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**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**Special Second this weekend for the Apostleship of the Sea – Stella Maris**

|                 |                         |                        |                                |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Page 102</b> | <b>Isaiah 55: 10-11</b> | <b>Romans 8: 18-23</b> | <b>Gospel Matthew 13: 1-23</b> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|

The readings this weekend invite us to think about how God's word works in our lives and how it is received. Each reading uses simple images from the world around us. His message is meant to bring life but it requires open hearts to grow. In the first reading the Lord's word is liken to rain that nourishes the earth and promises it will not return void. In the second reading St Paul tells the Romans that the present suffering and pain is small compared to the future glory for God's children. All creation yearns for this liberation and shares in the anticipation of redemption and holds firm in hope. In Matthew's Gospel we get the first of a series of parables which Jesus explains is the best way to preach to the people. The sower who scattered seeds, symbolises the spreading of God's word and how it is received and develops or dies. Malcolm.

**Mass times**

**Feast Days**

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| 6pm: Confessions<br>6.30pm Vigil Mass          | <b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> St Benedict of Nursia</b> Born in 480 in Italy to a noble family. His twin sister became a saint. Sent to Rome for his education but was shocked by the decay and immorality in the city. Gave up his inheritance and sought solitude as a hermit. Eventually found a cave on the side of a ravine for himself helped by Romanus, a monk at the monastery above the cave. Over 3 years became well known. When abbot died, monks wanted him as abbot. Initially refused but eventually agreed. Monks did not like his strict and austere rules so he returned to his cave. Started to develop ideas about styles of monastic life and attracted many followers. Wrote the “Rule of St Benedict” for his monasteries. Based on 8 hours of pray, 8 hours of sleep and 8 hours of manual work with sacred reading, works of charity and the Divine Office. He founded the Benedictine monastery of Monte Cassino between Rome and Naples and many others. He died aged 67 in 547 and was buried with his twin sister Scholastica in Monte Cassino. Benedictine Order spread throughout the worls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                              |                                   |                    |
|                                                | 9.30 am Mass                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> July | Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Navin Nazareth RIP |
| 6.30 pm Mass<br>Mary Crirty RIP                | <b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> St Emperor Henry II of Germany</b> Born in 973 in Germany. Educated by Bishop Wolfgang and then at Hildesheim Cathedral school. Encouraged by Emperor Otto II to have an ecclesiastical formation to become a monk or priest so giving up his claim to throne. Became a soldier and very able military leader. Fought with Emperor Otto III who died a year later in 1002. Henry crowned as last Saxon King of Germany. His pious wife Cunigunde of Luxembourg was crowned Queen of Germany. Extended his kingdom and brought Christianity and peace back. Popular with the people. Went into Italy and got rid of antipope and established Pope Benedict VIII in Rome. Then made Holy Roman Emperor. He was a pious reformer of Church and monastic life.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                                   |                    |
| 10 am Mass                                     | <b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> St Camillus de Lellis</b> Born in 1550 in Italy. His elderly mother wanted him to be a holy child. Grew up with his father’s temper, very tall and joined his father in Venetian army. Able soldier, gambler with alcohol addiction and an aggressive nature. Then wounded. His regiment disbanded. Penniless from gambling worked as a labourer in monastery. Entered the Capuchin novitiate. Had to enter hospital due to leg wound. Paid for hospital stay by work with sick and dying. Met St Philip Neri which changed his way of life to austerity and penance. Encouraged reforms in the hospital of proper insulation, kinder treatment of patients, good nutrition, fresh air, sunshine, cleanliness and isolation of infectious patients. Great improvement in health and survival. Bursar, then superintendent of hospital. Realised he needed trained and dedicated people to help him, possibly a religious Order. St Philip advised him to join Jesuits first. Entered Jesuits in Rome. Ordained a priest in 1584 aged 34. Founded <i>Servants of the Sick</i> containing religious and lay members. Included priests and brothers dedicated to serving the sick. Wore a “red cross” on their cassocks. Worked in hospitals and on battlefields. Known as <i>Camillians</i> .                                       |                              |                                   |                    |
| SVP Social<br>1 pm to 3 pm<br><br>6.30 pm Mass | <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> St Swithun</b> Anglo-Saxon born about 800 in Winchester. Joined Benedictine monastery in Winchester. Ordained a priest. Chaplain and counsellor to King Egbert of Wessex based in Winchester. Advisor to his son King Ethelwolf after being his tutor when he was a monk. Bishop of Winchester in 852. Humble, pious and helped the poor. Invited them to banquets instead of nobles. Built many churches and the first stone bridge over the River Itchen at Winchester later called “St Swithun’s Bridge”. It is claimed a miracle occurred when a poor peasant woman was crossing the bridge with a collection of eggs but was jostled by the crowd and dropped the eggs. St Swinthun made her broken eggs whole again. He paid visits to all parts of his diocese by foot. Died 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 863. Buried at the entrance to the Cathedral at his request. 100 years later his body was moved into a new Cathedral, named after him on 15 <sup>th</sup> July 971 and it rained for 40 days. Legend then developed that if it rained on his feast day it would rain for 40 days. Move into huge magnificent new Norman Cathedral in the eleventh century. Large shrine behind high altar for pilgrims. Shrine was looted and destroyed at the Reformation. A new shrine was constructed on the same location in 1962. |                              |                                   |                    |

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| NO MASS                                                                | <b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b> Mount Carmel overlooks the Mediterranean Sea near the modern port of Haifa in Israel. Christian hermits built a monastery there with a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary which gained the name <i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i> . Monks took the name <i>Carmelites</i> and wore a brown habit. Feast day of 16 <sup>th</sup> July comes from the date Our Lady appeared to St Simon Stock, Father General of the Carmelites in 1251. He was an Englishman and the apparition occurred in England at Aylesford in Kent. She appeared to him as “Our Lady of Mount Carmel” and gave him the <i>Brown Scapular</i> , a type of work apron with large pieces of cloth front and back joined over the shoulders which became part of the Carmelite habit. The “ <i>Sabbatine Privilege</i> ” was a promise from the Blessed Virgin that nobody who died wearing the Brown Scapular would suffer eternal fire in Hell. Modern Carmelites no longer hold this belief and are unsure about the validity of the apparition. The smaller scapular to Our Lady of Mount Carmel are still worn by people.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |             |                                          |              |                  |  |
| NO MASS                                                                | <b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> St Bonaventure</b> Born in 1221 in Italy a sick child, Taken to St Francis of Assisi. When he recovered St Francis said “Buona ventura” (good fortune). So named Bonaventure and he joined the Franciscans. Studied at University of Paris. Gained Doctor of Theology. Became lecturer. Master of Franciscan school in Paris. After death of St Francis of Assisi the Franciscans split into two factions. “ <i>Spirituals</i> ” wanted to keep the austere poverty and lack of any ownership while the “ <i>Conventuals</i> ” wanted to tone down austerities and have more organisation due to the increase in numbers and favoured communal living. They also wanted to accept high office in the Church which St Francis always refused. Bonaventure managed to bring both extremes together towards an agreeable compromise. Earned him the title <i>Second Founder of the Franciscans</i> . Refused archbishop of York but accepted Cardinal Bishop of Albano Refused to see the papal delegation with his red hat while he finished his turn at kitchen duties. His principle was: “Do ordinary things perfectly. If we cannot do great things, do regular things in a great way”. He went to Council of Lyons called by Pope Gregory X concerning reunion of East and West to liberate the Holy Land. Thomas Aquinas died on his way to the Council and Bonaventure died during Council on 15 <sup>th</sup> July 1274 |             |                                          |              |                  |  |
| 6pm: Confessions<br>6.30pm Vigil Mass                                  | <b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Blessed Pavol Peter Gojdic</b> Born 1888 in Prešov in the mountains of East Slovakia the son of a Greek Catholic priest. Studied theology and ordained a priest in 1911 in Budapest. Assistant priest in his father’s parish before becoming a teacher of religion in a secondary boarding school. Appointed assistant parish priest where he did pastoral work. Also worked in the Bishop’s Chancery. Achieved rank of Chancellor but decided diocesan administration did not attract him. In 1922 entered Nicholas Monastery and made vows in the Order of St Basil the Great and took the name Pavol. Concentrated on pastoral work. “With God’s help, I want to be a father to orphans, a support for the poor, consoler to the afflicted”. Made Bishop of Prešov. Built orphanages, founded schools and established new parishes. Bishop of Czechoslovakia in 1946. Communists seized power in 1948 and suppressed the Greek Catholic Church wanting to break any link with Rome. Fr Pavol opposed Communist regime and preached against it. He refused to join the Orthodox Church and was tried for treason and found guilty. Imprisoned in 1950 and died in prison 17 <sup>th</sup> July 1960.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |                                          |              |                  |  |
| 9.30 am Mass                                                           | <b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             | <b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> |              |                  |  |
| PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |             |                                          |              |                  |  |
| Your prayers are needed for the following people                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |             |                                          |              |                  |  |
| Hazel Sale                                                             | Mary Light                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Pat Sweeney | Phil Boulton                             | David Keates | Chris Fitzgerald |  |

#### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..

#### Special Second Collection this weekend for the Catholic charity Apostleship of the Sea

The Southern region of the Apostleship of the Sea is in Southampton next door to St Joseph's Catholic Church in Bugle Street and is called Stella Maris. Stella Maris is the largest ship visiting network in the world and improves the lives of seafarers through their network of local chaplains. The two lay chaplains in Southampton are Luke Phillips and Gregory Hogan and they are seeking volunteers to help run the Seafarers Lounge during daytime hours from Monday to Friday. Training is provided. If interested contact Luke Phillips at [luke.phillips@stellamarismail.org](mailto:luke.phillips@stellamarismail.org)

**Very many thanks to the parishioner who donated £250 to buy a new lawn mower for the parish garden and the parishioner who donated a fridge for the St Vincent de Paul kitchen**

#### Next SVP Social is this Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July – 1pm to 3 pm

Another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes or 2 hours, whatever suits you

#### Prayers are needed for Chris Fitzgerald after a serious fall

Chris is still in hospital after the fall and an operation. She will be in hospital for some time recovering.

#### Parish Collection for last weekend 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026

| Parish Gift Aid Envelopes | Gift Aid | Parish Loose Collection | Direct debits, standing orders | Gift Aid | Total of Offertory Collection | Other money | Gift Aid | Loose | TOTAL of all money |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------|--------------------|
| £62                       | £15.50   | £160.05                 | £242.54                        | £51.98   | £532.07                       |             |          |       | <b>£532.07</b>     |