



**Time & Intentions for Sundays
And Weekdays Masses**



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	INTENTION	CHURCH
Sun 3 rd May	9 am	5th Sun. of Easter	Parishioners	Holy Family
Sun 3 rd May	11.15 am	5th Sun. of Easter	Eddie Blackburn (LD)	Our Lady V
Mon 4 th May		English Martyrs		The church is closed
Tue 5 th May	9 am	Weekday of Eastertime	Sarah E. Stevens	Our Lady V
Wed 6 th May	9 am	Weekday of Eastertime	<i>Assigned from other Church</i>	Our Lady V
Thu 7 th May	9 am	Weekday of Eastertime	<i>Assigned from other Church</i>	Our Lady V
Fri 8 th May	9 am	Weekday of Eastertime	<i>Assigned from other Church</i>	Our Lady V
Sat 9 th May	12 noon	Mary on Saturday	<i>Assigned from other Church</i>	Our Lady V
Sun 10 th May	9 am	6th Sun. of Easter	Ursula Parker (LD)	Holy Family
Sun 10 th May	11.15 am	6th Sun. of Easter	Ursula Parker (LD)	Our Lady V
Sun 10 th May	3 pm	6th Sun. of Easter	MASS IN SPANISH Parishioners	Our Lady V

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions:

Tue 9.30am to 10am; Sat 11am to 12

Holy Rosary & Divine Mercy Devotion:

Tuesdays 9.30 am OLOV.

Baptisms, Weddings: by appointments.

Wednesday Club: You are welcome!

We pray for all who are sick and elderly: Marie Tyrer, Ray Sherwood, Betty Maurey, Henry Henderson, Anne and Mike Quinn, Ronnie Baybut, Geoff Morrissey, Michael Hyland, Paul Blackford, Harry Caine, Sophie Caine, Christine Watts, Deacon John and Ann Crooks, Joan Callaghan, Natalie Kavanagh, Hannalor Mainey, Betty Costello, Pauline Hayes, Irene Halsall, John & Jen Foley.

We pray for those whose Anniversary occurs at this time: Polly Ashton, Joe Billington, Jean Rilry, Anastasia Harrington, James Pimmington,

We pray for those who have died: Ursula Parker R.I.P., Eddie Blackburn R.I.P.



**The Parishes of Holy Family Ince Blundell
Our Lady of Victories, Hightown**

Email: olovhfb@rcaol.org.uk / Tel.: 0151 936 1533

Website: <https://olovhfb.org.uk/>

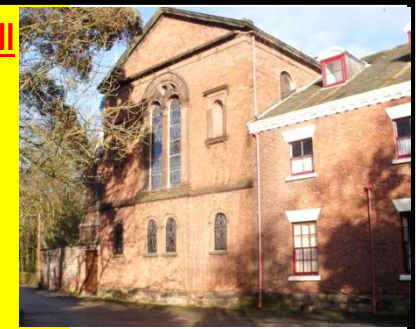
Presbytery: Sandy Lane, Hightown, L38 3RP

Parish Priest: Fr Sergio Haro

Archdiocese of Liverpool, Reg. Charity Number 1199714

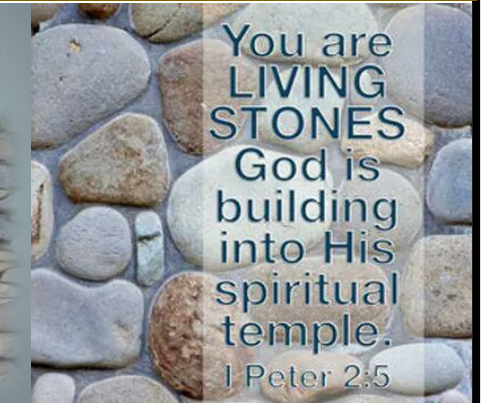
OLOV, Hightown: Sort Code: 40-29-12, Account: 01544993

Holy Family: Sort Code: 40-29-12, Account: 71545094



Fifth Sunday of Easter (A): 3rd May 2026

Living Stones



But you are.....

- 1) a chosen race
- 2) a royal priesthood
- 3) a holy nation
- 4) a people for His own possession

1 Peter 2:9

Acts 6 shows how any class or racial discrimination was quickly resolved in the church's early days. The Hellenist (converts whose language was Greek), complained that their widows were not getting a fair share of the church's social services.

The apostles' solution to the problem shows how changes of practice are not only possible but necessary for the health of the church. The episode reminds us of two important dimensions of church life: prayer and service; and that living our Christian vocation requires a balance between the two. Each of us is personally called to prayer, to a dialogue of worship with God; and we are also called to service. No matter what we do in life, our work affects others in some way. We should be of service to our neighbours; and provided we have an attitude of respect, no task we do is a menial task. Prayer and preaching the word was of primary importance to the apostles; but service to the widows and the needy in the community was also vital, so they appointed seven trusted men to attend to it and

initiated them by an evocative ceremony. As a result, the disciples in Jerusalem greatly increased in numbers. We may wonder how this could be revived in our day. Is the word of the Lord still spreading? Is the number of disciples increasing?

In the letter of St Peter, the church is seen as a spiritual house, with ourselves as the living stones making up a house of God. Every time we say the Lord's Prayer we say 'thy kingdom come.' Perhaps by this prayer we take upon ourselves some responsibility for spreading the word and doing something for the growth of the Church.

The cornerstone in the Church is Christ himself, and he speaks to us in encouraging words today. If he is going away, it is to prepare a place for us, in his Father's house, where there are many rooms. So, no matter who we are or what we do, there is a place for us all in the kingdom.

Each has his own unique gifts of nature and grace; each is important to God. What a wonderful example of Christ-like Community would it be if everyone in our church develops that unique gift of nature and grace for the service of God and the community. This can be achieved by devoting all our energy, enthusiasm, ideas and resourcefulness to spreading the Good News by word of mouth and service to others.

Father Sergio P.P.



Why is May the Month of Mary?

In the Catholic Church, the month of May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, serving as a time for the faithful to honour her role as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church through special devotions, prayers, and acts of love. This month-long focus is intended to strengthen a spiritual connection with Mary, whom Catholics view as a model of faith, humility, and obedience.

Renewal and Life: May is considered the height of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, symbolizing nature's renewal, fertility, and new life. As Mary brought forth new life—Jesus Christ—to the world, it is deemed a fitting time to honour her. Queen of May: Mary is honoured as the "Queen of May," a title highlighting her exalted status in heaven and her maternal care for all people.

Spiritual Motherhood: The dedication highlights Mary as a spiritual mother, caring for the faithful and interceding for them daily, particularly in difficult moments.

Model of Faith: It provides an opportunity to reflect on Mary's virtues—obedience, humility, and charity—and apply them to daily life.



To Honor Mary: The main purpose is to give honour to the Blessed Mother for her unique role in salvation.

To Intercede for Peace: Pope Paul VI, in his 1965 encyclical Mense Maio, urged that May devotions include prayers for peace.

To Foster Devotion: These devotions help Catholics grow in their relationship with Mary, encouraging them to turn to her for help and guidance.

To Counteract Secularization: The tradition was heavily promoted by the Jesuits in the 18th century as a way to "Christianize" spring festivities and promote piety.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR THE 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER + CYCLE A

First reading: Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

The word of the Lord

Second reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,' and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.
No one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 14:1-12

At that time Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.'

'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Source: Universalis App - New Lectionary

Prayer for Peace of Pope Saint John XXIII

Lord Jesus Christ, who are called the Prince of Peace, who are yourself our peace and reconciliation, who so often said, "Peace to you," grant us peace. Make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice, and brotherly love. Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace.

Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee and defend the great gift of peace. May all peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters. May longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always over us all.

Amen

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33(32):

R./ May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O LORD.

Ring out your joy to the LORD, O you just; for praise is fitting from the upright. Give thanks to the LORD upon the harp; with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. *R./*

The word of the LORD is upright, and all his works to be trusted.

The LORD loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth. *R./*

Yes, the LORD'S eyes are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their soul from death, to keep them alive in famine. *R./*

I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD,

the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.