

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th September 2026

(Parish Mass book - Page 131)



We continue the excerpts from Pope Leo's Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te (I have loved you) on Christian love for the poor.

In Brazil, St Dulce of the Poor, known as “the good angel of Bahia”, embodied the same evangelical spirit with Brazilian characteristics. Referring to her and two other religious women canonized during the same celebration, Pope Francis recalled their love for the most marginalised members of society and said that the new saints “show us that the consecrated life is a journey of love at the existential peripheries of the world.” Sister Dulce responded to precariousness with creativity, obstacles with tenderness and need with unshakeable faith. She began by taking in the sick in a chicken coop and from there founded one of the largest social services in the country. She assisted thousands of people a day, without ever losing her gentleness, making herself poor with the poor for the love of the Poorest One. She lived with little, prayed fervently and served with joy. Her faith did not distance her from the world, but drew her even more deeply into the pain of the least among us.

We could also mention individuals such as St Benedict Menni and the Sisters Hospitallers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who worked alongside people with disabilities; St Charles de Foucauld among the communities of the Sahara; St Katharine Drexel for the most underprivileged groups in North America; Sister Emmanuelle, with the garbage collectors in the Ezbet El Nakhl neighbourhood of Cairo; and many others. Each in their own way discovered that the poorest are not only objects of our compassion, but teachers of the Gospel. It is not a question of “bringing” God to them, but of encountering him among them. All these examples teach us that serving the poor is not a gesture to be made “from above,” but an encounter between equals, where Christ is revealed and adored. St John Paul II reminded us that “there is a special presence of Christ in the poor, and this requires the Church to make a preferential option for them.” Therefore, when the Church bends down to care for the poor, she assumes her highest posture.

We must also recognise that, throughout centuries of Christian history, helping the poor and advocating for their rights has not only involved individuals, families, institutions, or religious communities. There have been, and still are, various popular movements made up of lay people and led by popular leaders, who have often been viewed with suspicion and even persecuted. I am referring to “all those persons who journey, not as individuals, but as a closely-bound community of all and for all, one that refuses to leave the poor and vulnerable behind... ‘Popular’ leaders, then, are those able to involve everyone... They do not shun or fear those young people who have experienced hurt or borne the weight of the cross.”

These popular leaders know that solidarity “also means fighting against the structural causes of poverty and inequality; of the lack of work, land and housing; and of the denial of social and labour rights. It means confronting the destructive effects of the empire of money... Solidarity, understood in its deepest sense, is a way of making history, and this is what the popular movements are doing.” For this reason, when different institutions think about the needs of the poor, it is necessary to “include popular movements and invigorate local, national and international governing structures with that torrent of moral energy that springs from including the excluded in the building of a common destiny.” Popular movements, in fact, invite us to overcome “the idea of social policies being a policy for the poor, but never with the poor and never of the poor, much less part of a project which can bring people back together.” If politicians and professionals do not listen to them, “democracy atrophies, turns into a slogan, a formality; it loses its representative character and becomes disembodied, since it leaves out the people in their daily struggle for dignity, in the building of their future.” The same must be said of the institutions of the Church.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM Tues 1st to Thurs 3rd June 2027

We are now opening the booking for the parish pilgrimage to Walsingham leaving at 7am from St Vincents on Tuesday 1st June and returning on Thursday 3rd June 2027. The trip to Walsingham will include a visit to Wells-next-the-sea. Accommodation will be at the Anglican retreat centre and includes breakfast and an evening meal. The full pilgrimage programme includes morning and evening prayer, Mass, Rosary, walking the Holy Mile and Holy Hour. The cost is £275 per person for a twin or double room (there are limited single rooms available and ensuite rooms are not guaranteed). If you would like to book on this pilgrimage please email the parish office and we will provide you with the details to pay the non-refundable deposit by 31st October 2026.

SUPPORTING REFUGEES IN OUR COMMUNITY - REVIVE WALLBOX

Revive is a voluntary service giving practical help and immigration advice to Refugees founded by the Spiritan Fathers. Our funding has been cut and we have had to reduce staffing which is already small. It is even a struggle to find bus fares for volunteers and for my English class members. Thankfully Fr Jonathan has arranged for donations from the wallbox in the church porch to be given for the next 3 months to Revive. Life is really hard for the refugees (trying to live on £47 p/w) and the waiting and being unable to work can be endless. You can also donate using the QR code. Thanks Eileen (Loreto Sisters).



CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL THIS HARVEST

After long droughts, children in Zimbabwe have been finding learning hard. Many have been out before school, walking miles for water. They are too tired to learn properly, focus on their dreams of success. For Harvest Fast this year, CAFOD ask us to support schemes like solar-powered deep well pumps. Crops can grow, water can flow, young minds are nourished, fatigue curbed. Please use the CAFOD envelope in church or donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope. Thank you very much in advance for supporting our appeal.

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM MINUTES

The [minutes for the recent PPT Meeting](#) are on the parish website and paper copies are at the back of church.

JUSTICE AND PEACE / CAFOD NOTICES

Please read the [minutes of the recent parish J&P/CAFOD](#) meeting on the J&P/CAFOD section on the parish website. The [ACAT newsletter for September to November](#) is on the parish website. ACAT regularly send out information about specific, urgent requests for help and prayers. To receive the newsletter contact ukacat@gmail.com. Please visit the Justice and Peace section of our parish website to read the [Autumn Mouthpeace newsletter](#).

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE, MANCHESTER OPEN DAYS

St Bede's is Manchester's only independent Catholic school, providing a co-educational education for children aged 3-18 within a community rooted in faith and the values of being Inspired, Committed and Grateful.

Open Events Saturday 3rd October 9.00am-12.00pm and Thursday 8th October 4.30pm-7.30pm

Families are warmly invited to visit St Bede's, meet pupils and teachers, explore the school and discover more about its Catholic community and the full Bedian journey from Nursery through to Sixth Form. Register www.sbcm.co.uk

September Live Simply Message: If you need new clothes, buy ethically sourced clothing.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- ♦ **Children's Liturgy** - At the 10am Mass. Next liturgy is Sunday 27th September.
- ♦ **Tea and Coffee after 10am Mass** - every Sunday, with video games (FIFA, tennis, etc), table tennis and other games, all for parents and children.
- ♦ **Playgroup** - Every Friday in term time from 9.30am - 11.30am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Bridge** - Every Monday at 2.00pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **SVP** - Meets fortnightly on Mondays at 6.30pm in Westleigh.
- ♦ **Emmaus Prayer Group** - 7-8pm Mondays in Westleigh. Everybody welcome, please just come along.
- ♦ **Brownies** - Tuesdays in term time at 5.45-7.15pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **Secular Carmelites** - 1st Wednesday of every month at Westleigh from 6pm to 8pm
- ♦ **The Craft & Coffee club** - 10am in Westleigh: 10th and 25th September (every fortnight)
- ♦ **Mothers' Prayers** - Every Thursday 11.15am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Study Group for Men** - 7.15-8.30pm, Thursdays (fortnightly) in Westleigh: Please email Fr Joseph for dates.
- ♦ **St. Vincent's Parish Choir** - Rehearsal every Thursday at 8:30pm in church
- ♦ **Friday Club** - First Friday of every month, 2pm in Westleigh. Entertainment & refreshments organised by SVP.
- ♦ **Windows Group (for widows)** - 3pm-4.30pm on Fridays: 11th September and 9th October
- ♦ **Young Adults Group (18-35 years)** - 26th September. Come along for 5.30pm Mass followed by Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Talk, food, time to socialise etc.
- ♦ **Youth Mass** - Sunday 20th September 6.30pm Mass (monthly). Young musicians welcome, please arrive at 6pm.

Pope's Intention for September

For the care of water. Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

During Ordinary Time (Autumn) we are asked to pray for these intentions:

Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; the Harvest; the Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation: Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS ~ ADOREMUS ~ 10th OCTOBER 2026

The 2026 National Eucharistic Congress is an invitation to renew our Eucharistic faith and love. There are two strands to the National Eucharistic Congress. In London, a representative gathering of bishops, priests and people will take part in public events including a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. A Diocesan coach has been arranged to take pilgrims to London. The 3 pickup points are: Wythenshawe, Ellesmere Port and Shrewsbury. There are 50 spaces available and pilgrims wishing to travel on this coach should contact Natalie Orefice with their preferred location. For pricing, booking and further enquiries email: natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER FROM 9:15AM

If you would like to have a look around St Vincent's Catholic Primary School or nursery please come along to our next open morning event for prospective school and nursery parents on Wednesday 14th October. Please visit the admissions page at www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk to book a place or scan the QR code.



SAINTS CLUB

Welcome to zoom into the Saints' Club on Sunday 27th September, 4.30 - 5.00 pm to celebrate **St Francis of Assisi** in this year of the 800th anniversary of his death. Drop Ilona a line for the Link: ilonaharrison19@gmail.com The Saints' Club is for children of all ages, but also for everyone "young at heart" who likes the Saints and childrens' books. We get to know a wonderful book, we pray, sing and have fun together. No long-term commitment, no fee - just come and see if you have time!

VACANCIES

Roman Catholic Chaplain Vacancy at HMP &YOI Styal - Do you feel called to a ministry that brings hope, healing and transformation? We are seeking a compassionate and committed Roman Catholic Chaplain (Priest or Lay) to join our multi-faith chaplaincy team in a women's prison. This is a unique opportunity to support women in custody and prison staff through spiritual leadership, pastoral care and ministry. Alongside providing faith-based care to Roman Catholic prisoners and staff, you will work collaboratively with colleagues to meet the pastoral needs of people of all faiths and none. Through your ministry, you will help create an environment where women can rediscover dignity, purpose and hope. We are looking for someone who is empathetic, resilient and committed to serving others with respect and integrity. This role provides an opportunity to live out your vocation in a setting where your faith and pastoral gifts can have a profound and lasting impact. If you are interested in helping people build brighter futures, we would love to hear from you. This is a one day a week post (8hrs). Please contact Managing Chaplain Jo Hirst for further information 01625 553015 Joanna.hirst1@justice.gov.uk

Pax Christi England and Wales are recruiting a new General Secretary to lead a small team, working with individuals, groups, parishes, the Catholic hierarchy and the network of organisations who share our values, including Pax Christi International, our mother body. Based in London, we are open to some remote working and flexible working hours; job share applications will also be considered. More information at <https://paxchristi.org.uk> To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter with your personal statement (each no more than two A4 pages) to: Treasurer@paxchristi.org.uk Deadline: midnight Wed 23rd Sept. Interviews will be in London on Thursday 8th Oct.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into God's Family Elissa Clayton, Hugo Cuthbertson and Max Queenan who were recently baptised here. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Requiescant in Pace Please pray for those who have died recently especially Rachel Mekonnen, Peter Heywood, Dennis McAuley, Brenda Shaughnessy (12.15pm 30/09/26), Andrew Monk (12.15pm 01/10/26), John Moore (12.15pm 02/10/26), and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Please pray for the sick who include Dave Berry, Denise Brooks, Johnny Carroll, Anna Croft, Sandra Davis, David Michael Devine, Lynda Edwards, Freddie Fenton, Viv Fenton, Marie Forde, Diana Hartley, Mary Heanue, Catherine Heraghty, Robert Heywood, Mike Jenkenson, Thomas E Killeen, Laura MacGinn, Claire McAllister, Martin McConnell, Kevin McDermott, Rupert McDermott, Carol McLaughlin, Brian Morris, Maureen O'Hara, Anne O'Neill, Serge Pascau, Annabel Tats, Margaret Russell, Anne Ryan, David Ryan, Joe Ryan, Kay Ryan, Liz Ryan, Mick Ryan, Steve Ryan, Ann Thomas, Mick Thomas, Derek Watson and all in our hospitals and homes.

MONEY MATTERS Offertory Collection 13th September £2114.65.

Many thanks to the parishioners for your generosity in the cash collection, standing orders and through the card machine.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025



DONATE

Mass Schedule

Sunday 20th September <i>Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8:30 Mass 10:00 Mass 11:30 Mass 18:30 Mass	Susan McGowan (RIP) For the People of the Parish Maria Janela (1st ann) Kevin Keegan (RIP)
Monday 21st September <i>St Matthew</i>	11:30 12:15 Mass 18:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Private Intentions (Amran) <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Tuesday 22nd September <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV Mass 11:30 12:15 Mass	Margaret Hayes (Int) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Andrew Monk (RIP)
Wednesday 23rd September <i>St. Pius of Pietrelcina, (Padre Pio)</i>	8:00 Mass 11:30 12:15 Mass	Rene Brandon (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> S. Delhorey (RIP)
Thursday 24th September <i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i>	10:00 BV Mass 11:30 12:15 Mass 18:00	NO MASS <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Fr. Jonathan (Int) <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Friday 25th September <i>Ferial</i>	11:30 12:15 Mass 18:30 19:00 Mass	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Mark & Stella Belderbos (55th wedding anniversary) <i>Confessions after Mass</i> <i>Rosary</i> Anthony & Sheila Tomlinson (64th wedding anniversary)
Saturday 26th September <i>Optional Memorials: SS Cosmas and Damian</i>	11:00 10:45-11:45 12:15 Mass 16:15-17:00 17:00 17:30 Mass	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> <i>Confessions</i> Thanksgiving for Donna's Birthday <i>Confessions</i> <i>Rosary</i> Margaret Plant (RIP)
Sunday 27th September <i>Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Parish Feast Day of St Vincent De Paul</i>	8:30 Mass 10:00 Mass 11:30 Mass 18:30 Mass	Thomas Alex For the People of The Parish Peter Heywood (RIP) Denis Hughes (RIP)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

BOWDON VALE MASSES 10am Tuesday and Thursday **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - as above & by request

SEPTEMBER RETIRING COLLECTIONS: 6th -SVP, 20th Evangelii Gaudium & 27th World Youth Day

MASS READING CYCLE: Sundays Year A, Weekdays Cycle 2; Psalter Week I

PARISH CLERGY - Parish Priest: Canon Jonathan Brandon **Assistant Priest:** Fr Joseph Fawcett Wood
CONTACTS

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Assistant Priest: Joseph.Fawcett@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Parish Office: parishoffice@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

WESTLEIGH PARISH CENTRE- Westleigh Bookings: svpwestleigh@outlook.com

Website: stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: @svpaltrincham

Parish Safeguarding Representative Helen Norwood: 07800 656966

The parish of St Vincent's, Altrincham sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice. *The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025*