



PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER

RC churches of St Ethelbert & St William of York, Bolton

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Sunday 14th January 2024 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

In our second reading today, St Paul appears to be proscribing all forms of sexual activity, but we need to 'unpack' what Paul means when he speaks like this. Of course, if all sexual activity was to stop, then the human race would have ceased to exist a long time ago! So, let's see what Paul is saying. Firstly, as I keep going on about at times, the translations from Aramaic, Hebrew and Greek into English in our bibles can leave a lot to be desired.

In Paul's mind, the sexual relationship between a married couple is something sacred, so when Paul uses the word, 'Fornication' he is referring to either sexual relations outside the bond of marriage, or totally promiscuous behaviour as was often found in orgies, Roman or otherwise. The word 'Orgia' in Greek, means, 'Secret Rites, Mysteries'. These Rites or Mysteries which involved 'anything goes' sexual activity, were part of the celebration of Greek and Roman pagan religious worship, hence in Paul's mind, a connection to worship of false gods, apart from any moral transgressions.

God bless,
Fr Morrough

MASSES & SERVICES		
Monday	6:15pm – 6:50pm Exposition & Confession – St William's	
	7:00pm	St William's
Tuesday	9:30am	St Ethelbert's
Wednesday	9:30am	St William's
Friday	9:30am	St Ethelbert's
Saturday	11:15am – 11:50am Exposition & Confession – St Ethelbert's	
	12:00pm	St Ethelbert's
Sunday	9:30am	St William's
	11:30am	St Ethelbert's
	7:00pm	St Ethelbert's

Annie 'Rita' Higson RIP: Funeral Service at Overdale (East) chapel - Tuesday 16th January at 11.15am

Gary Hodgkinson RIP-Requiem Mass at 1.30pm on Wednesday 17th January at St Williams, interment at Overdale at 3pm.

William Hargreaves RIP- Requiem Mass at 10.30am on Monday 22nd January at St. Ethelbert's, interment at Overdale 12.00 noon.

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen.

Mass Intentions: Bob Houghton RIP, Pat & Bernard Harper RIP, Eileen Holmes (S), Roger Ramsden RIP, Sarah & Roger Ramsden RIP, Violet Borg RIP, Bertha Hanley (A), Lewis Hanley (A), David Chung Yin Lee (A), Margaret Parkinson (A), Special Intentions (4).

LD: Lately dead, A: Anniversary, BA: Birthday Anniversary, B: Birthday, S: Sick, M: Memorial, WA: Wedding Anniversary, Sp.Int: Special Intention.

Changes to Mass times this week: St Ethelbert's Friday 19th January - 9.30am Eucharistic Service (No Mass).

Lately Dead: Pat Parkinson RIP.

Christ the Redeemer Prayer Group: The Prayer group is each Monday 7:00pm - 8:15pm in the parish room at St Ethelbert's. All welcome.

STARTS NEXT TUESDAY

Welcome Meetings: Welcome Meetings - for those who are considering becoming a Catholic, or those returning to the Faith.

A series of sessions, friendly and informal and anyone across the St Joseph's (Bolton) Deanery welcome provided you have let your parish priest know.

Venue: St Ethelbert's church, Hawthorne Street, BL3 5RG (you can park on the school car park off Melbourne Road).

Time: 7.30 pm prompt – 9 pm.

Dates: Tuesday 16th January; Tuesday 23rd January; Tuesday 30th January; Tuesday 6th February; Tuesday 13th February.

If you decide to progress to become a Catholic, you need to attend the Rite of Election at Salford Cathedral on Sun 18 Feb – 2 pm. The Bishop will be presiding.

Reception into the Church – If you are ready to be received into the Church and subject to your own parish priest confirming, this will be at the Easter Vigil Saturday 30th March 2024.

You must attend all 5 sessions. Your parish priest may also wish to provide further instruction.

Please note, we are sorry but we cannot accommodate children so please make alternative arrangements for any children whilst you attend the meetings.

Please also let Gemma Pendlebury know on 07717 686 358.

Day Retreat Programme: Intro to Christian Meditation:

The Diocese of Salford's Day Retreat Programme returns in 2024 with a particular focus on Christian Meditation.

The retreat takes place on Saturday 10th February 2024 between 11.30am and 3pm at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella's in Lostock Hall.

Places are limited, so please book ahead by calling 01772 335387 or emailing office@saintgerards.org.uk.



Caritas Sunday 28th January

Caritas is our Diocesan charity, supporting people experiencing homelessness, poverty and discrimination across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Please see the information on the notice boards.

There will be a retiring collection for the work of Caritas at each Mass on 27th / 28th January 2024

Christ the Redeemer Parish 200 Club:

Weekly winner: Andrew Cafferky £50.
Congratulations!

BINGO – is back for 2024.

Generally the first Friday of each month - subject to change so check newsletter and Facebook.
Held in St. Ethelbert's, Doors 7 pm, eyes down 7.30 pm. All welcome.

Next event – **Friday 2nd February 2024.** Hope to see you there!

Christ the Redeemer Parish Collections:

Weekend 23rd/24th December: £646.68

Christmas Eve & Day £975.00

W/E 31/12/23 £828.00

W/E 7/1/24 £888.78

December Gift Aid and other donations by standing order: £1212.00

Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you: "Thank you to everyone for your Christmas presents, cards and prayers. Very much appreciated 😊"

