



Time & Intentions for Sundays And Weekdays Masses



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	INTENTION	CHURCH
Sun 2 nd August	9 am	Eighteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	Parishioners	Holy Family
Sun 2 nd August	11.15 am	Eighteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	Edward Blackburn (B.R.) S.I. Thompson Family	Our Lady V
Mon 3 rd August		Weekday in O.T.		The church is closed
Tue 4 th August	9 am	St. John M. Vianney	Fr Sergio, our P.P.	Our Lady V
Wed 5 th August	9 am	Dedication of Basilica of St Mary Major St Oswald		Our Lady V
Thu 6 th August	9 am	Transfiguration of the Lord		Our Lady V
Fri 7 th August	9 am	St. Cajetan		Our Lady V
Sat 8 th August	12 noon	St Dominic Our Lady on Sat.	Alex Gamble (R)	Our Lady V
Sun 9 th August	9 am	Nineteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	Parishioners	Holy Family
Sun 9 th August	11.15 am	Nineteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	Edward (Eddie) Blackburn (B.R.)	Our Lady V
Sun 9 th August	3 pm	Nineteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	MISA EN ESPANOL	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: will resume on 9th September with bingo at OLOV Hall at 2 pm. All 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, Hannalor Mainey, Betty Costello, Pauline Hayes, Irene Halsall, John & Jen Foley.

We pray for those whose Anniversary occurs at this time: John Doyle, Elizabeth Davin, Kath Thompson, Catherine Brown,

We pray for those who have died:

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



Eighteenth Sunday in O.T.(A) + 2nd August 2026



Jesus Supplies All Needs

Matthew 14:13-21



Hungers of body and spirit

The crowds in today's gospel had nothing to eat, but our Lord knew they had another hunger apart from that of the stomach. They followed Jesus, listening to every word he spoke, and in none of the stories does it say that they were bothered about food for the body. In today's episode, it is the apostles who expressed this concern, on behalf of the people. In another place it says that Jesus "looked at the crowd, and felt sorry for them, because they had been with him for several days, and had nothing to eat." Yet the twin hungers in today's world are for meaning as well as for food.

Jesus sets the apostles a seemingly impossible challenge. When they point out the lack of food he tells them to feed the people themselves. This, of course, cannot be done, and they tell him so. He then taught them, and us, a basic lesson: "Whatever you have is enough. Just let me have it, and I will do the rest." At Cana, all they had was water, and it was all he needed; He would do the rest. In another version of this story, where one of the apostles says "We only have a few loaves and some fish, but what is that among so many?" The temptation was to put the loaves and fish back in the bag.

There is power in the actions of Jesus as he says a prayer and begins distributing the bread. Before he called Lazarus forth from the tomb, he raised his eyes to heaven, and said "I thank you, Father, that you have heard me." It was his constant contact with the Father that inspired his actions. At his baptism in the Jordan he had heard the Father's voice saying "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." He lived constantly with the Father's approval, even when everyone else rejected him. What a lesson this is for all of us! In commissioning his apostles, later on, he would tell them to feed the hungry. Because he came "to do and to teach," that is why he fed the hungry before sending his disciples to do the same. (P.T.O.)

It is a scandal that so large a part of today's world is made up of hungry people. Most of us have more than we need of money, clothes, food, etc. We may not have as much as we want, but we have more than we need. There is a struggle here, and there is a tension from which we cannot escape. "Whatever you do for the least of these, I will take as being done for me." The decisions to walk in the Christian Way removes many of my options and choices. Christianity is much more than just saying prayers. It is also a call to action.

It is a call to do as Jesus would do. I cannot read today's gospel and remain indifferent or detached. "It is in giving that we receive." When we give, we discover that we are not at a loss. It is an extraordinary paradox, but it is literally me. I will never know this until I try it. How do you consider yourself in the whole area of responsibility for the welfare of others? We are all familiar with the Catholic Relief Agencies, and we may admire what they do. But we must go beyond admiration and become willing to imitate and follow their example. Christianity is about witnessing, and in the witnessing is the invitation to "go and do likewise." The opposite to love is not hatred, but indifference. If God is love, and I am indifferent, then I must seriously examine where God is in my life. This is a fundamental and basic question that must be asked, and it must be answered. *(From Fr Sergio's Desk: A.C.P., Ireland)*

Statement on the dangers of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill

Archbishop Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, has issued a statement highlighting the many dangers of the Private Members' Bill that seeks to legalise assisted suicide:



"The Second Reading of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is expected to take place in the House of Commons on 11 September. Assisted suicide is a matter of life and death, and it is wholly unsatisfactory that this divisive and flawed bill is being put to parliament again as a Private Members' Bill without the key issues being addressed. The reduced majority at Third Reading in the Commons and the debate in the Lords showed how flawed the Bill is.

"This matter is urgent. I urge people to contact their Member of Parliament and ask them to vote against this deeply flawed bill at Second Reading. You can do so by using the simple contact form on the Right to Life UK website, the Bishops' Conference website, or by writing to your MP.

"There are many reasons why this bill should be opposed.

"This bill is wrong in principle. By allowing medical practitioners to help patients end their lives, it will fundamentally alter the founding principles of the National Health Service and undermine the trust which is central to the relationship between patient and clinician.

"As many medical professionals and others have pointed out, the legislation is likely to lead to pressure on the most vulnerable to end their lives through assisted suicide. The safeguards against coercion, pressure and abuse are wholly inadequate.

"Moreover, the bill fails to provide sufficient protection for freedom of conscience for doctors. In addition, health and social care staff could find themselves under pressure to participate in assisted suicide.

"These concerns are shared by the principal professional bodies whose members would be involved in its implementation, including the British Medical Association and the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

"Rather than improving care for those approaching the end of life, this legislation risks weakening already overstretched palliative care services. Hospices and care homes may be required to facilitate assisted suicide on their premises. This could force some of them to close.

"We need good hospice care and accompaniment at the end of life as we prepare for eternal life. Christ calls us to protect and accompany people to a natural death, caring and alleviating their suffering along the way. This bill is not the merciful solution supporters claim it to be.

"Our Lady, Help of the Sick, pray for us."

Archbishop John Sherrington
Lead Bishop for Life Issues + Archbishop of Liverpool

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR THE 18th SUNDAY IN O.T. + CYCLE A

First reading: Isaiah 55:1-3

Thus says the Lord: 'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?'

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.'

The word of the Lord

Second reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord

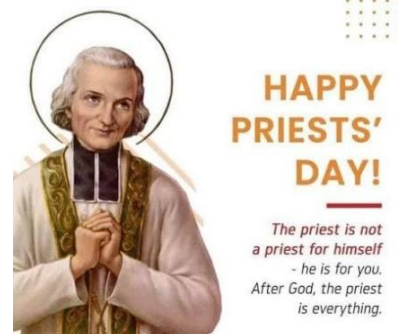
Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia. One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

At that time When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.:

The Gospel of the Lord



Gracious and loving God,

we thank you for the gift of our priests.

Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145(144)

R:/ You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

The LORD is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in mercy.

How good is the LORD to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

The LORD is just in all his ways, and holy in all his deeds.

The LORD is close to all who call him, who call on him in truth.

Source: Universalis App – New Lectionary

Saint John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests:

August 4th is the feast day of Saint John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests. It is a special day to thank God for your local priests, offer prayers for their strength and holiness, and support their ministry.

About Saint John Vianney:

Born in France in 1786, he served as the parish priest in the small village of Ars.

Known as the Curé d'Ars, he spent up to 16 hours a day hearing confessions and guiding souls.

He lived a life of deep prayer, fasting, and total devotion to his people.

Ways to Pray for Your Priest

- ✓ Offer a rosary or a Holy Mass specifically for your parish priest's health, joy, and protection.
- ✓ Send a note of gratitude to thank him for his service and the sacraments he provides.
- ✓ Say a daily prayer asking Saint John Vianney to intercede for him.

"Saint John Vianney, we pray you to bless and help our parish priest so that he may love dearly in this life and be richly rewarded in the next. Amen."