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Twenty- Third Sunday in Ordinary Sunday 6th September 2026

Page 122 Ezekiel 33: 7-9 Romans 13: 8-10 Gospel Matthew 18: 15-20

In the readings this weekend reminds us that faith is lived in relationship with others. God does not call us to walk alone. We are asked to care for one another, to guide each other and to live in love. These readings show how warning, correction and forgiveness are all part of belonging to God's people, focusing on responsibility, love and justice in the Christian community. Whether by correcting someone, standing up for what is right, or handling conflict with kindness, we are called to act. In the first reading Ezekiel is appointed as a watchman for the house of Israel with a duty to speak up when others stray. If he fails to warn the wicked and they die in guilt, he is responsible. However if he warns them and they ignore his warnings and die, then he is saved. This shows that silence can also bring guilt. God's word is not only about comfort but also about responsibility. We are all called to speak the truth with courage, even when the circumstances are very difficult. In St Paul's letter to the diverse Christian community in Rome he tells them that love fulfils every commandment. To love our neighbour and love one another is to follow God's law. Love never harms, but brings peace and unity. The commandments are summarised by loving your neighbour as yourself, for love does no evil and is the complete fulfilment of the law. Paul's message is that love is not just about kindness but about doing what is right. Allowing evil to continue is not love, it is neglect. Matthew's Gospel is the "discourse on the Church" and this weekend's reading addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community when there is a dispute between members of the Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The steps he gives are meant to bring people back together. They show that love and mercy should guide every action, even when it is hard to face conflict. We are called to guide, to support and forgive. Correction must seek healing not punishment, placing reconciliation at the centre of discipleship. Church helps guide people towards what is right

Mass times Feast Days

6pm: Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass
Trevor Delves RIP

Saturday 5th St Mother Teresa of Calcutta Born 1910 into a family in the Albanian community in Skopje, North Macedonia. Father died when she was 8 years old. Brought up by her mother who had been born in Kosovo. Left home at 18. Joined Sisters of Loreto in Ireland to learn English and be a missionary in India. A year later, in 1929, she continued her novitiate in India. Took the name Sister Teresa. Teacher at Loreto Convent in Calcutta for 18 years. Made headmistress in 1944 and then felt she needed to help the poor in Calcutta. Left the convent in 1948 in white blue bordered sari to train for social work with the poor. Entered slums to help for the first time in December 1948. Started each day with Communion. Rosary in hand went to serve "the unloved, the unwanted, the uncared for". She visited families, she washed the sores of children, cared for those she found sick in the street and nursed those dying of hunger and tuberculosis. In 1950 established *Missionaries of Charity Sisters* in Archdiocese of Calcutta and many joined her. By 1960's Mother Teresa was sending Sisters to other parts of India. Later she started new houses for her Sisters in other countries where there was extreme poverty including almost all of the Communist countries including Soviet Union and Cuba. To help the work she founded *Missionaries of Charity Brothers* in 1963, the *Contemplative Sisters* in 1976, in 1979 the *Contemplative Brothers*, and the *Missionaries of Charity Fathers* in 1984. For the Catholic laity that were helping in the work she founded *Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick*. For those of other faiths and none and from various nationalities she founded *Suffering Co-Workers*. She was awarded the *Nobel Prize* in 1979. By 1997, Mother Teresa had been joined by nearly 4,000 Sisters, 300 Brothers who were established in 610 foundations in 123 countries. There were over one million *Co-Workers*. In March 1997 handed over to new Superior General. Then made her last trip abroad and met Pope John Paul II for last time. Died in Calcutta on 5th September and buried in the Mother House of Missionaries of Charity. Tomb became place of pilgrimage.

9.30 am Mass Sunday 6th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

6.30 pm Mass

Monday 7th Blessed John Duckett Born in 1603 to a Yorkshire Catholic family. Grandson of Blessed James Duckett, a bookseller of Catholic books in London who was martyred at Tyburn on 19th April 1602. At 17 was sent to France for his education. Reputation for his gift of prayer and contemplation. Reached a high academic level. Ordained a priest at Douai in 1639. 3 years study in Paris. Returned to England on English mission in 1643. Ministered mainly around Durham. Renown for hard work, cheerfulness, sanctity and spiritual guidance. Arrested during the Civil War by Roundheads in July 1644. Admitted to being a priest who was trained abroad. Taken to London with Fr Ralph Corby SJ and imprisoned in Newgate. All impressed with the joy and sanctity of the pair. Found guilty 4th September. Sentenced to death which they both accepted with cheerfulness despite being offered a possibility of reprieve. Executed Tyburn 7th September 1644. Both beatified in 1929.

10 am Mass
Thanksgiving
Mass for
Ashni Levus

Tuesday 8th Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mary's birth and early life is not recorded in the Bible. The "Protoevangelium of James", finally written in the 2nd century, states Joachim and Anne as the parents of Mary. They were wealthy and pious members of the Jewish tribe of Judah. They prayed for children but remained childless for many years until the arrival of Mary. St Augustine of Hippo described the birth of the Virgin Mary as an event of cosmic and historic significance and an

6 pm: Celebration of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary by the Syro Malabar Community	appropriate prelude to the birth of Jesus Christ. Anne “made a sanctuary” in the infant girl’s room and “allowed nothing common or unclean” on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when Mary was one year old, her father “made a great feast and invited the priests, the scribes, the elders and all the people of Israel”. Mary’s parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter and artisan Joseph.
6.30 pm Mass Trevor Delves RIP	Wednesday 9th St Peter Claver Born 1580 in Spain. Went to Jesuit Barcelona University. Noted for his intelligence and devotion. Joined Jesuits. He was sent to study on island of Majorca. Advised by the humble porter Alphonsus Rodriguez to help slaves in the new Spanish colonies. Sent to Cartagena in Colombia one of the main ports for the slave trade. Studied theology and ordained a priest in 1616. Started to work with missionary Fr Alonso de Sandoval SJ who had worked for 40 years to minister to the slaves brought in terrible conditions from Africa. Fr Peter visited slaves on the ships as soon as they arrived, at slave markets and where they worked. When he visited plantations or the mines he stayed with the slaves as the owners were not pleased to see Fr Peter. He preached about the love of Jesus for everyone and was hearing Confessions and preparing baptism at the rate of 5,000 a year. He developed a team of assistants to help in his work. In 1650 caught a very virulent form of the plague and became inactive. Died 8 th September 1654.
10 am Mass Fr Antony Kochuveettil 2nd Anniversary	Thursday 10th St Ambrose Barlow Born in 1585 near Manchester in Lancashire son of a knight in Barlow Hall. Family were reluctant converts to Church of England. Ambrose served as a page to a relative. Converted back to Catholicism aged 22. Went to English College in Douai, France. Then became a Benedictine monk and joined Downside Abbey in Somerset. Then part of English mission in Lancashire and returned to his home Barlow Hall. Then moved to nearby Morleys Hall were a pension for a priest was made available to him. Ministered in the area for 24 years. Often visited Wardley Hall, today the residence of the Bishop of Salford. Arrested 4 times but released. In March 1641 King Charles I decreed that all Catholic priests must leave the country within a month. More than a month later Ambrose was arrested saying Mass at Morleys Hall. Taken to Lancaster Castle. He said he suffered a stroke so could not travel. Admitted he still wanted converts to the old faith. Condemned to death. Martyred September 1641. His cousin Francis Downes rescued his skull and preserved it at Wardley Hall, still there today. One of the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales.
NO MASS	Friday 11th St John Gabriel Perboyre Born 1802 in France. Ordained a Vincentian priest in 1826. His brother Louis died while on a voyage for mission work in China. John Gabriel volunteered to take his place. Arrived Macau, China in 1835 and began to study the language. Five months later he arrived at Ho-Nan and started his missionary work serving the poverty stricken people. In 1838 moved to a mission in Hubei. In 1839 religious persecution started. Arrested by soldiers, tortured and had a series of trials at which he admitted to be a Christian missionary. Refused to disclose information on other missionaries or denounce his faith. He was martyred tied to a cross and strangled by a rope around his neck on 11th September 1840.
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 12th St Guy of Anderlecht Born about 950 into a poor very pious family in Anderlecht a village near Brusels, Belgium. They were not able to afford to give him an education but instructed him in the Christian faith and its practices. From young he visited and cared for the poor and sick and lived a simple agricultural life. When Guy worked tilling the fields, an angel took over so he could spend more time in prayer. At age 14 he was made sacristan of his parish church. He shared his meager wages with the poor. He was then persuaded by a merchant to enter into a business with him to make more money to give to the poor. When the venture failed he considered it a sign that God wanted him to continue living a life of humble poverty. As penance for his greed he made pilgrimages on foot to Rome and the Holy Land. He returned home and “ <i>The Poor Man of Anderlecht</i> ” died there in 1012 aged about 62.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 13th September 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Thanksgiving Mass for Felicia
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

Syro Malabar Community is celebrating the feast of Nativity of Our Lady on Tuesday 8th September

The celebration will start at 6 pm with Rosary followed by Holy Qurbana and Novena. Everyone in the parish is very welcome to join in the special celebration.

Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 16th September – 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.

Parish Collection for last weekend 29th and 30th August 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
£97	£24.25	£132.76	£242.54	£51.98	£548.53				£548.53