

THIS WEEKEND		16th Sunday in Ordinary Time		Year A
Sat 18th July	9.30am	St T	Laura Chapman Patricia Wilkinson (A)	
Sun 19th July	9.30am	St T	Special Intention	
Divine Office 4				
Mon 20th July	9.30am	St T	Harry Moss (A)	
Tues 21st July	9.30am	St T	Hector Battarbee (A) Carole Helvyn-Smith and Family and Friends Denis Smith B'Day Remembrance	
	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention	
Wed 22nd July <i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	9.30am	St T	Barbara Bashall (80th B'Day)	
	9.30am	St O	Chris Nihill	
Thu 23rd July <i>St Bridget</i>	9.30am	St T	Christine Kay (LD)	
	9.30am	St O	Priest's Intention	
Fri 24th July	9.30am	St T	Priest's Intention	
	9.30am	St O	Special Intention	
NEXT WEEKEND		17th Sunday of Ordinary Time		Year A
Sat 25th July <i>St James</i>	9.30am	St O	Jean Whipp B'Day	
	9.30am	St T	Priest's Intention	
Sun 26th July	9:30am	St O	Priest's Intention	
	9.30am	St T	Parishioners	

Masses will continue to be said in the parish without the faithful, i.e. no public attendance.

The Catholic Church

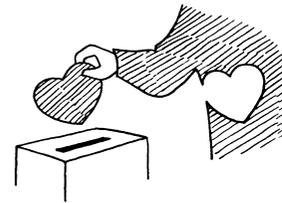
in Penwortham + Longton

St Mary Magdalen, St Oswald + St Teresa

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16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 19th July 2020

The Lord is our Merciful Judge

This Sunday we are, again, reminded of God's central characteristic – merciful love. We are always in need of forgiveness, and the readings today assure us both of God's mercy and compassion and the promise of assistance. The Holy Spirit is given freely, to help us in our weakness.

Today's **First Reading** reaffirms that God's mighty strength is demonstrated through fair judgement. And, because God is lenient and kind to us, we might be moved to treat others in the same way.

The **Psalm** continues the theme of God's quality of mercy. God is full of compassion, abounding in love and truth. God is forgiveness.

The **Gospel** deals with the problem of evil. God's kingdom is one of truth, justice and integrity, but it exists in an imperfect world. St Matthew tells us that God will be faithful to those who have tried to seek him in the midst of the reality of evil.

St Paul tells us that when we need help in this regard, the Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. When I struggle to pray for what I need, the Spirit prays for me! (**Second Reading**)

Let's ask, this week, for the help of the Spirit, who prays in and for us. May we receive what we need to cope with the evils of the world and with our own weaknesses, and may we find our strength in the loving mercy of God.

To receive the weekly newsletter and other updates by email, please send your details to the parish office: penwortham@rcaolp.co.uk

St Teresa's church in Penwortham is now open, for private prayer only, on:
Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11.00am till 1.00pm.

St Mary Magdalen's in Penwortham is now open, for private prayer only, on:
Sunday 11am—12 Noon

St Oswald's in Longton is now open for private prayer only on:

Sunday 1pm—3pm, Monday 12 Noon—1pm, Friday 12 Noon—1pm

Parishioners who are self-isolating, Shielding, or Vulnerable, or have any Covid-19 symptoms, should not attend.

Just to make you aware, at this time of difficult communication, that Anastasia Wright and Arthur Derek Spencer have sadly died. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

May the soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St Oswald's Mass Intentions can be arranged by phone, by emailing the parish or by placing the intention through the Presbytery letter box. (Donations for Masses can be included in envelopes or can be sorted out later.)

St Oswald's: Thank you to all our parishioners who continue to support the parish through their planned giving method whether it be through donations, gift aid envelopes or bank mandates.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

St Teresa's Webcam: There have been some people who were unable to connect to the web cam, on different occasions.

Try... <https://www.watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/st-teresas-penwortham>

Or... <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-teresas-penwortham>

If the picture 'freezes' then please refresh the screen to resume watching. It may just be that too many people signing in at the same time. If this is the case, you may need to visit another web site i.e. Lourdes, the Vatican or Walsingham, but to name a few.

Online Giving / Text giving: If you wish to make a donation, please follow this link or the QR code on the right:

<http://www.catholic-penwortham-longton.btck.co.uk/FinanceSynod>



Update - Together on the Road

The last few months have been unexpected and they have taught us all that the road has many twists and turns on it and, as the Synod journey continues, God is calling us to listen, often in new and exciting ways.

Becoming the Church God is calling us to be. In the light of all this we have had to look again at the proposed Synod timetable. The Synod was never just one or two dates but there are certain dates that we have had to change.

We are using this present time (until the beginning of September) to ask: "What is God saying to us in the light of what is happening all around us?" Where can we hear the voice of God in the new and different ways in which we are gathering, in which we are celebrating Mass, in which we are using (or not) our buildings. We need to try to listen and to carefully discern. This is surely a God-given opportunity. Please go on to the Synod Website and suggest any proposals that you feel need to be heard.

Members of the Working Party have been looking at (discerning) all the proposals that have come in – over 2500. We have tried to ask ourselves what it is that is being said in each of the proposals. There is repetition and there are a few proposals that are outside the work of the Synod – but it has been a privileged task to work on all that has come in so far.

In **October 2020** (on what would have been the weekend of our Synod gathering) we will take an opportunity, through Synod Sunday, to revisit the themes of the Synod, the work that has been done and outline the next stages of the Synod 2020 journey.

From **mid-October to early December** all of the discerned proposals (long-list) will be sent to the Synod Members. They will be asked to share them as widely as possible and listen to responses. At the **beginning of December 2020** Members will be invited to share the responses saying which of the (long-listed) proposals should go forward to the Synod gatherings.

There will be a **meeting of Synod Members in March 2021**. At these meetings we will present the final list of proposals to the Synod Members who then go back to the parishes and communities to discuss them before the Synod Weekend.

The Synod weekend will now be June 18th, 19th and 20th 2021. A prayer vigil will take place on 18th. The Synod Gathering will be at the Edge on Saturday June 19th and then the Synod Mass of Thanksgiving will be on **20th Sunday June 2021**.

Please keep praying for the work of the Synod.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, the giver of all good gifts, our desire to praise you is itself a blessing you have bestowed on us. We can offer you nothing that you already have except our love which we render to you in worship and in service through your son Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**

