



## Parish Newsletter 33 Sunday in OT year C 2025

### *WORLD DAY OF THE POOR*

Mass Intentions 15<sup>th</sup> November – 23<sup>rd</sup> November

#### **Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)**

#### **St Thomas More (STM)**

Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Michael White (SI) Noreen Wright (90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)		
<b>Polish</b>	10.30am <b>12.15pm</b>	People of the Parish Ludwik Niepsuj (33 <sup>rd</sup> Ann., RIP)	8.30am	For Souls from November Dead List
Monday	9.00am	For Souls from November Dead List		
Tuesday	9.00am	Noel Jacob (SI)		
Wednesday	7pm- 8pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.00am	Nick Cronin (RIP)
Thursday	9.00am	For Family (SI)		
Friday			10.00am	Paul Samuels (Birthday)
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	For Souls from November Dead List John Toohey (RIP, Ann.)		
<b>Sunday Polish</b>	10.30am <b>12.15pm</b>	Hayley Wright (RIP) Krystyna Sassak (2 <sup>nd</sup> Death Ann.)	8.30am	Valerie Dunn (RIP)



#### **The Present Moment!**

Most people set themselves to get the most out of life; and yet, many remain disappointed with their efforts as they look back on so many lost opportunities. Whatever may be said about our everyday achievements, today's readings give a clear message not to be caught short on the day of judgment.

**Malachy 3:19-20** - The Israelites have not had it easy. To lift their drooping spirits, the Prophet Malachy tells them that the day of the Lord will come, as surely as the sun rises in the morning, and justice will be done equally to good and evil people.

**2 Thessalonians 3:7-12** - At this point in history, the expectation of the second coming of Christ was wide spread in the Christian community and, with it, the end of the world. Paul argues that this should not be an excuse to sit and do nothing, and he offers his own behaviour as an example to be followed.

**Luke 21: 5-19** - "One day at a time" would appear to sum up the Lord's advice to those who are concerned by the rumours concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world. One thing certain is that those who become his disciples will experience hardship and opposition; such trials, however, will count in eternity.

Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette:

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**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - STM: Wednesday, Friday 9.30am-10am OLF: Saturday 5pm - 5.50pm

**CHURCH CLEANING:** OLF Friday 21st November at 6.00pm – FHC Polish Parents Team D

**Next weekend SECOND COLLECTION is for NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY.**

### **THE JUBILEE OF HOPE – WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

World Day of the Poor on 16 November takes as its theme a phrase from Psalm 71: “*You are my Hope.*” Despite living in a time of great trouble, the psalmist holds fast to faith and hope in God.

In his message for the World Day of the Poor, Pope Leo calls the poor “witnesses of hope” because they cannot find hope in power or wealth, which so often disappoint. True treasure – which cannot rot, rust or be stolen – lies in God, alongside a lasting hope that will never fail us. He reminds us that Christian hope is symbolised by an anchor which grounds our hearts in Jesus our Saviour and points towards our true home in heaven.

### **FEASTS of the Week**

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Memorial

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – St Cecilia, V, M - Memorial

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

First Holy Communion meetings will continue for children on Wednesday each week at 5.30pm in the church hall.

**RCIA:** The Catholic Church's process for adults to be introduced to the Catholic faith, learn its teachings, and become full members by receiving sacraments like Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. The next meeting **is** on Tuesday 18th November at 6pm in the Presbytery.

### **COUNSELLING Service for OLF & STM**

The service is free to parishioners. Clients are requested to donate £15 for each session towards the church. Further details and business cards are available in the porch or from Fr Bogdan or Dr Ray Aldridge-Morris on 07946 854632.

### **CHARITY CONCERT**

Charity concert of Christian music performed by Ela Jarmuszkiewicz. It will be sung poetry, original songs and psalms from the Bible with guitar accompaniment, all sung in polish language but english translation will be provided. The concert is going to take place in the church of OUR LADY OF FATIMA on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November at 7.30pm (Saturday) and 16<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm (Sunday). All the money raised will be used to cover the cost of movement and psychotherapy of neurological hospital patients. We believe that music can touch the soul and love use no words.

### **SOCIAL & FUND RAISING:**

The **Christmas Bazaar** opens at 12.00 midday on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Thank you for your donations. We are still collecting bottles of spirit, wine, beer, soft drinks and cans. Raffle tickets will be on sale every Sunday and occasional other masses. The raffle draw will be held at approximately 4.00pm on the day. Please see the notice board for prizes.

### **Learn To Pray Course Online**

Would you like some tips to help your prayer life each day? The Diocesan Service Team are offering an online course running from Friday 14th November for six weeks until Friday 19th December from 7.30 to 9.00 pm. If you are interested in signing up for this course, please follow this link: <https://wkf.ms/3VcDEgi?text0=>

**Pray for the sick:** Keith Harris, Pam Barnard, Ivan Pirnak, J.C. Nkosa, Teresa Lamb, Noreen Wright, Romualda Ratajczyk, Grace Fisher, Kathleen Evans, Fr Bernard Grogan, Angela Walsh, Jeremy Collins, Peter Kelly, Mary Kelly, Pam Matthews, Władysław Borecki, Ewa Samborska, Peter Ryan, Adele Ryan, Nial Briody, Maria Lunnon, Fabian Andrade, Eileen Rowan, John Brickley, Helen Doherty, Philip Ketedzi, Caroline Berry, Anna Sweeney, Stanislaw Kostecki, Carmel Delaney, Donnah Dris, Conrado Shea, Ryan Tomlin, Mat Quinlan, Krystyna, Josie Cronin, Mary Quinlan, Anna Borsuk, Ruby Antony, Eileen Jolly, Anna Slota, Monica, John O'Donnell and their children, Neil, Anna Gawlik, Eileen, Kathleen Kidney, Andrew Sinclair, Pauline, Alica and Rodney Bill, Valda, sick parishioners from Ashlyn, Alexandra and Abbot Care Home.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of:** May Aitken, Frank Taliana, Maria Cooper, Alice (Dow) Insch, Nick Cronin, Tony Poole, Mathew Joseph, Helen Noyo Owie, Br Wojciech Durlak MS, Fr Augustyn Hamielec MS, Giona Nkunim Botchway-Adjei, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Fr Andrzej Kuder MS, Fr Z. Pałys MS, Hayley Wright, Mary Sage, Patricia Carter, Radosław Iwańczyk, Billy Lomasney, Kenneth Samuels, Terry Farrington, Kevin McGrath, Julie Bush, Janina Zdrojewska, Zbigniew Piątek, Józef Chapski, Peter Mwangi Gekonyo, Joby Joy, PJ Thomas, Eveline Falzon, Dolores Lawless, John Cywinski, Maria Cristina Galagala, Thomas Nelson, Paul Gaize, Bridget Minihane, Barbara Vernem, Romie Quinn, and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.

## MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR THE 9<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

You are my hope (cf. Ps 71:5)



Drawing from the Psalms and the lived experience of those suffering poverty, Pope Leo XIV urges Christians to recognise the poor not as objects of charity but as protagonists of hope. He also expresses his hope that the Jubilee Year may be an occasion to implement "new initiatives to support and assist the poorest of the poor," and notes that "Labour, education, housing and health are the foundations of a security that will never be attained by the use of arms." The Pope's *message*, released on the Feast Day of Saint Anthony of Padua, patron of the poor, calls on the faithful to rediscover Christian hope as a response to the instability that pervades our world. "Hope in God never disappoints," the Pope affirms, recalling Saint Paul's assurance that "we have our hope set on the living God".

### Witnesses to hope amid hardship

Pope Leo notes how the poor, though deprived of material security, often embody a hope that is deep and enduring. "They cannot rely on the security of power and possessions... their hope must necessarily be sought elsewhere," he writes. It is precisely in this vulnerability, the Pope explains, that "we too pass from fleeting hopes to a lasting hope."

"The gravest form of poverty," he continues, "is not to know God." Citing Pope Francis's *Evangelii Gaudium*, he highlights the fact that spiritual care must not be denied to the poor, who "have a special openness to the faith."

### Hope as an anchor

The Holy Father goes on to recall how early Christians viewed hope as an anchor: "Christian hope is like an anchor that grounds our hearts in the promise of the Lord Jesus." In a world plagued by war, displacement, and environmental degradation, he insists that this hope remains the anchor holding human dignity fast.

"Charity is not just a promise," the Pope reminds us. "It is a present reality to be embraced with joy and responsibility."

### From the city of man to the city of God

Drawing a direct line between faith and social responsibility, the Pope recalls the Church's long-standing teaching that poverty must be addressed at its structural roots.

"Poverty has structural causes that must be addressed and eliminated," he writes, calling for policies that reflect the Church's commitment to labour, education, housing and healthcare as universal rights.

And decrying a culture of indifference, he points to the many "quiet signs of hope" - care homes, soup kitchens, and low-income schools - that, he says, are too often overlooked.

"The poor are not a distraction for the Church," the Pope reiterates, "They are our beloved brothers and sisters... they put us in contact with the truth of the Gospel."

### A Jubilee of responsibility

Making his invitation all the more urgent, he reminds Christians that this year's World Day of the Poor is closely linked to the ongoing Jubilee celebration: "Once the Holy Door is closed, we are to cherish and share with others the divine gifts granted us."

Thus, he urges believers to view the poor not merely as recipients of care, but as "creative subjects who challenge us to find novel ways of living out the Gospel today."

Pope Leo also echoes the wisdom of Saint Augustine, urging justice over mere generosity: "You give bread to a hungry person; but it would be better if none were hungry," he quotes.

Concluding his message, the Pope entrusts all to Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted, inviting the Church and the world to raise a "song of hope" with the words of the *Te Deum*: "In you, O Lord, is our hope, and we shall never hope in vain."

### World Day of the Poor

Pope Francis instituted the World Day of the Poor in 2017 to encourage the Church to actively address poverty in its various forms. It is time for Christians and all men and women of goodwill to reflect and take action, encouraging people to connect with those experiencing poverty and work towards ending cycles of poverty. The occurrence is celebrated on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time.