



Time & Intentions for Sundays And Weekdays Masses



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	INTENTION	CHURCH
Sun 9 th August	9 am	Nineteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	Parishioners	Holy Family
Sun 9 th August	11.15 am	Eighteenth Sunday in O.T.(A)	Edward Blackburn (B.R.)	Our Lady V
Sun 9 th August	3 pm	Domingo Decimo-noveno de T.O.	MISA EN ESPANOL	Our Lady V
Mon 10 th Aug.		St. Lawrence		The church is closed
Tue 11 th Aug.	9 am	St. Clare	Special Intention	Our Lady V
Wed 12 th Aug.	9 am	Weekday in O.T.	Special Intention	Our Lady V
Thu 13 th Aug.	9 am	Weekday in O.T.		Our Lady V
Thu 13 th Aug.	2.30 pm	Requiem Mass	Pauline Potts	Holy Family
Fri 14 th Aug.	9 am	St Maximilian Kolbe		Our Lady V
Sat 15 th Aug.	12 noon	Our Lady on Sat.		Our Lady V
Sun 16 th Aug.	9 am	Assumption BVM	Parishioners	Holy Family
Sun 16 th Aug.	11.15 am	Assumption BVM	Kathleen Smith (LD)	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: Anne McConnell, Marjory Ball, Christina Leeson, Dominic Ashton, Nancy Billington, Veronica Billington, Colin Saunders,

We pray for those who have died: Pauline Potts

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

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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



Nineteenth Sunday in O.T.(A) + 9th August 2026



Have you ever walked on water? If you haven't, at least you have surely experienced the stormy troubles of your life. I dare say most of us have experienced those storms in one form or another. A loved one falls sick or is taken from us; we cry out, **"Lord save us, lest we perish"**. We lose our job, we fall into disgrace; we are overcome with remorse as we think of some bad thing we did, or some good thing we did not have the courage to do; we fall prey to depression or despair; we are oppressed by loneliness or desolation. What do we do when faced with a stormy marriage, straying children and walking into the future filled with uncertainties? We cry out, **"Lord save us, lest we perish"**. What we are told about this storm is that they were "battered by the waves" which probably means the little fishing boat they were in was in real danger of sinking. They were also "far from land"—not where you want to be when that kind of storm comes along—and the "wind was against them". As hard as they tried, they couldn't make any progress and there was nothing by which to anchor themselves to ride out the storm. Worst of all, it was night and they couldn't see enough to know what was going on. At that point Jesus came walking on the stormy waters. In the dim morning light, none of the men recognized him.

After all, who would expect Jesus to be walking on the water? They feared it was a ghost or angry sea nymph coming to harm them. One said, "It's Jesus!" To which Jesus replied, "Courage men. It's me. Don't be afraid." The storm is still raging. Jesus was walking on the water. Peter was the spontaneous member of the group. Excited to see Jesus on the water, he wanted to do the same. Jesus invited Peter to step into the stormy sea! He did fine walking towards Jesus, crossing the stormy seas, as long as he kept his eyes up. Just like a tightrope walker, we must keep our eyes up and focused rather than checking out the dangers below. But soon he, too, doubts and begins to sink. Here is the most trusted disciple of all, the church is to be built on Peter and he, too, doubts in a moment of weakness! He focuses only on the problem at hand and only sees the stormy seas. Instead of focusing on Jesus, he focuses on his problems. Peter's faith was weak, but it was stronger than that of the others who didn't venture out of the boat. Peter tried to keep focused but then he looked down and sank into the sea. In desperation, he calls out to Jesus who reaches out and saves him. In our own lives we sometimes reach the breaking point, and we feel like we are sinking with the burdens of life. We can learn from Peter and cry out to the Lord for help. At that point Jesus reached out to catch him and bring him safely back to the boat. It was also in that moment that the wind ceased and the waves died down. I mentioned the miracle of Jesus walking on the water. But there was at least one more miracle to this story. Was it that the wind was calmed and the disciples were suddenly all right or was it something else? I have a quotation on my door from Anthony de Mello which says: **"Some regard it as a miracle if God does someone's will. For others, it is regarded as a miracle if someone does the will of God."** I believe it was indeed a miracle that Jesus calmed the storm to save the disciples. But Peter experienced another miracle. When Jesus said "Come" Peter got out of the boat and at least tried to do as instructed—to do Jesus' will. So, the other miracle in this story is Peter's learning about faith and willingness to risk it all for Jesus. And one certainly learns more when you're the one on the water rather than just watching from the boat. One of the early Christian symbols of the Church was of a boat with sails set making its way and violently tossed about on the sea of life. It represented the Church beset by persecution, living through difficult times, going through troubled waters and feeling isolated, rudderless and abandoned by the Master. The boat represents the Church, the disciples are threatened by evil (dark) and death (waters); in their need, Jesus comes to them. For Matthew, the whole passage manifests the power of faith which flows from the saving presence of Jesus.

Lessons for us today: What is the biggest challenge in your life? Taking responsibility for your own decisions? Choosing to get out of the rut you're in? Accepting the situations you cannot change, but changing those you can? So, what is keeping you from doing that? Are you afraid to get out of the boat? I could ask the same question of our church—what is the biggest challenge we are facing? Whatever our challenge, Jesus invites us to jump—to step out. The worst that can happen is that we start to sink—but that's the point where God reaches out his hand to move us on.

Father Sergio, P.P.

Fundraising Activity:

Fr Simon Cadwallader's short video showing his Pastoral work in Peru and an animated exhibition of paintings by local artist Marion Smith on Sat. 22nd August at 12.30 pm at St. Helen's Parish Centre.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR THE 19th SUNDAY IN O.T. + CYCLE A

First reading: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

In those days: Elijah reached Horeb, the mount of God. There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the LORD came to him. And he said, 'Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.' And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. *The word of the Lord*

Second reading: Romans 9:1-5

Brothers and Sisters: I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying. My conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit — that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers and sisters, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed for ever. Amen. *The word of the Lord*

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. I long for you, O LORD, my soul longs for his word. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

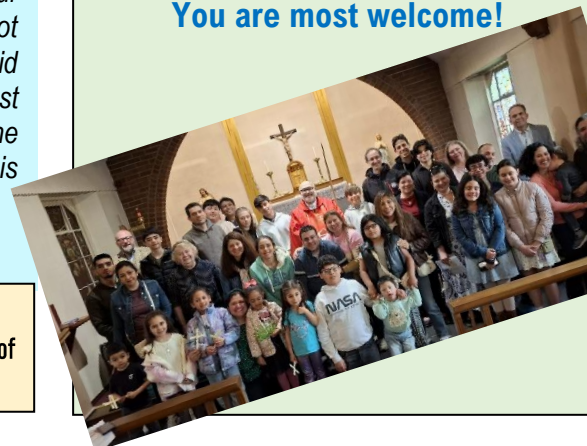
After the crowd had eaten and were satisfied: Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, 'It is a ghost!' and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.' And Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, 'Lord, save me.' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?' And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Source: Universalis App – New Lectionary

MASS IN SPANISH:

This Sunday 9th August at 3 pm
at Our Lady of Victories,
Hightown.
You are most welcome!



Te invitamos
a la
SANTA MISA
CELEBREMOS JUNTOS
nuestra fe

Domingo 09 de agosto.
 3:00 pm
 Iglesia Our Lady of Victories
Sandy Lane, Hightown
Liverpool L38 3RP

Te esperamos con mucha alegría y te invitamos a quedarte con nosotros al finalizar, para vivir un momento de comunidad, conversar y conocer a otras personas que comparten nuestro idioma y nuestra fe.

También puedes traer algo típico de tu país para compartir.

¡TE ESPERAMOS!