



“A MAN HAS TWO SONS...”



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH 2026 - 26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

This isn't the only parable by Jesus that begins this way! The other one is more famous and we often refer to it as “The Parable of the Prodigal Son” or “The Parable of the Lost Son.” Both sons in that parable can invite quite complicated discussion. It is not so simple as it seems.

And yet today's parable, also about sons, might seem almost too simple to dwell on. A father tells two sons in turn to go and work in the vineyard. One refuses at first but then changes his mind and goes. The other immediately agrees but then does not go to work. What on earth is there to say about this?

I suggest that the parable might actually be quite challenging. Could it be suggesting to us that some people give the correct answers and say the right things as far as faith is concerned, but then when it actually comes to living the faith and putting belief into action, nothing really happens?

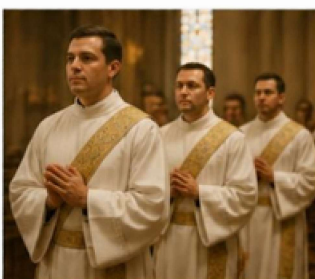
And likewise, could it be also suggesting that there are some people who appear not to have faith and even to refuse a belief in God, and yet when they go about the business of their everyday lives, they actually put faith of a sorts into action?

Certainly, the parable draws a distinction between what we say and what we do. We could apply it to being here at mass this weekend. We stand, sit and kneel as we should. We sing. We say sorry in the penitential rite, we profess our faith in the creed and we receive Our Lord in Holy Communion. But is all this lived out in our daily lives through the week?

Altar servers in the parish pray before mass: “Go before us, O Lord, in this our sacrifice of prayer and praise, and grant that what we say and sing with our lips, we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts, we may practise and show forth in our daily lives.” Now and again I remind them that this means that the reverence and service that they observe on a Sunday, is called for on Monday to Saturday as well.

So, a man had two sons. Which of the two sons are we most like at the moment?

God bless, Fr Kevin.



‘COME & SEE’ PERMANENT DIACONATE EVENT

If you are a Catholic man interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Salford, please come along to the next ‘Come and See’ event, which takes place on Saturday 3 October 2026 between 10am and 2pm. The event will be held at St St Monica's Church, Woodsend Rd S, Flixton, Urmston, Manchester M41 6QB.

There will be opportunities to talk to some of our deacons and find out more about their journey and the ministry without committing to anything further. For more information please email diaconate@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI: GORTON MONASTERY

Sunday 4 October is the Feast of St Francis of Assisi and this is a year in which the whole Church is celebrating the life of this great saint. On this date, there will be a special event at Gorton Monastery from 2.00 – 3.30 p.m. which will feature readings, prayers, songs, hymns and reflections as well as a procession of our school children and a performance by our choir. If you would like to contribute something to the event, or do one of the readings, please let me know as soon as possible.



SCHEDULE		
SUN 20TH	Ordinary Time: 26th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Parish Leadership 12:00 Meeting	
MON 21ST	Ordinary Time Wk 26 08:00 Mass	
TUE 22ND	Holy Archangels 09:15 Mass	
	Funeral Service 12:00 Mary Maguire	
WED	St Jerome	—
THU 24TH	Community Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	Requiem Mass 12:00 Salvatore Alaimo	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
FRI 25TH	Holy Guardian Angels 09:15 Mass with SF school	
SAT 26TH	Community Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	Ordinary Time Wk 26 11:00 Confession & Adoration 12:00 Mass	
	Ordinary Time: 27th Sunday 17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer 17:30 Vigil Mass	
SUN 27TH	Ordinary Time: 27th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Refreshments	

CAFOD FAST DAY

This is advance warning that the next CAFOD Fast Day will be on Friday 2 October. Please mark this date in your diary. But, as always, if another date around this time is more convenient for your fast, then it is fine to undertake it then.

GIFT AID

When you donate money to the church, if you are a tax payer, we can claim an additional 25% from HMRC. It won't cost you anything and it doesn't impact you in anyway. We just need your permission to claim this in your name (as a tax payer). If you have paid online—we can back-date this FOUR YEARS! Minna just needs your name address and signature and we will sort out the rest.



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.
Philippians 2:3-4

MASS OFFERINGS & PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like a mass offered for a specific intention, enclose an offering with a description, noting if it should be kept private. Add to the offertory or pass to Minna/Father.

Health: Xiaoye, private intention, Janette, Gordon Kuphal (26th)

Baptism Thanksgiving: Kamsiyo

Please also pray for our brethren who are unwell: Janet McCarthy, Jennifer Hunter, Martin Brennan, Tommy Loftus.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Let us pray that the human dignity of those with disabilities, the homeless, and the unborn is always respected and protected.

CARITAS CONFERENCE

Tackling poverty and injustice in the Diocese of Salford. A free day of learning and reflection on the social teaching of Pope Leo XIV including insights into *Dilexi te* and *Magnifica humanitas*, looking at what the documents mean for us when responding to injustice locally. Guest speaker: theologian Anna Rowlands*, as well as others. Lunch will be provided.
<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/conference-2026/>

TEACHING YOUNG ONES TO PRAY THE ROSARY

Tackling poverty and injustice in the Diocese of Salford. A free day of learning and reflection on the social teaching of Pope Leo XIV including insights into *Dilexi te* and *Magnifica humanitas*, looking at what the documents mean for us when responding to injustice locally. Guest speaker: theologian Anna Rowlands*, as well as others. Lunch will be provided.
<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/conference-2026>

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST PETER'S HIGH SCHOOL

It has been a great pleasure this last week for Year 7 pupils to visit the parish for retreat days on Monday to Thursday. On Friday I celebrated mass in the school for the whole year group and the pupils have been praised all round for their excellent behaviour and participation. On my visit to the school I discovered that it had recently received a massively positive result in the OFSTED inspection. Many pupils in this parish transfer from our primary schools to St Peter's High School, so it is a great encouragement to know that the school goes from strength to strength. Congratulations!

CONTACT US

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PERMANENT DEACON: DAVIE NALIKATA

ADMINISTRATOR: MINNA MOFFATT-FELDMAN

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OFFERTORY

For card payments, use the QR code. If possible, please set up a standing order:

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