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### **CATECHESIS ON DISCERNMENT BY POPE FRANCIS**

We are continuing our reflection on discernment, and in doing so, referring to a specific witness can be helpful to us.

One of the most instructive examples is offered to us by St Ignatius of Loyola, with a decisive episode in his life. Ignatius was at home convalescing after injuring a leg in battle. To dispel boredom, he asked for something to read. He loved tales of chivalry, but unfortunately, there were only the lives of the saints at home. Somewhat reluctantly, he adapted, but while reading, he began to discover another world, a world that won him over and seemed to compete with that of knights. He was fascinated by the figures of St Francis and St Dominic and felt the desire to imitate them. But the world of chivalry also continued to exert its fascination on him. Thus, he felt within himself this alternation of thoughts - those of chivalry and those of the saints - which seemed to be on par with one another. Ignatius, however, also began to perceive some differences - when he thought of worldly things, it gave him great pleasure, but afterwards he found himself dry and sad. But when he thought of journeying to Jerusalem, and of living only on herbs and practising austerities, he found pleasure not only while thinking of them, but also when he had ceased; they left him a trace of joy.

In this experience we note two aspects, above all. The first is time: that is, the thoughts of the world are attractive at the beginning, but then they lose their lustre and leave emptiness and discontent; they leave you that way, empty. Thoughts of God, on the contrary, rouse first a certain resistance, but when they are welcomed, they bring an unknown peace that lasts for a long time.

### **TODAY'S READINGS**

In today's first reading the prophet Amos fiercely condemns social injustice; he speaks out against those who trample and exploit the needy and the poor. In the second reading, Paul encourages us to pray for everyone, especially for those in positions of authority. In the Gospel reading Jesus tells the parable of the dishonest steward, who used his wits to plan for his future.

**Priest in Charge:** Fr John Mark Agulefo **Assistant Priest:** Fr Stephen Talbutt  
**Deacon:** Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

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Lancaster RC Diocesan Trustees Registered – Charity No. 234331

**St Clare's Primary School** – Headteacher: Mrs A. Charnley

**MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 140****Office: psalter week 1; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: year II, week 25**

Sunday morning Mass is livestreamed and will be available for viewing later on our parish YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Occasion</b>	<b>Intention/Details</b>
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	<b>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Mary O’Gara RIP (30 <sup>th</sup> birthday)
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		Gerald Topping RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am		Queen Elizabeth II RIP
Tuesday	7pm	<b>St Andrew Kim Tae – Gon, Priest and Paul Chong Hasang and Companions. Martyrs</b>	Christine Hills RIP
Wednesday	9:15am	<b>ST MATTHEW</b>	Lillian Culshaw RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Joan Walmsley RIP
Friday	12noon	<b>St Pius of Pietrelcina</b>	Helen Courtman RIP
Saturday	10am	<b>Our Lady of Walsingham</b>	Private Intention
	6pm (vigil)	<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Sick and housebound parishioners, and carers
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		Barbara Harrison Clary RIP (100 <sup>th</sup> birthday)
	6pm		People of the Parish

**LATELY DEAD:** Please pray for all who have died recently.**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays 11am-12noon and on request.**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is usually open during the day for private prayer.**ROSARY:** After 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass on Fridays.**ANNIVERSARIES:** Veronica Greenhalgh, Susan Sharples, Joe Noblett, Lililan Woodward, James Pye, Clare Smith, Rosalina Lawler, Bob Holden, Jeanne Cook, Mary Hudson, Barbara Pye, Peter Houghton.**POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER: For the abolition of the death penalty** We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

**WELCOME GATHERING FOR FR JOHN MARK AND FR STEPHEN :** On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September Mass will be at 7:00pm (there will be no Mass at 12:00pm on that day), followed by a gathering in the parish hall to welcome our new priests. All are welcome and a “Jacobs Join” signup sheet is available in the Narthex.

**ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR 2022:** In September and October the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland and Wales. Individuals and groups are invited to register attendance at their chosen church on the Relic Tour website [www.stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour](http://www.stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour) (see notice in the Narthex).

**DIOCESAN EDUCATION MASS 2022:** Lancaster Cathedral (LA1 3BT), Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 6:30pm. All parishioners are invited to join Bishop Paul Swarbrick at the annual Diocese of Lancaster Education Mass. The celebration gives us the opportunity to express our thanks and acknowledge the contribution made by all those in the Diocese involved in the work of education and formation in the faith. Together we ask for God’s blessing on the mission of education and formation in our diocese.

**MASS OFFERINGS:** Over the past few weeks we have had a shortage of offerings. Offering Mass for our loved ones, for special intentions, for sickness, for those who have died is the greatest gift you can give them. Please consider making an offering.

**ACN – INDIA PARISH REBUILD PROJECT:** So far, our parish has raised an amazing £11,838 towards the target of £21,000. ACN would like to reach their target by the end of 2022. The “buy a brick” campaign is still active, so if you are able to support the project by buying a brick for £30 or part of a brick it will be a big help. Please just pop your money or a cheque into an envelope marked “ACN BUY A BRICK”, you can also use the card donation point in the narthex (select the ACN option). Thank you for your generosity in this cause.

**HOLY LAND:** All travellers who have requested a seat on the coach to and/or from Luton Airport should have received an email about the travel arrangements and cost. Please contact the Parish Office with any queries.

**FOOD BANK:** This weekend: 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> September. There is currently urgent need of almost all food supplies, particularly tea and coffee, due to very high demand at this present time.

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:** This Sunday is Home Mission Day, with an appeal being made by Fr Matthias Odaudu, a Spiritan Priest, who will speak at all the weekend Masses. There is also a collection next Sunday for the Bishop’s Admin. Fund.

**LAST WEEK:** At Mass: 376 (89/188/99). Collections: £714.53. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

## Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	6:45pm	Anointed & Sent groups (ages 11-18)	Parish Hall
Mon-Friday	3:20pm	After School Club*	Parish Hall
	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Monday	6pm	<b>Cubs (Cancelled this week)</b>	Parish Hall
	8pm	<b>Scouts (Cancelled this week)</b>	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Seekers (ages 8-11)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Wednesday	10am	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	Lectio Divina	Side chapel
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	6:45pm	Anointed & Sent groups (ages 11-18)	Parish Hall

Events marked \* are open only to members or those who have booked ahead.

**SUNDAY OBLIGATION:** Please note that watching an online Mass does not fulfil the Sunday obligation for those who are able to attend in person. The full statement of the Bishops can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

**FULWOOD FARMERS' MARKET WITH FAIRTRADE:** This will be on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 9:30am to 1pm at Fulwood Methodist Church, Watling Street Road.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING:** Please consider supporting this training at Corpus Christi High School, in memory of Mary O'Gara, by sponsoring parishioners walking the 'Santiago de Compostela' in September. A 'just giving' page has been set up ([www.justgiving.com/RitaHunter3](http://www.justgiving.com/RitaHunter3)), and sponsorship forms are available in the Narthex. Please see Rita Hunter or Anne Metcalf for details.

**OLSE LADIES GROUP:** The next meeting will be on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 8:00pm in the Parish Centre and will be a presentation by Brenda Fox entitled "Some interesting books". Admission £3, visitors welcome.