

The gift of mercy

SUNDAY *Plus*

12 APRIL 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter **Divine Office Week II** Year A

Divine Mercy Sunday

The quality of mercy

The man advanced three paces and approached the lamp which was on the table. "Stop," he resumed, as though he had not quite understood. "That's not it. Did you hear? I am a galley-slave, a convict. I come from the galleys." He drew from his pocket a large sheet of yellow paper, which he unfolded. "Here's my passport. Yellow, as you see. This serves to expel me from every place where I go. Will you read it? I know how to read. I learned in the galleys. There is a school there for those who choose to learn. Hold, this is what they put on this passport: 'Jean Valjean, discharged convict, native of' – that is nothing to you – has been nineteen years in the galleys: five years for house-breaking and burglary.

Fourteen years for having attempted to escape on four occasions. He is a very dangerous man.' There! Everyone has cast me out. Are you willing to receive me? Is this an inn? Will you give me something to eat and a bed? Have you a stable?"

"Madame Magloire," said the bishop, "you will put white sheets on the bed in the alcove."...

The bishop turned to the man. "Sit down, sir, and warm yourself. We are going to sup in a few moments and your bed will be prepared while you are supping..."

At this point the man suddenly comprehended. He began stammering like a crazy man. "Really? What! You will keep me? You do not drive me forth?"

Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*



Lord of love, help me to look for happiness in the right places. Help me to be realistic in my hopes and dreams. May I find my happiness in loving you.  Amen.

Give of your best

Often, we simply don't notice that our response to a hurt is an over-reaction. Someone says or does something that hurts or offends us and we let a sense of grievance take root in our heart, creating a wound that is out of all proportion to the event that inflicted it. It's hard to detect such moments in one's own life: after all, my over-reaction usually seems entirely reasonable to me, at least at the time!...

Meet what is worst in your enemy with what is best in you. Let his wrongdoing bring out the best in you. What is best in you is not born of retaliation or hate, but of compassion and forgiveness. What is best in you is that which preserves your humanity. This is the new twist we can give to the old idea of "getting our own back" on an enemy: getting back the best and not being reduced to the worst.

Stephanie Thornton,
Finding Forgiveness

Peace be with you! It is the peace of the risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally.

Pope Leo XIV

Feast of the week
Thursday 16 April

St Bernadette of Lourdes (1844-1879)

St Bernadette had asthma. Interestingly, her biographers mention that she suffered from the condition before meeting Our Lady at the rock of Massabielle in Lourdes – and are silent about any adult asthma attacks. Did she "grow out" of it? Did Bernadette herself receive the first cure when obeyed Our Lady's instructions to bathe her face in the muddy pool which became the miraculous spring and future pilgrimage destination of millions of people? Was it such a "normal" part of her life that biographers overlook asthma when writing about Bernadette's other health issues which led to her death at the age of thirty-five?

Anybody who is familiar with asthma, either personally or through a family member, knows the limitations on activities – including food allergies – and freedoms which everybody else enjoys.

As we remember St Bernadette, perhaps it is also an opportunity to remember and pray for all those who suffer from asthma.

READINGS

Today:
Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

Monday:
Acts 4:23-31
John 3:1-8

Tuesday:
Acts 4:32-37
John 3:7-15

Wednesday:
Acts 5:17-26
John 3:16-21

Thursday:
Acts 5:27-33
John 3:31-36

Friday:
Acts 5:34-42
John 6:1-15

Saturday:
Acts 6:1-7
John 6:16-21

Next Sunday:
Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35



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Denton

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2nd Sunday of Easter
12th April 2026

The Word This Week

Often people forget that Easter is not just a day, but a season - the longest in the Church's year, in fact! We are given fifty glorious days of Spring and Summer to prolong our baptismal joy, fifty glorious days of basking in the light of the risen Saviour. It seems a shame that after the efforts we put into Lent we don't celebrate Eastertide with the same enthusiasm. The readings of this Season have their origins in the instruction given to converts in the early Church: in Lent, the readings were the basis of catechesis on the forthcoming baptism; in Easter the readings are "Mystagogy" - a type of teaching where the newly baptised ("neophytes") learn through taking part in the celebration of the sacraments and hearing the word. On the Sundays we hear who Jesus is, and on weekdays hear about Baptism and the Eucharist. This "Mystagogy" is not just to nourish the neophytes, but to help all of us deepen our life in the risen Lord Jesus. This Sunday we are with the disciples in the Upper Room, where eight days after the Resurrection Jesus comes among them - as he comes among us.



Mass Times 12th April 2026		
Sunday 12th April	Vigil - Saturday 11th Sunday Morning	4pm - Parish 11am - Claire Boland
Monday 13th	Requiem Mass	10am—David Goddard
Tuesday 14th	No Mass	
Wednesday 15th	Mass	9.30am – Special Intention
Thursday 16th	Exposition Mass	6pm 6.30pm—Tom Lally
Friday 17th	Mass	9.30am—Peter Lally
Saturday 18th Sunday 19th March	Vigil Mass	4pm— Parish & Thomas Lyons (A) 11am – Wayne Russell Davies
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Mass Offerings :- Claire Boland; Tom Lally (RIP); Peter Lally (RIP); Special Intention; Thomas Lyons (A);

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

Altar Prayer Candles W/C 12th April 2026	
The Sanctuary	
Sacred Heart	Anthony Scanlon
Our Lady	

What’s coming up in our parish

Scripture Course

Wednesday Evening from 6.30m in the Parish Hall. The dates are:

2026 6th May; 11th June



A Man for All Seasons

We have chance for some tickets to see A Man for All Seasons at The Lowry Theatre on Saturday 7th November at 2pm. Ticket price is £38.00. Anyone who would like to place a Register of Interest in this event (this does not guarantee you a ticket) Please put your name on the list at the back of church.

Recent deaths in our Parish

The death has occurred of **David Goddard**, our prayers and condolence go to his family and friends. David’s Requiem Mass will be on Monday 13th April at 10.30am. May he rest in peace.

The death has occurred of **Tony Moss**, our prayers and condolence go to his family and friends. Tony’s Requiem Mass will be on Monday 27th April at 10.30am. May he rest in peace.

The death has occurred of Noel Ward. Our prayers and condolences go to his family and friends. Noel’s funeral details will be confirmed soon. May he rest in peace.



Altar Prayer Candles

Our Seven Day Candles can be lit next to the Sanctuary, Our Lady’s Altar and The Sacred Heart Statue at St Mary’s. To dedicate a candle for your own intentions please pick up a green form at the back of church and return in an envelope with your donation. This is another way for your special intentions to be remembered and prayed for in the Parish.

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

CONFIRMATION

There will be two classes for our confirmation candidates. These will be on 18th and 25th April from 9.30am until 2.30pm.

Catholicism Course.

The next course will be held on Thursday 16th April, after the Evening Mass

New Offertory Envelopes

Please collect your envelopes for the new financial year from the back of church. You should search for your name and address, as envelope numbers change each year. If you are unable to find your box please contact the office. **The New envelopes start on Sunday 12th April.** Please use your current envelopes until this date.

Faith in Action—Lourdes Fundraising Raffle

The Faith in Action group will be selling tickets to fraise funds for the Lourdes Pilgrimage. Tickets are available after the Sunday Masses, or from the Parish Office.

Tickets are £5 per strip of £2 for an individual ticket.

1st Prize—2 Tickets for Manchester City v Brentford, on Saturday 9th May.

2nd Prize—Legal Will, Curtesy of Mr John Galvin

3rd Prize—£50 towards a meal at the Dane Bank Pub.

New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, **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 as follows; 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 further 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.



R	O	F	D	E	I	S	A	M	D
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WEEK
FEAR
FORGIVE
FINGER

DOORS
PEACE
THOMAS
EIGHT

CLOSED
HANDS
HOLES
BELIEVE

