

# BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

Chapel Fold, Hoghton, PR5 0DE

Parish Priest: Fr Raphael Jones OSB

Telephone: 01254 852026 – Mobile (emergency) 07944 255541

Email: [pp@brindlestjosephs.org.uk](mailto:pp@brindlestjosephs.org.uk)

Website: [www.brindlestjosephs.org.uk](http://www.brindlestjosephs.org.uk)

Ampleforth Abbey Trust – Registered Charity no: 1026493

---

## Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023

(Sunday cycle year A, weekday cycle year 1, psalter week 2)

### SEA SUNDAY



*“My yoke is easy and my burden light”*

#### **A Prayer for Sea Sunday**

Heavenly Father, we give thanks to you for your creation and all the beauty in this world. We thank you for the ocean, in its abundance, and for the people who toil on its surface. Without our brothers and sisters who are seafarers, we would not be able to enjoy all the blessings of this world. Enfold them in your fatherly love, guide their passage through storm, swell and darkness. May we always be mindful of our Global Family and be truly grateful for the sacrifices seafarers make each day. Amen

## THIS WEEK

Sat 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Wilf Nicholson	BVM
	6.00pm	Tony and Barbara Phelan	<b>Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	For the Parish	
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass today</b>		Feria
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Maureen Seacombe	St Benedict (feast)
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	John and Hazel Jones	Feria
Thu 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Hilda Warbrick</b>	Feria
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Souls	Feria
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Ann Lumb	St Bonaventure (memorial)
	6.00pm	For the Parish	<b>Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	John Robert Latham	

### CONFESSIONS: FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10.00am OR BY APPOINTMENT

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop	
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup>		L Lomax		L Gardner		P Hothersall	
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>		F Fordyce		J Slater		B Gore	
Bidding prayers	The Music Group		Children's Liturgy	L Worswick	Collection counters	B Kellett & M Russell	
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop	
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>		M Russell		P Fawcett		R Smith	
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>		K Slater		S Schofield		C Snape	
Bidding prayers	Fr Raphael		Children's Liturgy	L Rigbye, J Kitchen	Collection counters	J & K Slater	

**Last weekend: attendance: 116, collection: £692.68, Peter's Pence: £52.01 – thank you!**

**Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10, Romans 8:9,11-13, Matthew 11:25-30.**

In our first reading, St Paul exhorts the Romans, as Christians, to focus on the spiritual not the unspiritual *because the Spirit of God has made his home in you*. The Spirit of God is the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead and that as sisters and brothers of Christ, they share the same Spirit who will give new life to their mortal bodies as well. He tells them, therefore, to put an end to the misdeeds of the body and they will live.

The other week, we spoke of heresies as teachings at variance with official or orthodox teachings such as that of the Church. One of these teachings which may have been in the mind of St Paul as he wrote this letter is the belief that the material world was created by a lesser being than God, that creation is all bad, including humanity, unless you were among the enlightened with a kind of divine spark within you which was destined to be liberated from the evil body at death and re-join the ultimate spirit. This meant that what you did with the physical body was irrelevant since your liberation from it was assured – which allowed for all kinds of abuses and sinful actions of the body

But St Paul says No! The Spirit of God has made his home in you. It is your whole body, (material and spiritual) that will either be saved or not and this is why in his Gospel, St John is keen to emphasise the bodily appearance of Jesus after his resurrection: feel my body, put your hand in my wounds, give me some fish to eat because this is me in my body and not some ghost or detached spirit.

True, it was a glorified body not subject to the physical limitation of **our** unglorified bodies but eternity in God's love (Heaven) or eternity outside of it (Hell), depends upon how we use our bodies in both the material and spiritual sense.

To follow the unspiritual is to sin, but can we by a mere act of will, turn from sin because; if it is all *will* then where is the *grace* and if it is all *grace*, then where is the *will* – since there must be room for the exercise of free will?

It is enough here to say that this has been a thorny question over the centuries, so let's look to the Word of God.

In his first letter, St John states the case but also helps us out. He says that if we say we have no sin in us, we deceive ourselves. But he goes on to say: *I am writing this letter to stop you sinning, but if anyone should sin, we have the advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ who is just and is the Sacrifice who takes our sins away. (2: 1-2)*

Earlier in his letter to the Romans, we find St Paul struggling with trying to understand his own attraction to sin when he speaks of the things he knows he shouldn't do which he does and the things he doesn't do that he

knows he should, and he cries out *What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body doomed to death* and he answers his own question: *Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ.*

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives his own answer: *Come to me all who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls.*

Surely his invitation is extended to all who are overburdened and weighed down by sin.

So then, do we have an answer to the question: *is it my will or God's grace that turns me from the unspiritual to the spiritual?*

Maybe it is the *will* responding to his grace... the way I may feel the irresistible warmth of the sun on my back and turning, bathe my whole being in it...the *turning* being my free choice to embrace it.

Or maybe we should just heed Jesus' words and have the humility to accept our intellectual limitations in these matters and simply turn to him with childlike trust and an open heart.

Wouldn't that be a start to living the spiritual life?

---

## Reflections

Our Lord needs from us neither great deeds or profound thoughts. Neither intelligence or talents. What he cherishes is simplicity. (*St Therese of Lisieux*)

With Prayers,

Fr Raphael.

---

## This week's Saints

### St Benedict (c480-550)

Born in Norcia, Italy and educated in Rome. He lived a solitary life in a cave in Subiaco for three years. Later he organised a form of monastic life in twelve monasteries. The monks who joined him devoted themselves to work and prayer. In the abbey of Monte Cassino which he founded, he wrote his Rule. He was proclaimed Patron of Europe because of his influence in the formation of Christendom in the Middle Ages.

### St Bonaventure (1218-74) Cardinal, Bishop and Franciscan.

He was of Italian birth, of great intellect and a friend of that other great intellect: St Thomas Aquinas of the Dominican Order.

But Bonaventure was less dogmatic than St Thomas and rather more mystical in his theological understanding – believing that the simpler, less educated mind could have a clearer understanding of God than the wise and clever.

To that end, a saying attributed to him: *To know much and taste nothing – of what use is that?*

---

**TODAY IS SEA SUNDAY** when we are asked to remember in our prayers all those who work at sea and their families.

---

**MASS ON THURSDAY** is at **10.30am** – Requiem Mass for Hilda Warbrick.

---

The **PARISH FUN DAY** raised **£1,743** – thank you all who supported it and special thanks to those who worked so hard in organising it.

---

**ASK YOUR MP TO STOP ABORTION UP TO BIRTH:** The abortion lobby is running a campaign to fully 'decriminalise' abortion, which would introduce abortion up to birth! Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website which makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to oppose the introduction of abortion up to birth. Please visit <https://righttolife.org.uk/noabortionuptobirth> to contact your MP – it only takes 30 seconds.

---

**PLEASE PRAY** for Hilda Warbrick who has died, for those who are sick or housebound including Doreen Sherry, Bill Warbrick and Anne Chadwick, as well as for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

---

**100 CLUB:** The winner for week 30 is number 15, Trevor Greenwood. The next block of 10 weeks starts next weekend when **subs are due** (unless you've paid for the full year).

---

## RISING COSTS

For everyone, the cost of living is presently rising at an alarming rate. Energy costs are at an all-time high, and the cost of essentials at the supermarket increases each week. So now is not a good time to appeal for additional help for the church's finances, but sadly, however, it is necessary. The heating bills for the church are rising just as much as in your homes, and the maintenance of the old buildings are a constant drain on the church's income.

So, we are asking that if you can do so without making your personal situation much worse, could you consider adding a little extra in your weekly offering or monthly standing order? Just a 10% increase will help offset the much greater costs of electricity, gas and essential maintenance the church faces in the coming months.

If you are setting up or amending a standing order, the account details are: **Account name:** Archdiocese L'Pool Brindle St Joseph's Presb 007, **Account number:** 71544691, **Sort code:** 40-29-12, **Account type:** Business.

Also, if you pay UK income tax, signing up for Gift Aid will cost you nothing, but allow the church to reclaim from the government an additional 20% of your offering.

Another extremely valuable benefit for the church, but one which is often not considered is that of leaving a legacy to the benefit of St Joseph's. If you are considering writing or making amendments to your will, this would be a perfect time to add a clause defining the amount you would like to give to the church. It is very important that any alterations to a will are officially sanctioned to avoid any issues at the time of probate. Thank you.

---

**MISSALETES FOR SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME** can be used on ferial days of the same week – the readings, psalm and Gospel acclamation will be different but the antiphons & prayers are the same.

---

**During Ordinary Time up to September, we are asked to pray for:** A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

---

**GRAVEYARD:** Please could we avoid planting shrubs or any other plants or placing any items in front of graves which might prohibit the passing of a lawnmower. In the interests of the environment, can we keep the use of plastic to a minimum and, to make life easier for our dedicated volunteers, please remove wreaths etc in a timely fashion.

---

**TEA & COFFEE** are served after Mass on Sunday mornings. Please come along – you'll be very welcome.

---

If you're the **LAST ONE OUT** of church after a weekend Mass, could you please check that the lights are turned off and doors closed? Thank you.

---

In the unlikely event of the need to evacuate church for any reason, the **ASSEMBLY POINT** is in Chapel Fold, by the statue of St Joseph.

---

The **KEY FOR THE TOILETS** is available at the back of church during Mass.

---

**HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS:** If you, or someone you know, would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplain while in hospital, please ring 01257 262713 (for Chorley hospital) or 01772 719604 (for Preston). For St Catherine's Hospice, contact Browndedge St Mary's on 01772 335168.

---

### **Bidding Prayers for 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 2023 – Sea Sunday**

**Priest:** Having welcomed the Word of God in faith, in confidence, let us make our prayers to Him.

**Reader:**

We pray for Pope Francis and all who lead the Church, that, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they may continue to guide and shepherd us along the right, just and true path of faith. Lord hear us.

Let us ask God to protect all who work on the sea. May they always feel the loving embrace of our Heavenly Father. Lord hear us.

Let us pray for all those who feel burdened by life and currently find themselves living in darkness. That they will soon experience God's solace and comfort and be moved to live in the Light of Christ. Lord hear us.

The Lord tells us that He has revealed the mysteries of the Kingdom to little children. Let us, therefore, ask for the grace to protect all children – born and unborn – from every form of harm. Lord hear us.

Lord Jesus, you are the way, the truth and the life. Give us the hope, faith and strength to follow you at all times, through all the burdens, difficulties and obstacles that we might face. Lord hear us.

Let us pray for all those who feel abandoned, neglected or exploited, especially in our own community. Lord hear us.

Let us join our prayers with those of Our Lady as we say: Hail Mary...

We now pray in silence for our own needs.

**Priest:** Father, in your mercy, accept the prayers we make for ourselves and our neighbours, especially those who work at sea. We make our prayer through Christ, our harbour of peace. Amen

#### **PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

**Priest:** As we thank God for the gift of his Son in Holy Communion, let us remember those of our Parish who are sick or housebound.

**All:** May the body and blood of your Son, which we now send to them through our Eucharistic Ministers, bring them consolation and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.