

The servant of God



[Francis] stood up before them all and said, "Up to this time I have called Pietro Bernardone father, but now I am the servant of God. Not only the money, but everything that can be called his, I will restore to my father, even the very clothes he has given me."

He piled the garments in a heap on the floor and threw the money on top of them. Then he turned to the bishop and received his blessing, like one who turns his back on society; and, according to the account, went out as he was into the cold world... He was penniless, he was parentless, he was to all appearances without a trade or a plan or a hope in the world; and as he went under the frosty trees, he burst

suddenly into song...

He realised that the way to build a church is not to become entangled in bargains and, to him, rather bewildering questions of legal claim. The way to build a church is not to pay for it, certainly not with somebody else's money. The way to build a church is not to pay for it even with your own money. The way to build a church is to build it.

He went about by himself collecting stones. He begged all the people he met to give him stones. In fact, he became a new sort of beggar, reversing the parable: a beggar who asks, not for bread, but stone.

G. K. Chesterton, Saint Francis

Lord of life and hope, fill me with the joy of knowing that you are beside me at every moment of every day.
✠ Amen.

Love makes the world go round

By Paul Higginson

In the musical *Cabaret*, Lisa Minnelli tells us that, "Money makes the world go round", but in today's Gospel, Jesus tells us quite forcibly that we can't serve both God and money. It's natural to seek salvation in money, to think that money will protect us and keep us safe: the more we have, the better life will be. But Jesus is saying today that

we must always put relationships before money.

Money will never save us, but the relationships we foster with our family and friends most certainly will. Whilst wealth is fleeting, the love we share with each other is eternal. The dishonest manager in today's Gospel understood what the wealthy often cannot see: we need one another, or to put it another way, "it's love that makes the world go round."

Paul Higginson is a retired teacher and author of Doing Christianity: how religion is about what you do, not what you believe

[The Church] is the womb from which we were born and at the same time the flock, the field, entrusted to us to protect and cultivate, to nourish with the sacraments of salvation and to make fruitful by our sowing the seed of the Word.

Pope Leo XIV

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope In joyful hope

May [the Jubilee] help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth, where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises.

Let us even now be drawn to this hope! Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it. May the way we live our lives say to them in so many words: "Hope in the Lord! Hold firm, take heart and hope in the Lord!" May the power of hope fill our days, as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and for ever.

Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the year 2025:25



READINGS

Today:
Amos 8:4-7
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16:1-13

Monday:
Ezra 1:1-6
Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday:
Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20
Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday:
Ezra 9:5-9
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday:
Haggai 1:1-8
Luke 9:7-9

Friday:
Haggai 1:15b - 2:9
Luke 9:18-22

Saturday:
Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a
Luke 9:43b-45

Next Sunday:
Amos 8:1a, 4-7
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31



The Catholic Parish of St Mary & St John Fisher, Denton

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**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 21st September 2025**

The Word This Week

How easy to take the words of Jesus out of context: "Use money to win you friends," is one of those lines that sounds strange to us outside the context of the parable and the teaching in today's Gospel. Even the parable itself can seem a little strange – is Jesus really recommending that we act like dishonest stewards? No, of course not! The point that reveals this is hidden half way down: "The children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind..." Jesus in a way praises the effort of the dishonest steward, but wishes that it was directed less to worldly things, but to the things of heaven. And this is the message that we are to take: where do we direct our energies – to making money, fame, fortune and success, or to finding "friends in heaven"?

GOD
DISCIPLES
FAITHFUL
MANAGER
MASTER
PRAY
SAVIOUR
SERVANT
WEALTH
WHEAT



M U L W K E O A U J U M
A W A G S R I R H T U A
S E R V A N T L I L S G
T A L R V V W R O L L A
E L S M I F H M A U D A
R T H G O D E R F R I A
U H B A U D A H R D H S
A P K B R D T A A I S C
I D I S C I P L E S C A
E M A N A G E R V M L A
T I G F K P R A Y E L B
M S E M O D A U S R L H

Mass Times 21st September		
Sunday 21st	Vigil - Saturday 12th Sunday Morning	4pm - John Francis Kerwin (A) 11am - Parish
Monday 22nd	Mass	9.30am—Tom Lally (RIP)
Tuesday 23rd	No Mass	
Wednesday 24th	Mass	9.30am Forgotten Souls
Thursday 25th	Mass	6pm Exposition 6.30pm Tom Lally
Friday 26th	Mass	9.30am Forgotten Souls
Saturday 27th Sunday 28th	Vigil Mass	4pm- Kathleen Dovey 11am –Parish
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Parish Christmas Fair

We are hoping to hold an Christmas fair toward the end of November this year.

We need donations of Bottles (For the bottle tombola); books; new toys; toiletries and anything suitable for Tombola prizes.

All donations to be brought into church as soon as possible.

We are also looking for new volunteers to plan and organise the Christmas Fair, with guidance from precious volunteers, we need people to take the rains, to coordinate the planning and organise the set up before the event, during the event and after the event. If you would like to be involved, please give your name to Paula Ellis, or Margaret McDonald at the Weekend Mass or contact the Parish office.



Vigil Mass; 4pm St Mary’s, Denton ; 5pm St Josephs, Reddish; and 6.30pm Holy Family, Dane Bank
Sunday Morning; 9am St Joseph’s, Reddish; 10am Holy Family, Dane Bank and 11am St Mary’s, Denton

Mass Offerings

Tom Lally (RIP); Forgotten Souls;

Kathleen Dovey (LD); Whelan, O’Sullivan, Nolan Families; Terence V Horan (RIP); Anthony Tucker (LD)

Please obtain permission from any living beneficiary of a Mass offering before sending it in.)

Altar Prayer Candles W/C 21st September 2025	
The Sanctuary	Anthony Scanlon
Sacred Heart	Safe Delivery of our Great Grand-daughter
Our Lady	

Faith in Action Team Fundraiser—‘Sung, Strung, Supper’ Friday 17th October –7pm

Due to the success of the last event, The Parish Faith in action group will be hosting another sing-a-long concert hosted at **St Mary’s Primary School**. (£10 individual tickets each or £35 Family = 2 adults/2 children) Buy them from the Parish Office or after 11am Mass. **All are elcome and we really need to support our young people who are organising this event! . Thank you for donating raffle prizes!** If you have anything you are able to donate it will be gratefully received. Please see Claire Cull or any of our Faith in Action young people after 11am Sunday Mass.

Scripture Course	
Due to the interested in the Scripture course last year. We are putting on a new course which will start in October.	
It will be held on a Wednesday Evening from 6.30m in the Parish Hall. The dates are:	
2025	2026
15th October	28th January
12th November	11th February
3rd December	4th March
	1st April (Holy Week)
	6th May
	11th June

What’s coming up in your parish



October

Tuesday 14th October **Sacramental Programme** meet-ing (SJF Cohort) 3.30pm SJF School Hall

Tuesday 14th October **Sacramental Programme** meet-ing (StM Cohort) 6.30pm Parish Hall

Wednesday 15th October **Scripture Course** 6.30pm in Parish Hall

Friday 17th October **Strung Sung Supper.** 7pm, St Mary’s school Hall. (tickets on sale soon)

Wednesday 22nd October **Faith in Action** 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Parish Hall

November

Wednesday 12th November **Scripture Course** 6.30pm Parish Hall

Wednesday 19th November **Faith in Action** 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Parish Hall

December

Wednesday 3rd December **Scripture Course** 6.30pm in Parish Hall

Wednesday 17th December **Faith in Action** 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Parish Hall

Parish Administrator

Appointment Type: Permanent Working hours: 12 hours per week to be worked over three days a week, though some flexibility will be required and can be offered.

Location: St Joseph’s Presbytery, 23 Gorton Road, Reddish, SK5 6AZ

Salary & benefits: £13.23 per hour, 60 hours holidays (which equates to 5 weeks) plus statutory bank holi-days and 5 Diocesan closure days (subject to pro-rata for part-time employees).

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on 1st Octo-ber2025

Please visit our website:
<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/> where you can find further information including our Privacy Notice and / or to download an application pack.



New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, from 22nd October 2025, **we will be offering a group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6.**

The group will take place monthly and be from 6:30pm until 7:30pm.

Our Faith in Action young people will run it (though there will be adult supervision as well) and it will consist of liturgy alongside games and activities.

There is a maximum of 20 places and this will be on a first come first serve basis. The dates are asfollows: 22/10/25; 19/11/25; 17/12/25; 21/01/26; 25/02/26; 18/03/26; 22/04/26; 20/05/26; 17/06/26

This is a lovely opportunity to allow our Faith in Action young people to develop their skills fur-ther as well as bringing the young of the Parish together.

If you are interested in your child attending or would like any further information please could you speak to Claire Cull after Sunday mass for a parental application form.

The Post Confirmation programme—A Call to Lead for our older young people will take place on the same evenings 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Diocese Notice Board.

The Mercy Brothers

Enjoy a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with clergy band, The Mercy Brothers. The concert will raise funds for our Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund, which supports our sick pilgrims and medical team. The concert takes place on Friday 3rd October at St Michael's RC Parish, Whitefield. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets cost £15 for adults, £10 for 16-21 year olds, and free for under 16s. Food will