

# BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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## Twenty-sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

1<sup>st</sup> October 2023

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

### ROSARY SUNDAY



*“Which of the two did the father’s will?”*

O God, whose only begotten Son by his life, death and resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant we beseech thee, that meditating on the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THIS WEEK

Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Dom Alberic Stacpoole OSB	St Jerome (memorial)
	6.00pm	For the Parish	<b>Twenty-sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> October	9.30am	For peace in the world	
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>No Mass today</b>		The Guardian Angels (memorial)
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Patricia Southworth	Feria
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Special intention (DD)	St Francis of Assisi (memorial)
Thu 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Pope's intentions	Feria
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Special intention (DD)	Feria <b>(CAFOD Family Fast Day)</b>
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Confessions and Anointing of the Sick before Mass</b>	Our Lady of the Rosary (memorial)
	10.30am	Abbot's intentions	
	6.00pm	Rodney Boon	<b>Twenty-seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	For the Parish	

**CONFESSIONS AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK:  
FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10.00am OR BY APPOINTMENT**

This week	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Bookshop
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>	G Kellett	P Cook	Not open
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	R Conboy	J Kitchen	Not open
<b>Bidding prayers</b>	Fr Raphael	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	F Fordyce, G Fowler
			<b>Collection counters</b> C & K Snape
Next week	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Bookshop
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	L Gardner	P Fawcett	L Gardner
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	B Cook	J Slater	C Snape
<b>Bidding prayers</b>	L Russell	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	B Gorrell, A Fowler
			<b>Collection counters</b> P & J Kitchen

**Last week: attendance 86, collection: £388.90 – thank you!**

### Pastoral Letter – Conclusion of the Season of Creation 2023

As the Season of Creation draws to a close for this year, we are invited to reflect on the readings from Scripture we have just heard. In today's first reading from the prophet Ezekiel, we hear the abrupt and possibly harsh call which warns the wicked to renounce their ways and holds those who witness evil and do nothing responsible. The Gospel tells us how we should react to wrong-doing: by facing it, naming it, and trying to remedy it.

These passages from scripture are often invoked as a call to personal repentance, but after this summer of fires and floods, of record temperatures, and devastated landscapes, I am led to reflect on our call to be a prophetic voice on the ills of our times. Especially on the potential catastrophic effects of climate change which not only negatively impact human life but all animal and plant life on land and sea.

This coming Wednesday Pope Francis will be publishing a follow up to his 2015 letter 'Laudato Si'. Addressed to the whole world, the title of both publications derives from the first words of a St Francis of Assisi prayer – whose feast day we will celebrate on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. St Francis wrote, "Praise be to brother sun and sister moon." By addressing all creation in this way, he reminds us that we are all interconnected.

There is no place for attitudes that think fires in Southern Europe, North Africa and Canada are no concern of ours. St Thomas Aquinas, the great Dominican philosopher and theologian, said "In every living creature there is a trace of the Trinity".

In 'Laudato Si', Pope Francis draws together centuries of prayer and wisdom and asks us to urgently "Listen to the Cry of the Earth, and the Cry of the Poor". The Synod was part of that listening, as we built relationships with one another, and discerned a way forward for a more sustainable Church. That is why today you are receiving an update on what the Archdiocese is doing, and what you can do as an individual and a parish.

October sees the Archdiocese re-commit itself to creating a more sustainable world and I have chosen to bring this under the banner of Care for Creation. This phrase captures our Christian call to love each other and care for God's Earth.

I am aware of the need to be a steward of our resources, people, and environment and I am supported by all who work and volunteer within the Archdiocese – so I wish to share some of this with you.

Within the Archdiocese our buildings are already supplied by electricity generated from renewable energy, such as wind and solar, and 80 per-cent of the gas we burn is produced from renewable resources. This year, we are preparing a Net Zero carbon emissions plan that will identify how we can become even greener. We continue to take seriously how our money is invested: we have established a Responsible Investment Policy, and invited people into conversations about our sustainable livelihoods and the impact of our investments.

In our schools, we will continue to deliver education and resources to seek behavioural change at an individual and school level. CAFOD's Live Simply campaign continues to engage the interest of our young people.

Across deaneries, our own environmental training programme has prepared more than 40 Care for Creation leaders promoting action in parishes.

At the launch of the Pastoral Plan, after our diocesan Synod, I encouraged schools, parishes, and each one of us to make pledges. I invite you again to reflect on this Season of Creation. I hope that you may become inspired to build God's Kingdom on earth through practical, spiritual, and other activities that bring us together in more sustainable relationships.

You may pledge to eat less meat; walk rather than drive whenever possible; reduce air travel; limit the number of new clothes you buy. You may wish to pray that we take the environmental situation seriously or meditate on God's creation – being attentive to the gift of life and practising gratitude for the world around us. You may commit to joining an environmental group or working with other local churches – building new and life-giving relationships.

This is not just another environmental campaign; it is an integral part of our faith. It is about commitment, action, and participation in the work that Christ asks of us. In coming together as a parish, in making your personal pledges, in striving to heal the planet – you are a living witness to Jesus Christ. So do not be afraid to tell people why you are working for justice for the world's poorest people. You are working as a response to God's call, expressed through today's psalm:

“He guides the humble in the right path, He teaches his way to the poor.”

May the Lord of all creation bless you and your families,

Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool

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### **This week's commemorations**

**The Guardian Angels** When speaking of children, Jesus warns 'See that you never despise any of these little ones for I tell you that their angels in heaven are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven'. (Mt 18:10) That each one of us has a guardian angel reminds us of God's loving concern for every one of us.

**St Francis of Assisi** (1181-1226) born of a prosperous cloth merchant in Assisi but Francis renounced all he possessed, preferring to live in abject poverty. He preached to all the love of God and love of all God's creation, because having given up everything, he now celebrated with exuberant thanksgiving all he received as gift. He wore an old brown garment begged from a peasant, tied around the middle with string. Ten years later, 5,000 followers were wearing it.

**Our Lady of the Rosary** reminds us that October is set aside for this particular devotion. An opportunity for parents to teach their children how to pray the rosary and perhaps feel the power of her motherly intercession for our deepest needs.

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**OCTOBER ROSARY:** We will say a decade of the Rosary after weekday Masses during October.

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There will be a **FOODBANK COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND.**

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The **BOOKSHOP** will be open **next weekend** with **new stock for Christmas.**

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**CAFOD HARVEST APPEAL:** As we remember, and perhaps celebrate, harvest time, CAFOD are asking us to consider those less fortunate, to eat simply for a time and to donate to their appeal. One example of the help that CAFOD gives is Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic, which gets life-saving help quickly to where it's most needed. When her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Your donations to CAFOD will help more families get the expert help they need. **Family Fast Day is this Friday.** To donate, use the envelope in your regular giving pack or take a CAFOD envelope from the back of church – these have a Gift Aid form which you can complete to enable CAFOD to reclaim the tax on the donation. Or give online at: <https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/family-fast-day> – this page includes a short video on the situation in Pakistan and a link so you can donate your chosen amount. Thank you!

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**PLEASE PRAY** for those who are sick or housebound including Margaret O'Neil, Fr Jonathan Cotton OSB and Bill Warbrick, as well as for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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**100 CLUB:** The winner for week 42 is number 59, Marjorie Hardman. The next block of 10 weeks has started so **SUBS ARE DUE.**

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

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

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**DURING ORDINARY TIME (AUTUMN)** we are asked to pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; the Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their Families.

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### **RIISING 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.

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## **Bidding Prayers 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A**

**Priest.** United in Christ and the Spirit, let us turn to our Heavenly Father for our needs and the needs of the world.

**Reader.** For the Church. That she may be a beacon of Christ's light and a harbour of calm and peace for all caught up in the turbulent waters of life. Lord, in your mercy.

For those in government. We pray for their greater awareness of the effects of their decisions on the environment and the balance of nature. Lord, in your mercy.

For all survivors of abuse or oppression of any kind. Bring them relief of mind, body and spirit and give them hope. Lord, in your mercy.

For those suffering mental or physical pain as they await medical care. Send your Spirit of comfort and hope among them. May the disputes soon be resolved enabling them to receive the treatments they need. Lord, in your mercy.

For ourselves as a parish community. In the spirit of the Pastoral Letter, may each of us find ways of making God's Kingdom on earth a visible sign of Christ's loving presence among us. Lord, in your mercy.

Let us ask Mary to unite our prayers with hers as together we say...Hail Mary...

**Priest.** Father, trusting in your love and mercy, we ask you to hear and grant our prayer, through Christ our Lord.

### **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.