

SAINT ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER PARISH.



Incorporating the Parishes of:

St. Mary of the Angels & St. Clare Church, Elbow St, Levenshulme, M19 3PY

St. Richard Church, Sutcliffe Avenue, Longsight, M12 5TN

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Kris Louis Aneke, MSP

Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Martin Dowd

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Eighth Week in Ordinary Time. Year C. Sunday 2nd March 2025

Mass is on Page 144 in the Mass Book.

Reflection:

The first reading, taken from the Book of Sirach, teaches us that what is inside us is revealed through our conversation – as the grain and husks are separated in a farmer’s sieve, as the quality of the shaped clay is revealed in the potter’s fire, and as the size and quality of a tree’s fruit reveal the care it has received from the planter. Sirach’s teaching serves as an excellent preview for today’s Gospel, which reminds us, when we’re feeling judgmental, to think before we speak because what comes out of our mouth reveals our heart.

The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 92) advises us to spend our time praising and thanking God for all His blessings. In the second reading St. Paul advises the Corinthian Christians “to be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain,” instead of wasting time on useless and sinful conversations, which bring punishment instead of the victory of resurrection and eternal reward.

In today’s Gospel passage, taken from the Sermon on the Plain given in Luke’s Gospel, Jesus condemns our careless, malicious and rash judgments about the behaviour, feelings, motives, or actions of others by using the funny examples of one blind man leading another blind man and one man with a log stuck in his eye, trying to remove a tiny speck from another’s eye. Jesus does not mean that we should not correct immoral behaviour and sexual misbehaviour or stop admonishing children and students as parents and teachers, or, worse, should promote moral relativism. In both Matthew and Luke, the statements that follow the prohibition on judging indicate that it is an elaboration of the Golden Rule—the idea that we should treat others the way that we, ourselves, want to be treated. When Jesus says, “Judge not, lest ye be judged,” he means: “Don’t judge or God will judge you in your “particular” or “Last” judgment,” whichever comes first.

We should avoid judging others because 1) No one except God is good enough to judge others because only God sees the whole truth, and only He can read the human heart. Hence, only He has the ability, right, and authority to judge us. 2) We do not see all the facts or circumstances or the power of the temptation which has led a person to do something evil. 3) We are often prejudiced in our judgment of others, and total fairness cannot be expected from us, especially when we are judging those near or dear to us. 4) We have no right to judge because we have the same faults as the one, we are judging and often in a greater degree (remember Jesus’ funny example of a man with a log in his eye trying to remove the dust particle from another’s eye?) St. Philip Neri commented, watching the misbehaviour of a drunkard: “There goes Philip but for the grace of God.” Abraham Lincoln said that the only one who has the right to criticize is the one who has the heart to help. 5) Hence, we should leave all judgment to God, practice mercy and forgiveness, and pray for God’s grace to get rid of all forms of hypocrisy in our lives. Let us remember the warning of saints: “When you point one finger of accusation at another, three of your fingers point at you.”

Pray for the sick and housebound; John Fitzgerald. Cyril Corcoran. Sr Edith. John Tunney. Eileen Toth. Anne Leavy. Maria Morrissey, Margaret McAteer. Mary McGlade. Kathleen Beech. Martina McGeehan. Jean Angus. Irene and Karen Rice. Paul and Kath McInenny. Keith and Linda Marshall, Jim McGlynn.

We pray the Good Lord will strengthen and comfort all the sick and we pray also for all who care for the sick and elderly.

May God grant eternal rest to those who have died recently.

Ray Sweeney. Ann Marie Harkin. Maureen Kennerley. Tina Dolan. Jenny Smith. Kathleen Heraty. John Finnegan
Christine St. John. Anne Killeen. Peter Bennett. (May their souls rest in peace)

Memorial Anniversary and Birthday Remembrance for Margaret Caulfield (Eternal rest grant to them Oh Lord,,,,,)

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Masses on Ash Wednesday:** St. Richard's – 9:15 am And St. Mary's at 6:30 pm. Ash Wednesday is a holy day of obligation, a day of fasting, prayer and abstinence. It is also the beginning of Lent, an opportunity for us to pray and repent for our sins. We are expected to abstain from eating meat.
- Parish Stations of the Cross:** On Fridays at 6:30 pm at St Mary's Church
- Family Fast Day for CAFOD** will be on 14th March 2025. Envelopes are at the back of Church.
- Afternoons of Prayer 2025.** At Marist Convent 113 Nell Lane, Chorlton, M21 7SW.
Sunday 6th April 2pm-4pm. Journeying towards Holy Week.
Sunday 10th May 2pm-4pm. Journeying with Mary.
This is a time to reflect, share, pray and deepen our faith as we journey through this Holy Year: Pilgrims of Hope – together. "prayer is the first strength of hope. You pray and your hope grows, it takes a step forward. I would say that prayer opens the door to hope. Hope is always there, but with my prayer I open the door to it. Pope Francis.
- Misso (Red boxes) The Spring edition of Mission Today magazine is now available in the church porch. If you have any donations you wish to hand in, please place in an envelope or bag bearing your name and address and marked MISSIO, and leave it in the sacristy after Mass. Any issues please contact Winnie on 07806994626. Thank you for your support on behalf of MISSIO.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Day	Time	Church	Liturgy	Mass Intention
Vigil Mass Saturday	5:00 pm	St Richard's	Mass	Christine St John RIP Jenny Smith RIP
	6.30 pm	St Mary's	Mass	AnnMarie Harkin Months Mind Ray Sweeney RIP Kathleen Heraty RIP
Sunday	9:30 am	St Richard's	Mass	Ray Sweeney RIP
	11:00 am	St. Mary's	Mass	Margaret Caulfield Anniversary and Birthday Remembrance
Monday	NO	MASS	TODAY	
Tuesday	10:00 am	St Mary's	Funeral Mass	Tina Dolan RIP
Ash Wednesday	9:15 am 6:30 pm	St Richard's St Mary's	Mass and distribution of Ash	Christine St John RIP Ray Sweeney RIP
Thursday	10:00 am	St Mary's	Funeral Mass	Ann Killeen RIP
Friday	9:15am	St Richard's	Mass	
	1:30pm	St Mary's	Funeral Mass	Peter Bennett RIP
Saturday	10 am	St Mary's	Exposition And Adoration. Confession during Adoration Mass	Special Intention Ray Sweeney RIP
	11:00 am			