

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.*

COLLECT

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord: 'You say, "The way of the Lord is not just." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 25(24):4-5b. 6-7. 8-9. R. 6a

R: Remember your compassion, O Lord.

- O LORD, make me know your ways.
Teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth, and teach me;
for you are the God of my salvation. *R.*
- Remember your compassion, O LORD,
and your merciful love, for they are from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth,
nor my transgressions.
In your merciful love remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD. *R.*
- Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he shows the way to sinners.
He guides the humble in right judgement;
to the humble he teaches his way. *R.*

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.
(for shorter form read between > <)

> Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy; complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <

who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 10:27

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,
and I know them, and they follow me.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." And he answered, "I will not", but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, "I go, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterwards change your minds and believe him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O merciful God,
that this our offering may find acceptance with you
and that through it the wellspring of all blessing
may be laid open before us.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.*

Or

*By this we came to know the love of God:
that Christ laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord,
restore us in mind and body,
that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ,
to whose suffering we are united
whenever we proclaim his Death.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Sunday Message

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year A • 27 September 2026 • Psalter Week 2

HUMBLE OF HEART

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11



In today's second reading, St Paul offers advice to the church in Philippi on the importance of humility. It would make him completely happy, he tells them, if there were no competition or conceit among them, if they put others' interests before their own. They must be united in love, with a common purpose and a common mind.

To illustrate his point, Paul then includes a poem or hymn about the humility of Jesus: how he emptied himself to become human and humbled himself further still by accepting death on a cross. But God has raised Jesus up and given him a name above all other names.

Jesus is our model of humility. The only ambition the Christian must have is to love and serve others. ■

REFLECT

The 17-year-old was working with a gang building a road in the Texas hill country in the 1920s. The road was being built by hand, and the tall, gangly teenager was pushing a scoop, a plough-like instrument with a sharpened front edge, that was pulled by four mules. It was back-breaking work, difficult even for older, stronger men. At lunch break each day, as they sat eating, the teenager would talk big to the older men. 'He wanted to do something big with his life,' one of his workmates recalled. 'And he was quite specific about what he wanted to do: "I'm going to be president of the United States one day," he boasted.

They laughed at him, this poor boy from nowhere. It's the sort of idle claim many people make, except this youth was deadly serious. And he began to work towards realising that dream – first as a school teacher, then a congressional aide, then a congressman, then a senator, then U.S. vice-president, and finally, on 22 November 1963, president Lyndon B. Johnson's lifelong ambition was fulfilled, albeit in the most tragic of circumstances. His life is a study in ambition: how to set a goal, a target, and never let go until it comes true.

Ambition takes many forms. It can be political, like LBJ. Or to be rich or famous, or to succeed in business or sport.

But what does ambition mean for the follower of Jesus? Christian ambition is the opposite of worldly ambition. It turns our usual understanding of ambition on its head. It is about being least, being last, being a servant, being little, being humble.

Jesus was big into humility. He chose the sick over the healthy, the weak over the powerful, the poor over the rich. He didn't select scholars and big shots as his apostles but fishermen and ordinary types. He practised humility. He washed feet, mixed with outcasts and died with criminals. 'I have given you an example,' he said, 'that you also must follow.'

What does it mean for us to be humble?

First, to be humble is to be self-aware. It is to know we are not perfect, that we are pilgrims on the journey. No matter how hard we try, we come up short. Despite our best efforts, we sin all the time. It's the one thing we all have in common. Humility is being aware of our unworthiness, our shadow side. It means being without ego or conceit. How can we look down on another when we know we're not perfect ourselves?

DO

Holiness is reacting with meekness and humility, Pope Francis said. Do you think people see you as humble?

SAY

'Lord, open my eyes and heart to see and serve you in my sisters and brothers. Amen.'

PRAY

This is World Day of Migrants and Refugees. Pray for migrants and refugees, that they will be treated with respect as children of God.

LEARN

The proof of our faith is in our living of it.

The Christian is called to a life of love and service.

It's never too late to say 'yes' to God.

We acknowledge our humility before Holy Communion when we say, 'Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof...' I don't deserve you.

Second, to be humble is to be selfless. It demands that we set aside our selfish obsessions, ambitions, and desires and give ourselves to the other. Humility washes feet and loves without exception. Think of the last judgement scene in Matthew 25. On what basis will God separate the saved from the lost? I was hungry, and you gave me food; thirsty, and you gave me drink; a stranger, and you made me welcome, naked, and you clothed me; sick or in prison, and you came to see me. Humility is selflessness writ large.

Third, to be humble is to be prayerful. Archbishop Fulton Sheen said that 'Only the humble can pray, for prayer presumes we need someone and something.' Prayer presumes humility. When we ask God for something, or thank God for something, we are admitting our need for God, that on our own we can do nothing. And so we turn to God in our need, our gratitude, our joy, our heartbreak. We place ourselves before the God who gives us life. That's what we do every time we pray. Humility is at the heart of the Christian life. ■



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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A			
Saturday 26 th Sept	4 – 4.40pm	Confessions	John Thompson (Anniversary)
	5.00pm	Mass	
Sunday 27 th September 2026	9am	Mass	Ted O’Sullivan (Anniversary)
	11am	Mass	
Monday 28 th Sept	12 Noon	Mass	Amber Smith
Tuesday 29 th Sept	9am	Mass SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels	Layla (Thanksgiving)
Wednesday 30 th Sept	12 Noon	Mass St Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church	Yvonne O’Rourke (Lately Dead)
Friday 2 nd Oct	11.30am	Exposition	Jacqueline & Jennifer Baker (80 th Birthday)
	12 Noon	Mass The Holy Guardian Angels	

Recent deaths:

Mass intentions received for Lately Dead: Carmen Lawn, Fergal Hughes

**Please remember in prayer all those who have died this week, may they rest in peace.
Please pray for all the sick of the Parish and those for whom Mass is offered this week
and those whose anniversaries occurs at this time**

**A warm welcome to Mass this weekend and a special welcome to our visitors
Do join us for refreshments after Mass**

With very grateful thanks for your generous donations to the Parish.

The **Retiring Collection** for **Home Mission Sunday** raised £391.25.

We welcome the Diocesan Children’s Choir who will lead with the singing at the 9am Mass this morning.

All parishioners at St Roberts **who are new to the parish in the past two years** are invited to a welcome event in the parish centre at **4pm this afternoon, Sunday 27th September**. Refreshments will be provided.

REGULAR EVENTS

APF Red Mission – Michael Brennan
Presbytery 01423 504988

Children’s Liturgy - Suzanne Walker

9am Choir & 11am Choir
Presbytery 01423 504988

Churches Flower team – Sue Greveson
Presbytery 01423 504988

Gift Aid – Richard Boscoe
office.strobert@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Mary’s Angels Parent & Toddler Group -
1st & 3rd Mondays -
Katherine 01423 734828

Mothers’ Prayers - meetings held
fortnightly. Jackie Tevlin 01423 529035

Parish Centre bookings
office.strobert@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Bereavement Support -
Presbytery 01423 504988

Piety Stall - Caroline Walker
office.strobert@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Safeguarding Representative (Parish)
Mick Hopwood
psr.mhopwood@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

St Robert’s Brownies - Wed 5.30-7.15
Sarah Mansfield 01423 566651

St Vincent de Paul Society - Mon 6pm
07442485316

St Robert’s Walking Group - Second
Thurs of the month, contact George
Marczak 07905820864

St John Fisher - Mr S Mort
01423 887254

St Robert’s Primary - Miss J Collins
01423 504730

St Roberts Club: open Mon-Fri from 7pm
(or by arrangement)

200 Club - Caroline Walker
office.strobert@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

This is not a full list and just gives a little
advance notice of events coming up.

SEP
27th – New Parishioners welcome event

OCT
5th & 19th – Mary’s Angels 1.30-3pm
7th & 21st – Loss Support Café
12th -Women’s evening 7pm
18th – Baptism Mass 11am
– Apologia 5pm

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH FINANCIALLY The most popular way of ensuring that the Parish benefits from whatever regular giving you can afford, and where possible, ensuring Gift Aid is claimed (at no extra cost to you) is by Standing Order. Forms can be accessed by clicking the link below, picking up a form at the back of church or simply set up via your own banking facilities.:
[Standing Order form](#)
[DOL Gift Aid Declaration form](#)

Account name:
DOL HARR OLI&STR

Sort Code: 40-27-15

Account No: 81017489

Or you can make a donation by
scanning this QR CODE



We celebrated a lovely Mass at **St Robert’s School** on Tuesday morning to ask God’s blessing on the new school year and to welcome and pray for our new headteacher, Miss Amanda Rhodes. As a parish, we extend our warmest welcome to Miss Rhodes and look forward to working closely with her in the years ahead. Please keep the children, staff and governors of all our schools in your prayers, that this coming term may be a time of joyful learning, growing friendships and deepening faith, with Christ at the heart of each school community.

Music plays an important part in our worship at St Robert’s, helping us to pray, celebrate and participate more fully in the Mass. We are always keen to welcome **new singers and musicians** who might be willing to share their gifts with the parish. Whether you are an experienced musician or singer, or simply someone who enjoys singing and would like to become more involved, we would love to hear from you. In particular, we are looking to further support the incredible musicians and singers at both our **9am and 11am Sunday Masses**. There are opportunities for singers as well as instrumentalists, and you do not need to make an enormous commitment. Even being available from time to time can make a real difference. Matt Blackamore, our Parish Pastoral Council co-ordinator for parish music, would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in finding out more. Please use the form on the parish website to contact Matt via the Parish Office. Come and help us make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

All ladies of the parish are warmly invited to a **Women’s’ Evening** on **Monday 12th October**. We will begin with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the church at 6.30pm, followed by a social gathering in the Parish Centre from 7pm, including a delicious two-course meal and drinks. A suggested contribution of £10 towards the costs can be given on the night. To help us with catering numbers, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex by 5th October. This is an opportunity to take some time for yourself, and we look forward to sharing a lovely evening together.

Loss Support Café - the next session is on Wednesday, 7th October in the parish centre.

The Bereavement Journey 7 Sessions of films and discussion for anyone bereaved at any time. Tuesday evenings 6/10/26 - 17/11/26 at The St. Robert’s Centre. Full information available from the notice board in the narthex.

Our next **Apologia** session, looking at aspects of the Catholic faith on Human Sexuality, will take place for parishioners in the parish centre at 5pm on Sunday 18th October. An invited speaker, Monsignor Keith Barltrop, parish priest of St Mary of the Angels in Bayswater and former rector of Allen Hall Seminary, will lead our exploration and discussions.

200 Club the winning numbers for September are: £200 - 376, £20 Betty’s Voucher – 149, £20 – 370, £20 M&S Voucher – 286. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who supports the 200 Club.

The St Robert’s 200 Club has raised many funds over the years for parish initiatives. As well as providing for our place of worship, Parish Funds help support a youth group, children’s choir, parents and toddlers group, family film nights, children’s catechetics, men’s group, SVP, ministry to the sick and housebound, faith development and other apostolic work. If you would like to join the 200 club, an application form is available in the narthex or from the parish website.

St John Fisher School are having an **open day** – Saturday 3rd October 2026.

AM Session: 9.30am – 11.30am PM Session: 1pm – 3pm

Headteacher talks will take place at 9.30am and 1pm. This is an opportunity for students and their families in Year 6 and Year 11 considering their next steps to visit and tour the school and see what our school has to offer. For further information and booking details, please visit www.sjfchs.org.uk

There is a collection box **near the Baptistry** for donations of tinned and packet food, as well as toiletries, for **Harrogate Foodbank**. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Mass prayers and responses – if you need some guidance on the responses during mass there is a sheet available at the back of church. The Nicene Creed is affixed to the inside front cover of the hymn books for easier reference during Mass.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest - Friday 2nd October Put your faith into action and share the Lord’s love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Use the CAFOD envelope or, scan the QR Code in the Narthex or, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call **0303 303 3030**.

40 Days for Life – prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil up to 1st November 7am-7pm. Join us in being a voice for the voiceless. Location just over 150 meters from MSI Reproductive Choices abortion facility at the junction of Chapeltown Road and Barrack Road LS7 4AW (on the 36 bus route). This complies with current buffer-zone law. To get involved contact Chris Redding 07815 681343 email: 40daysforlifeleeds@gmail.com. Further information at www.40daysforlife.com/leeds
All the diocesan notices can be found at <https://www.strobertsharrogate.co.uk/diocese-news>