Sunday 4th October 2026

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

MISSAL: pg. p. 786-790

St William Parish, Wigan

The Churches of St Mary, St John and St Patrick

www.stwilliamparishwigan.org

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The One Vineyard that is St William's Parish!

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of a vineyard that has been lovingly prepared by its owner. Everything has been provided, yet those entrusted with caring for it begin to act as though the vineyard belongs to them. They forget that they are stewards, not owners.

Perhaps that is a particularly important message for us as St William parish. We are one parish, but we are blessed with three churches: St Mary's, St John's and St Patrick's. Each has its own history, traditions, characters and memories. Each community has gifts to offer. Yet the vineyard belongs to God, and we are called to care for the whole vineyard, not simply our own little corner of it.

Being one parish does not mean that our three composite churches have to lose their identity. Rather, it means discovering how those different identities can become a strength when they are brought together. It means being willing to share our gifts, our resources, our time and our energy. It means celebrating one another's successes and supporting one another when things are difficult.

There can sometimes be a temptation to think first about my church or our church. The Gospel challenges us to think more widely: our parish, our mission, our family in Christ and even our Wigan Family of Parishes!

Solidarity is not simply about being helpful when we have something left over to give. It means recognising that what affects one part of the parish affects us all. If one community is struggling, we do not stand at a distance; we draw closer. If one church has particular gifts, we ask how those gifts might enrich the wider parish. And when we work together, we discover possibilities that none of us could achieve alone, especially in our mission as evangelisers and supporting the poor and those in need.

St Paul gives us a beautiful guide for this way of living. He encourages us to fill our minds with whatever is true, honourable, just, pure, lovely and worthy of praise. Perhaps that begins by looking at one another with gratitude: recognising the goodness already present in our community, and giving thanks for the people who quietly serve, pray, welcome and care.

Every parish has its challenges. Ours is no different. But God has entrusted this vineyard to us at this particular moment in its history.

So perhaps the question for us is not simply, "What can I do for my church?" but "What can I do for our parish?"

The vineyard is God's. St Mary's, St John's and St Patrick's are three precious parts of it. Our calling is to tend the whole vineyard together — with generosity, patience and solidarity — so that, united as one parish, we may bear good fruit for Christ.

Sat 3 Sun 4 Oct	**THE 27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTIONS** Holy Mass **(Sunday Vigil) St Mary's 5.00pm** - *Fr Mark Ackers (A)* Holy Mass **St Mary's 9.00am**— *Andrew and Marie White (A)* Holy Mass **St Patrick's Church 9.15am—** *Julia Gavaghan* *Followed by Card Sale* Holy Mass **St John's 11.00am—** *Fr Joe Kendal (LD)* Rosary Sunday **St Cuthbert's 2.00pm** Holy Mass **St John's 4.30pm—***Parishioners* Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm
Mon 5	**Week 27 of Ordinary Time** Holy Mass **St John's 10.00am—** *Tadeusz Przybylski (A)* Rosary S**t Patrick's** 12.15pm Eucharistic Adoration **St John's 7.00pm** ending with Night Prayer at **7.45pm**
Tue 6	**Week 27 of Ordinary Time** Church Cleaning **St Mary's 9.00am** Holy Mass **St John's 10.00am** —*Birthday Thanksgiving* *Requiem Mass St Patrick's 11.30am for John Witton* Holy Rosary **St Patrick's 7.00pm** Holy Mass **St Patrick's 7.30pm—** *Michael Meehan*
Wed 7	**Our Lady of the Rosary (Memorial)** Holy Mass **St Mary's 12noon—** *Ernest Bradshaw (A)* Followed by Rosary Come and Talk about Faith **St Mary's** 1.00pm Eucharistic Adorations and Benediction **St Patrick's 6.15pm** Holy Mass **St Patrick's 7.30pm—** *Margaret Taylor* Visio Divina Week 4 **St John's 7.00pm** *(A) - Anniversary* *(LD) - Lately Dead* *(B) - Birthday remembrance*
Thur 8	**Week 27 of Ordinary Time** Holy Mass **St Patrick's 9.30am—** *Jane Dixon Year 5 attending* Cleaning at **St Patrick's 6.30pm**
Fri 9	**St John Henry Newman** Stay and Pray **St Patrick's School 9.05am**—Year 3 in the junior hall Holy Mass **St John's 10.00am—** *David Sharpe* Holy **Mass St Patrick's** 7.30pm— Michael, Mary Helen, Johnny & James Ruddy Parish Barn Dance **Wigan Cricket Club Doors open 7.00pm**
Sat 10	**Week 27 of Ordinary Time** Holy Mass **St Mary's 10.00am**— *Joseph Leyland and Doreen Edwards (A)* *Followed by adoration and confessions until 11.30am* Holy Rosary **St John's 10.00am** - *followed by church cleaning* Holy Mass **(Sunday Vigil) St Mary's 5.00pm** - *Arun and Swany Family*
Sun 11	**THE 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** Holy Mass **St Mary's 9.00am—** *The Casey Family* Holy Mass **St Patrick's Church 9.15am—** *Gerard Howe* Holy Mass **St John's 11.00am—** *Eileen Stockley* CMS Rosary Sunday **St Cuthberts 2pm** Holy Mass **St John's 4.30pm—***Parishioners* Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE SICK: Fr Leo Cooper, Lucy Davies, Linda Evans, all our parishioners and friends, our priests.

ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Mark Croston, Maria Cole, Barbara Mallon ***May they rest in peace.***

ANNIVERSARIES: , Brian O'Shea, Mary Anne Gleeson, Agnes Curran, Fr Francis Tillotson, Samuel Heron, Gladys Clossick, Elizabeth Green, Joseph Stokes, Elizabeth Griffin, Eileen Mather, Roger Buckland, Fr. Mark Ackers, Andrew and Maria White, Ernest Bradshaw, Joseph Leyland, Doreen Edwards.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED: David Sharpe, Exam Success Thanksgiving, Birthday Thanksgiving (3), 90th Birthday Thanksgiving, 24th Wedding Anniversary, Tadeusz Przybylski, Ann Stridgeon, Arthur Harrison Scott., Roger Buckland, Maria Cole, Barbara Mallon, Mark Croston, Fr. Ackers

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS BURN THIS WEEK FOR:

St Mary's: Wedding Anniversary
St Patrick's: Abraham & Annamma
St John's: In Thanksgiving

BAPTISMS: Please peak to Fr Paul, Fr John or Fr Thomas if you would like your child baptised.
CONFESSION: For 10 mins. after each weekday Mass. St Mary's Saturday: 10.30 – 11.30am & 4.15 - 4.45pm and St John's Sunday: 3.45pm - 4.15pm.
PRIVATE PRAYER: St Mary's Church is open 10.30am – 4.00pm every day except Sunday pm.
ST PATRICK'S PORCH: Open each weekday from 8:30am-3:30pm

VISIO DIVINA – PRAYING WITH SACRED ART:

Wednesday 7th October 7.00pm–7.45pm | St John's RC Church, Wigan, WN1 1XD

Come and join us for our final service of Visio Divina – a gentle and prayerful way of encountering God through sacred art. Using a religious image to help us slow down, become still and open ourselves to God's presence. Through Scripture, reflection, silence and contemplation, we will allow the images to speak to us and notice where God speaks to us. You don't need any experience of Visio Divina, and there is nothing you need to prepare or bring. Simply come as you are and enjoy 45 minutes of peaceful prayer and reflection. Each evening will stand alone, so you are very welcome to come to one, some or all four sessions.

Come and rest in God's presence. All are welcome.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL: Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. *Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at:* ***cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.***

ST FRANCIS CELEBRATING 800 YEARS – **Sunday 4 October, 6pm** The Pilkington Choir will be performing a special concert, followed by tea and coffee and a raffle, to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. The event will be held at **St Francis of Assisi, Garston**, L19 1RT, and all are welcome to attend. Tickets cost £5 and can be bought from Fr David Potter, or from Anne (01744 732504), or bought with cash at the door.

ADOREMUS—SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER: Join us on the 10th of October for this year's Adoremus. The theme this year is "How we are Eucharist". Come and join us to adore the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The event itself is free and available to all. At the Metropolitan Cathedral, there will be Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day, Holy Mass, opportunities for confession, a variety of workshops and a shared time of prayer during the day for all. Celebrated with Archbishop John Sherrington, this is an event not to be missed! Sign up for workshops here:
archdioceseofliverpool.org/adoremus2026

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae
Vita, dulcedo et spes nostra salve
Ad te clamamus, exsules filii Heva
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes
In hac lacrimarum valle

Eia ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos
Misericordes oculos ad nos converte
Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui
Nobis post hoc exsilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria

MARY'S MEALS:

FILM SCREENING: The Wigan Family of Parishes is supporting the **Kachila Community through Mary's Meals** this year, and we invite you to come along to a **special screening** of **Lettie 2026** – the story of a young lady who was supported by Mary's Meals as a girl. This inspiring short film will help us understand the incredible difference Mary's Meals makes by providing school meals to children in some of the world's poorest communities. There will be two screenings: **Tuesday 13th October – St Aidan's Club, Winstanley** and **Thursday 15th October – Campbell Room, St John's, Wigan.** For both screenings it is **7.00pm arrival and 7.30pm start—Tea/Coffee & Biscuits provided—ALL WELCOME.**

THE WIGAN FAMILY OF PARISHES CALENDAR 2027 is now available in all our churches. Produced by Andy Connellan for the Season of Creation with pictures of the Wigan Flashes. Priced at £8, all proceeds are going to our Mary's Meals feed a school project (Kachila Community) in Zambia which the Wigan family is supporting. Available to order at the back of church from this week

PARISH BARN DANCE: Thank you to everyone involved in helping set up, run and support our first Parish Barn Dance, what a fantastic night was had by all. All proceeds going to Mary's Meals—we will update you with the total next week

MENCAP SPONSORSHIP: Anderson Agbonoga, a parishioner and singer from St. Patrick's, is running the Manchester half marathon on 4th October and is raising money for **Mencap**. Please encourage him by sponsoring his effort. A sponsor form is at the back of each church.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR— will be said **each Thursday** at St Mary's, starting **Thursday 8th October** until the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. **7.10pm** Rosary for vocations, **7.30pm** Novena and Benediction.

ANNUAL ROSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS: The Wigan and District Catholic Men's Society warmly invites everyone to this year's Rosary Sunday Celebrations, taking place at St Cuthbert's Church, Pemberton, on Sunday 4th October at 2pm. Everyone is warmly welcome to join us in prayer and devotion to Our Lady.

PRAYER PETITIONS TO OUR LADY OF KNOCK: Can now be submitted in the box at the back of St Patrick's Church or through any of the presbytery letterboxes. Please do not put any money in the envelopes. The deadline to submit is Sunday 25th October.

Important dates for your diary...	
Sunday 4th October 2pm	**CMS Rosary Sunday Celebrations** at St Cuthberts. All welcome!
Wed 7th Oct 7pm	Parish Bereavement Support Group**—Lappin Room**
Thursday 8th Oct	**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour begins**
Saturday 10th October	**Adoremus Liverpool at the Met Cathedral**
Wednesday 12 Nov, 19 Nov, 26 Nov, 3 Dec 7-7.45pm	Franciscan Prayer Services, **St John's Church**
Monday 16th Nov	**Tropic Skincare Social Evening**—Campbell Room, St John's
Friday 11th December	**St William's Parish Christmas Party—**Whelley Ex Servicemen's Club