towards change, transformation: Jesus calls people from their work, their families, calls them to be disciples, and to become apostles, those sent out to carry the Good News; Nineveh turns towards God’s mercy and the gift of new life; the Corinthians turn towards the future of their new life in Christ, the road of the journey of transformation, the same paths of truth, the Way, that the psalmist prays to be led upon.

So, in this scripture, can we hear a call to think about the things that we might turn away from, to help us turn towards and follow Jesus in the Way? A call to turn away from the things that hold us back, those fears that can imprison us as individuals and communities: our fixed ideas, our preconceptions, presumptions, and prejudices, things we can sometimes cling onto for security – because to turn away from hiding in our fears of others means turning *towards* others – and that can feel risky. But what happens when we turn towards others, when we reach out, when we risk encounter with others? God reaches out and encounters us, in relationship, the dynamic relationship of divine community in the Holy Trinity guiding us towards the path of truth through dynamic relationship with one another.

*Fr Louis Johnson,*  
Assistant Curate,  
St Luke in the City

### Christian Unity

Today, we are happy to receive the visit and listen to the wisdom of Fr. Louis Johnson, one of the pastoral team of priests of the Anglican parish of St. Luke in the City, which

includes St. Michael’s and St Bede’s.

He is coming to pray with us on the occasion of the Day of Prayer for Christian Unity. By accepting our invitation to come and speak, he is showing the importance that both his church and ours attach to the search for reconciliation and unity between all the disciples of Christ. It was with the same intention that Fr Michael prayed and gave the homily during the streamed service of this Anglican parish last Sunday.

It is good when we pray together, even if it is only on occasions. In coming together to pray, we recognise who unites us. We emphasise that fundamentally we are all one, united in Jesus Christ and children of the same Father. Even though we may do things differently, even though our expression of faith is highly influenced by different cultures and different historical paths, we are all imbued by the same Holy Spirit. In praying together, we recognise that the Holy Spirit is at work in each one of us in the same measure and in the same way.

We can take note of what pope Francis said in his Address to the Catholic Fraternity of the Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowship, Oct. 31, 2014:

*“Unity does not imply uniformity; it does not necessarily mean doing everything together or thinking in the same way. Nor does it signify a loss of identity. Unity in diversity is actually the opposite: it involves the joyful recognition and acceptance of the various gifts which the Holy Spirit gives to each one and the placing of these gifts at the service of all members of the Church. It means knowing how to listen, to accept differences, and having the freedom to think differently and express oneself with complete respect towards the other who is my brother or sister. Do not be afraid of differences!”*

Terry

# Parish Notice Board

## Lottery Results

The winning numbers for  
**17<sup>th</sup> January are:**  
**02 04 08 10 12 13**  
**Prize Money: £1050**

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**Angela Everett**, who leads the lottery team, wishes to inform participants of the Lottery that during the pandemic the lottery is drawn by the priests on Sunday. The results are published in the newsletter the following Saturday. Anyone who wishes to know the winning number in advance can call her on 07710 394635 or email

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

**Friday 11.00 – 13.00**  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available during this time and 17h00 - 17h30 on Saturday (in St. Joseph's Chapel).

## St. Josephine Bakhita

In 2019 and 2020 we celebrated this Sudanese saint's day with a prayer vigil in our church on the 8<sup>th</sup> February.

This year, it will be a zoomed event, organised by the Liverpool South Pastoral Area and the J&P Commission, with our involvement. Remember, the importance of this saint is that she was taken into slavery and is today the patron saint of all people trapped in slavery and trafficked against their will. Remember, too, that even the Home Office accepts that there are more than 135,000 people trapped in slavery in the UK. This is not a problem of the past; it is a problem of today and we cannot keep ignoring it. Join the zoomed event on the **9<sup>th</sup> February** to find out more and join those of us who are concerned to bring this crime to an end in a SVP-J&P Group. *Terry*

## Mass during the week

*Please note the times of Mass in the church on weekdays. We are not celebrating Sunday Mass in the hope of playing our part in the prevention of the spread of the virus. However, during the week, there are only a few people who come and it is much easier to keep our distance and avoid passing on an infection. **Sunday Morning Mass will still be streamed at 10am on Facebook.*** *Terry*

## Evening Prayer in Lockdown

We are inviting you to join in prayer around 6pm every evening during this lockdown. We cannot gather for the Sunday Liturgy on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, yet we can be united by prayer, each one from his or her own home.

It is a way to be united in the Spirit, to be united in Love, to pray for the sick, the housebound and those self-isolating, the frontline workers, and to ask God to free us from the pandemic.

For this reason, we have prepared a sheet which you might find helpful. A new sheet will be prepared every week and will be added to the newsletter. You can pray it alone or invite those you are living with to pray together!

Prayer is a power for good, which overcomes evil and unites people and families.

*Ferdinand*

## Offerings on 17<sup>th</sup> January

Envelopes £47.00  
Plate £132.00  
Flowers £11.50

**Many Thanks to YOU ALL**

## Pastoral Associate Update:

We've had a cracking start to 2021 in terms of Zoom opportunities: check the February Liverpool Pic (online soon) for the write up of the J&P Commission's Memorial Lecture by Mary Colwell. Our own *Echoes of God* scripture session was very well attended – do sign up - it's not too late and you can attend those sessions you can manage.

We are running a couple of Zoom "how to" sessions to support the group, so if you are anxious we'll help you - we even had a 90-year-old log on! It's a very supportive group and caters for all levels of engagement.

Check newsletters and the Fcj St Hugh's Facebook page for the raft of online activities available at parish levels (the FCJ reading group is inspirational). For anyone wishing to help with a Pastoral Area Lent/Holy Week project please email me for a zoom meeting link for Tuesday 26 Jan at 7:30pm [h.jones@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:h.jones@rcaol.org.uk)

I leave you with the closing lines from Amanda Gorman's poem "The Hill we Climb". She is the youngest US National Poet Laureate whose performance was captivating at the US presidential Inauguration: "*For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it.*" God bless, keep safe!

*Helen*

[www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

**Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick:** Tommy & Kitty BAXTER (suffering from Covid), Judy BLOWER, Judy BOWERS, Catherine BOWLES, Colin BOWLES, Vera CARTLEDGE, Marion DAVIES, Gill DAVIES, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Ryan EDWARDS, Tony EDWARDS, Jean ENNIS, Joan FORD, Joan HART, Darren KELLY, Maureen MAGUIRE, Molly M'EOVOY, Kathleen M'GOVERN, Tracey M'CLEAN, Alfie MONTGOMERY, Maria OSBALDESTON, Ava RUDZINSKI, Kelly SHEPHERD, Cathy SILKER

**Also, for the intentions of:** Joe ANDERSON, Anne & Joan BAXTER, Lilly FLANNERY, Germaine, Beverly HARPER, Theresa HASTIE, Sr. Joanne, Madeleine M'CANN & Family, M'GOVERN Family, MIDGHALL Family, Joey MORGAN, Carole & Billy RUDKIN, SCOTT Family, Teresa SWIFT, Terri VALIANT, WILLIAMS Family

**And for those who have died:** Johnny CHANTRE