

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.*

COLLECT

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING 2 Kings 5:14-17

A reading from the Second Book of Kings.

In those days: Naaman the Syrian went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of Elisha, the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, 'Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none.' And Naaman urged Elisha to take it, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule-loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the LORD.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 98(97):1. 2-3b. 3c-4. R. cf. 2b

R: The LORD has shown his salvation to the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the LORD,
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **R.**
2. The LORD has made known his salvation,
has shown his deliverance to the nations.
He has remembered his merciful love
and his truth for the house of Israel. **R.**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song,
and sing out your praise. **R.**

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy.

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

The saying is trustworthy, for:
If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he also will deny us;
if we are faithless, he remains faithful –
for he cannot deny himself.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL 1 Thessalonians 5:18

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

In everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.' When he saw them he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, 'Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' And he said to him, 'Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that, through these acts of devotedness,
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.*

Or

*When the Lord appears, we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord,
that, as you feed us with the nourishment
which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,
so you may make us sharers of his divine nature.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Sunday Message

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 12 October 2025 • Psalter Week 4



Today's Gospel is the famous story about the cleansing of lepers. Leprosy is the name the Bible gives to many forms of skin disease, and not necessarily to the medical condition known today as leprosy, which is more accurately called Hansen's Disease.

The Bible has detailed rules (especially in the Book of Leviticus) for detecting such skin diseases. It treats them not just as a medical condition but as one that also carries a degree of religious impurity. Ancient medical knowledge was very limited, and sickness usually carried a religious as well as a physical significance. That is why the Bible gives a priest responsibility for assessing the degree of contagion and whether it is a serious case and, finally, certifying that the sufferer is cured.

It's possible that these ten victims are living together in a kind of settlement set aside for people like them, a kind of leprosarium. They observe the rules of avoiding contact with other people, but instead of calling out that they are 'unclean,' as the Law requires, they ask Jesus to take pity on them. He tells them to go to the priests responsible for assessing their skin condition. On the way, they realise that their skin has suddenly improved.

It is here we discover the point of this story. Nine of those who have been cured continue their journey, eager to meet their loved ones and get back into the flow of everyday life. Who would blame them? But one acts differently – the Samaritan who returns to throw himself in gratitude at Jesus' feet. Jesus recognises that it is a foreigner who has returned to give thanks. His final words to the Samaritan – 'Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well' – are a reminder that the Gospel's message of salvation will eventually come to the Samaritans also. Jesus has demonstrated once more, as he did in the story of the Good Samaritan, how open these people are to receiving the good news of salvation. ■

REFLECT

We are all very painfully aware now of what it's like to be physically cut off from others. During the Covid pandemic, we all had to practise social distancing to keep ourselves safe and prevent the highly contagious illness from spreading. It was a stressful time, especially for those living alone and older people cut off from their families. Despite the advances in communications technology which enabled people to stay connected and to see each other on FaceTime or Zoom, people felt the pain of isolation. They felt the absence of physical contact – a handshake, hug, kiss, an embrace, a shoulder to cry on, the physical expression of intimacy we need in order to flourish and grow. People experienced what social scientists call 'skin hunger,' touch deprivation. Experts say skin hunger is a major factor in incidents of depression among humans. All of us who were physically cut off from loved ones

during the Covid lockdown know exactly what is meant by skin hunger.

It gives us a good idea of what life was like for the lepers in today's Gospel. If you look at the word 'disease,' you'll notice it is made up of two parts: 'dis-', which usually means that something is out of place, e.g. disorder or dislocated, and 'ease' or comfort. To suffer from 'disease' in this sense is something worse than just being sick.

The lepers had to practise social distancing. They were removed from their families and from the rest of society. They suffered not only from their skin condition but also from skin hunger. No wonder they pleaded with Jesus to help them. No wonder that, after being healed, nine of them were so excited they forgot to thank Jesus for restoring their lives and their families to them.

All the healing stories of Jesus bring out this point: that he overcomes 'dis-ease' –

SAY

"I thank you, Lord, for all you have given me. Help me always to have a grateful heart."

DO

Visit a loved one who lives alone or in a nursing home and bring them some of the 'ease' and comfort of the healing presence of Jesus.

PRAY

When the Samaritan returns to Jesus to say thanks, Jesus tells him that it is his faith that has made him well. Because the Samaritan believed, he was restored to health. Ask the Lord to increase your faith.

LEARN

Christians are people with grateful hearts.

Thankfulness is actively acknowledging what God and others do for us and articulating it, making sure to let them know.



the distancing of suffering people from the community where they should be loved and cherished – every bit as much as he overcomes physical illness.

It's a lesson for how we should treat the sick and the isolated. It is not easy to be old or sick today. We live in a youth- and beauty-obsessed culture, the world of 'Instagram-face,' that promotes unrealistic, filtered versions of people. In this world of glamour and the influencer, of diets and workouts, of bronzed bodies and chiselled looks, the old, sick, and disabled can be overlooked, excluded, isolated from public view, forgotten. Some people refuse to visit hospitals or nursing homes because it's too distressing. There is an impulse to dodge the reality of illness, decay and old age.

Jesus excluded nobody from his love and attention. He cared especially for the marginalised and discarded ones. He wants us to do likewise. ■



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TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C			
Saturday 11 th Oct	4 – 4.40pm	Confessions	Neil Duffy (1 st Anniversary)
	5.00pm	Vigil Mass	
Sunday 12 th October 2025	9am	Mass	Jon Talbot RIP (2 nd Anniversary)
	11am	Mass	
Monday 13 th Oct	12 Noon	Mass	Edward Dickinson (Anniversary)
Tuesday 14 th Oct	9am	Mass	Elżbieta Wiśniecka and Lukasz Wiśniecki (Lately Dead)
Wednesday 15 th Oct	12 Noon	Mass <i>St Teresa of Jesus (of Avila), Virgin & Doctor of the Church</i>	Wojciech Bajorek
Friday 17 th Oct	11.30am	Exposition	Mary Shirley RIP
	12 Noon	Mass <i>St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr</i>	

Recent deaths: please pray for Peter Staples, Derrick Locke
Mass intentions received for Lately Dead: Terry Crilley

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.

CAFOD Family Fast Day raised £504.00

A photographer will be in the Lady Chapel after 9 and 11am Masses this weekend to take your photo for the **new parish directory**. All being well, a photographer will be available after the Saturday vigil mass next weekend. We encourage all individuals and families to take part. Thank you for helping us build a welcoming and connected parish community.

REGULAR EVENTS

APF Red Mission – Michael Brennan
Presbytery 01423 504988

Children's Liturgy - Suzanne Walker
swalker@sysra.com

9am Choir – John Ibison
11am Choir – Lisa Madden
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

Phoenix (Bereavement Support) -
Presbytery 01423 504988

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

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

SoulCore - Monday 9.30 - Marie Baker
mbaker0813@gmail.com

St Robert's Brownies - Wed 5.30-7.15
Sarah Mansfield 01423 566651
mansfield.sarah@gmail.com

St Vincent de Paul Society - Mon 7pm
Katherine Merton Jones 01423 522731
Furniture – 0113 245 0800

St Robert's Walking Group - Second
Thurs of the month, contact George
Marczak 07905820864 or
george@vbs-computers.com

St John Fisher - Mr S Mott
01423 887254

St Robert's Primary - Miss J Collins
01423 504730

St Roberts Club: open Mon-Fri from 7pm
(or by arrangement) –
info@strobertsclub.co.uk

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.

NOV
2nd – 5pm Apologia

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:
Diocese Leeds Our Lady
Immaculate St Robert H'gate

Sort Code: 40-27-15

Account No: 81017489

Or you can make a donation by
scanning this QR CODE



The **District of Sanctuary Display** is raising awareness of refugees and support in the Harrogate & Knaresborough area. A display, put together by volunteers and refugee families at an art workshop, can be found near the baptismal font. The display will shortly be relocating to another church in the area.

Gift Aid Letters thank you for your parish donations which you have gift aided. The Diocese have provided letters detailing the donations and tax reclaimed during 2024/25 for those who gift aid their donation. Your letter can be collected after Mass from either Caroline Walker or Richard Boscoe in the Narthex or from the Presbytery Monday – Friday 9am – 4.30pm.

The Diocese recently shared statistics showing that **Gift Aid received by the Parish** as a percentage of donations is amongst the lowest in the area. The Finance Committee thought it would be helpful to highlight the opportunity, that by gift aiding donations at no cost to the donor, the Parish can benefit by a further 25 percent. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your donations, there is a simple form to complete which is available at the back of the Church or click on this link [gift-aid-declaration](#). The Parish is grateful for all the financial support received throughout the year.

An **International Mass and Luncheon**, celebrating our diverse parish community took place last Sunday. Parishioners represented their national heritage with a procession of gifts in the Mass and a selection of food from different nations in the parish centre afterwards. Thank you to Marie and her team for the organisation and to all those who took part, those who wore national dress, who brought gifts in procession and who provided food for the reception. It was a wonderful event to celebrate the diversity of the parish and one which we hope to repeat each year.

The **Baptism** Seminar will take place today at 10am in the Parish Centre, in preparation for the Baptism Mass at 11am next Sunday, 19th October when children will be baptised into the Church and our parish family. Please pray for our children to be baptised, their parents and godparents as they all prepare, together, for this momentous day in the spiritual journey of these little ones. Please hand the completed enrolment form, which is available at the back of church, to Fr Simon.

All Saints Day Party - Calling all little saints-in-training! There will be an All Saints Day party on Sunday 2, Nov 2025 in the parish centre immediately following the 9am mass. Children are encouraged to dress as their favourite Saint and participate in a parade. There will be prizes for best dressed, fun games, crafts and food. Please sign up your child(ren) on the list in the Narthex or email mbaker0813@gmail.com

The **next session of Apologia** will be on what the Church calls 'The Last Things'. It will take place in the parish centre at 5pm on Sunday 2nd November and will be led by the new Chair of our parish pastoral council, Ed Dyer. The Last Things cover death, judgement, heaven, hell and purgatory, all in the context of resurrection and our destiny of the heavenly realms. The session is well placed, taking place on the feast of All Saints and the eve of All Souls' Day. Do join us for the second of these informative sessions designed to help us deepen, together, our Catholic faith.

St Robert's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy, Open Day New Starters Sept 26 If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, they are due to start school in September 2026 and you need to apply for a primary school place for them to start in Reception. You are welcome to join us at St Robert's Catholic Primary School for an Open Day and tour of the school on Thursday 16th October. Please follow the link below to book a place or contact the school on 01423 504730
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-roberts-open-day-reception-2026-tickets-1686675855889?aff=oddtcreator>

Harrogate foodbank are in need of: Tinned spaghetti/meat/vegetables, fruit, custard, instant potato mash, sponge puddings, jam, biscuits, deodorant, shampoo, toilet rolls, table sauce red & brown. There is a box in the Narthex to place any donations. Thank you for your generous donations received so far. Your support is greatly appreciated and is making a meaningful difference.

All the diocesan notices can be found at <https://www.strobertsharrogate.co.uk/diocese-news>