

# SUNDAY PLUS

To serve and not be served

## Power and service



by Fr Denis McBride C.Ss.R.

In today's Gospel Jesus shares his model for religious authority and contrasts it with pagan rulers who lord it over others and make their authority felt. Jesus' command to his followers is unambiguous: "This is not to happen among you." Before anything else is said, his

followers must not imitate those whose standard of greatness is how much power and control they have over people. That has nothing to do with the Gospel.

Jesus' image of authority is the one who is servant of all. If there is primacy in his community, it is a primacy of service. We all know people whose image of service is indistinguishable from fascism, whose insecurity makes them lord it over others, to make sure that their

authority is keenly felt. As someone who fled when people wanted him as their king, Jesus is suspicious of people who need to arrange their own enthronement.

Jesus does himself what he asks others to do: to serve, not to be served; to give love freely, not to exact everyone's worship; to reach out to those in need, not to wait for adoring approval. Christian discipleship is a service industry in which there should be

no unemployment. There is work for everyone. And as we become more aware of the giftedness of all God's people, we see many new ministries arising in the Church. This should continue, until all Christians feel that their service is not only called for: it is actually wanted in the Church. When that happens, we shall be a serving people.

*Fr Denis McBride's many books, CDs and DVDs are available from Redemptorist Publications, www.rpbbooks.co.uk.*

"Love is always at the service of others. Because love is seen in actions, not words."

Pope Francis

### Friendship's gift

by Kahlil Gibran, *The Prophet*


And let your best be for your friend.  
If he must know the ebb of your tide,  
let him know its flood also.  
For what is your friend that you should seek him  
with hours to kill?  
Seek him always with hours to live.  
For it is his to fill your need,  
but not your emptiness.  
And in the sweetness of friendship  
let there be laughter and sharing of pleasures.  
For in the dew of little things  
the heart finds its morning and is refreshed.

### Feast of the week Monday 18 October St Luke


"In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:33-34), Jesus shows us the practical approach required in caring for our suffering neighbour. First, the Samaritan 'sees'. He notices and 'is moved with compassion' at the sight of a person left stripped and wounded along the way. This compassion is much more than mere pity or sorrow; it shows a readiness to become personally involved in the other's situation. Even if we can never equal God's

own compassion, which fills and renews the heart by its presence, nonetheless we can imitate that compassion by 'drawing near', 'binding wounds', 'lifting up' and 'caring for' our neighbour.  
A healthcare organization that is efficient and capable of addressing inequalities cannot forget that its raison d'être, which is compassion: the compassion of doctors, nurses, support staff, volunteers and all those who are thus able to minimize the pain associated with loneliness and anxiety."

Pope Francis

Lord, it's all very well to ask us to serve others and in theory, it's what I'd like to do. My problem is that sometimes serving others makes me feel like an unappreciated drudge and I'd like a word of thanks. Teach me to serve as you did: without counting the cost.  Amen.

Today: Isaiah 53:10-11 Hebrews 4:14-16 Mark 10:35-45  
Monday: 2 Timothy 4:10-17 Luke 10:1-9  
Tuesday: Romans 5:12, 15, 17-21 Luke 12:35-38  
Wednesday: Romans 5:12-18 Luke 12:39-48  
Thursday: Romans 5:19-23 Luke 12:49-53  
Friday: Romans 7:18-25 Luke 12:54-59  
Saturday: Romans 8:1-11 Luke 13:1-9  
Next Sunday: Jeremiah 31:7-9 Hebrews 5:1-6 Mark 10:46-52

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

Telephone: 0161 480 2489 Email: stockport3parishes@gmail.com  
Websites: [ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/](http://ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/) [stambrosechurch.org.uk/](http://stambrosechurch.org.uk/) [stvinc-centbramhall.org/](http://stvinc-centbramhall.org/)  
Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Onuoha Email: [frifeanyimom@yahoo.com](mailto:frifeanyimom@yahoo.com)  
Deacon: Rev. Moses Ibeh

17TH OCTOBER 2021 TWENTY NINTH 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](http://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 17th October	TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5.30pm 7.00pm 9.30am 11.00am	Vigil Mass Sat. <b>St Ambrose</b> Vigil Mass Sat. <b>Our Lady's</b> <b>St Vincent's</b> <b>Our Lady's</b>	Seamus Colgan RIP Our Parish Family Izabella Ordiz RIP 2nd Ann Philip Flanagan RIP 2nd Ann
Mon 18th Oct	ST LUKE, Ev	9.30am	<b>St. Ambrose</b>	Julia "Shauney" Callaghan (RIP) Birthday Memories
Tues 19th Oct	St Peter of Alcanta-ra, P (Secondary Patron of the Cathedral)	9.30am	Our Lady's	Eileen Brien RIP
Wed 20th Oct	Ferial	9.30am	<b>St. Vincent's</b>	Marie O'Neill RIP
Thurs 21st Oct	Ferial	9.30am 7.00pm	<b>St Ambrose</b> <b>Our Lady's-</b>	Natalya Bartle Marie O'Neill RIP
Fri 22nd Oct	Ferial (St John Paul II, Pp)	9.30am	<b>St. Vincent's</b>	Marie O'Neill RIP
Sat 23rd Oct	Ferial (St John of Capestrano, P, BVM on Saturday)	9.30am	<b>Our Lady's</b>	Marie O'Neill RIP
Sun 24th October	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5.30pm 7.00pm 9.30am 11.00am 1.00pm 2.30pm	Vigil Mass Sat. <b>St Ambrose</b> Vigil Mass Sat. <b>Our Lady's</b> <b>St Vincent's</b> <b>Our Lady's</b> <b>Baptism- St Vincent's</b> <b>Baptism-OLATA</b>	Morrell Family Private Int Marie O'Neill RIP Our Parish Family Marie O'Neil RIP Bethany Yan Wing Lee Avery-Rose Donnelly

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:** You may begin now to enroll for next year's classes for those not in Catholic schools. 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:** Dominic Dickin, 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 Alice Dignan, Barbara Donovan and the souls of all recently departed rest in peace.

**Anniversaries**

Charlotte Lange, Frank Costello, Shirley Carrick, Dorothy Sweeney, Audrey Hardman, George Pendlebury, (Shauney) Julia Callaghan, Theresa Sanderson, John Danahar, Marie Price, Mary Riley, Charles McDonald, Maureen Corrigan, Laura Winters, Stanley Hampson, James Diffley, Edward Maguire Jnr, Bernadette Eastwood, Dorothy O'Farrell, Sean Tracey, John Nicholas Rigby, Roy Hegginbotham, Florence Baker, Martin Horan, Mary MacDonald, Edith Heath, James William Wood, Joseph Fleming, James Maguire, Annie Maguire, Mary Irene Randall, Goerge McKee.

**General Notices:**

**Year of St. Joseph:** "I prayed to St Joseph to watch over me. From my childhood, my devotion to him was mingled with my love for the Blessed Virgin. Each day I recited the prayer, 'O St Joseph, father and protector of virgins'. It seemed to me that I was protected and completely sheltered from every danger". St. Therese of Lisieux.

**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.

**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](http://www.righttolife.org.uk)

**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.

**BISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER**— Please see the bishop's pastoral letter, which will be read at all Masses this weekend. Few copies will also be available at the back of church.

**Father Martin's Trip to America** - Dear parishioners, I have been invited to present a paper at the University of Mary on the Lake/Mundelein seminary, Chicago, and the bishop has given his consent. So I will be on a conference trip to America in the first and second week of November. This is all dependent, though, on the travel restrictions to the US being lifted. Fingers crossed.

**THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSE NEWSPAPER** ~ Which ceased publication this Summer, after 160 years, is now available online. For further details go to: <https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/subscribe>

**Governors' Conference, 6th November** - please be advised that the booking form for our Annual Governors' Conference, to be held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, Altrincham, is now available on the courses section of our website or via the link below: [Governors' Conference, 6 November - booking form](#)

**Second Collection for next Sunday 24/10/2021—For World Mission Sunday-** On this day the Church unites in renewed prayer for her missionary activity and collects funds to support Catholic communities across the world living in situations of poverty and privation. For more information about World Mission Sunday, please visit: <https://missio.org.uk/world-missionsunday/wms2021/>

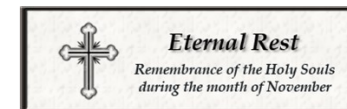
**Last weekend's collections (excludes standing orders): OLATA- £518.25 St Ambrose- £176.55 & Prisoner's Day Collection—£28.00 St Vincent's- £176.20 THANK YOU!**

**Links for online giving to the Parishes: Please check our websites**

**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 ...' - Our Lady of Fatima, to the 3 children on July 13, 1917. We had made available some rosary beads in our three parishes. Please help yourself to one. Would you 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.



**Train as a Relationship Counsellor with Marriage Care** - Catholic Marriage Care is the largest faith-based relationship support specialist in the UK. We are looking for empathetic listeners who would like to train and volunteer with us at local centres as relationship counsellors. You could make a world of difference to couples and families. No previous counselling qualifications are required. For more information please visit: [www.marriagecare.org.uk/crc](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk/crc) An online **CRC Open Event** for anyone who would like to know more about this role be held on **Monday 25th October (1-2pm)** via Zoom. Contact Rachael O'Brien at [rachaelo@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:rachaelo@marriagecare.org.uk).

**Our Lady's News:**

**New Health and Safety Officer:** We welcome Steve Lavin who has accepted my invitation to join Catherine in our health and safety team. Steve will assist me with overseeing the overall health and safety needs of the parish, while Catherine continues her fantastic work as our Covid Lead.

**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 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](mailto:SKeithTaylor@outlook.com)

**Prayer Breakfast**—The Mayor of Stockport—Cllr Adrian Nottingham, invites you to the Annual Stockport Prayer Breakfast in The Ballroom, Stockport Town Hall, Wed 17.11.2021. Breakfast 0730hr, Prayers 8—9 am. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mayoral-prayer-breakfast-tickets-176298653017> or contact Liz Woods 0161 428 8050

**St Ambrose News**

**Piety Stall** - is now open and has a large selection of cards for all occasions, plus books and Rosary Beads.

**2nd collection next week 24.10.21** is for World Mission Sunday.

**During the month of Our Lady**—October, the Rosary is being said in church after mass.

**St Vincent's News:**

**Today** - please stay for Tea and Coffee after 9.30am Mass.

**Exploring Faith** group 7.30pm Monday 18th in church

**LAMB's** Group (disco for those with learning disabilities and their carers) - is an outreach activity that we would like to re-start. We need a team of helpers to be able to continue to run a monthly disco, we will only be offering tea and biscuits as refreshments. If you are happy to offer your services again or join the helpers, please contact Jane Roberts (439 4326) to register your interest. We also need help after the disco to re arrange the chairs for mass on a Friday.

**Remembrance Sunday Mass** - 14th November. We hope to remember those who have died in wars and in the last 2 years with our usual candle procession. Please contact Veronica Martin well in advance with details of your recently deceased loved ones on 485 7616 so we can read out their names at the service. We cannot accept any names on the day.

**Children's Liturgy** is running weekly please bring your children to join us on their journey to Jesus.

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

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

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