Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

From other passages in the Gospels, it is clear that Jesus did not mean that we should ignore injustices or never make a stand against others. What lessons have you learned in life on when, and how, to make a stand? What wisdom would you share with others from your experience?

A Thought

'I bear no ill will. I bear no grudge. Dirty sort of talk is not going to bring her back to life. She's in heaven and we shall meet again. I will pray for these men tonight and every night.'
These words of Gordon Wilson echoed across the world in 1987, just hours after his 20 year old daughter was killed in an IRA bomb in Enniskillen.

Gordon Wilson was the personification of the words of Jesus: 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.' It is one of the most difficult and challenging passages in the Gospels; one commentator calls it 'Jesus' most unreasonable command.' Living under oppressive Roman rule, with torture and murder not uncommon, the disciples knew what it was to hate their enemies. As we read and listen to the news today, the cruelty of people continues to astound and upset us. But Jesus reminds us that everyone is human. All are children of God, who 'causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good.' While we clearly don't accept or excuse the terror and evil in the world, we cannot dehumanise those who carry out despicable actions. It is much easier said than done, but we must strive to meet hatred with love. With God, there is always forgiveness; there is always hope.

'Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars, Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.' MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

Funeral

There will be a Requiem Mass for **Kathleen Howard RIP** on Tuesday 3rd March at 11.00am at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

May She Rest in Peace

Offertory Collection

£396.54

CAFOD

£11.00

Many thanks for your kindness and generosity

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Although it is not a Holyday of Obligation, ashes will be distributed at Mass at St Elizabeth's Church at 9.10am and at St Robert Bellarmine's Church at 7.00pm on Wednesday 26th February, to mark the beginning of Lent.

With You Always

The fifth First Holy Communion meeting, for Year 4 pupils from St Robert Bellarmine's School, will be held on Tuesday 24th February at 2.00pm in the school hall.

Parents and guardians are welcome

Synod 2020

The fourth and final theme is
'**Building Community, nurturing, belonging.**'

In this theme we reflect on what it means to be a Church of welcome and discipleship.

Reflection forms and leaflets are available at the Synod Prayer Station and in the George Inch Hall. Please take time to explore the information at the Synod Prayer Station.

You can submit Proposals on this fourth Theme by handing them to our Synod members at Church, placing them in the Synod box at the display table, at the Parish meeting to be held in March or via the Synod website: www.synod2020.co.uk

For details of our Parish proposals, please visit the Synod display in the George Inch Hall

Exposition and Holy Hour takes place at St Elizabeth's Church on Friday evenings from 6.00pm to 7.00pm.
All are welcome.

A star shall come out of Jacob and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel

A look at the Book of Numbers.

A Scripture Retreat Day led by Fr Chris Thomas at Irenaeus, 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo on Saturday 29th February from 9.30am until 5.00pm

For more details telephone 0151 949 1199 or visit the website www.irenaeus.co.uk

In Another Place presents Liverpool Passion

A live performance of Jesus' last days on Friday 10th April on William Brown Street Liverpool at 12.15pm and 3.00pm.

More details on the poster at the back of church

Alpha	St Robert Bellarmine Church 52 Orrell Road Bootle L20 6DZ **Parish Priest: Fr Barry McAllister** Tel 0151 922 1352 or 0151 922 3820 Fax 0151 933 7941 Registered Charity No 232709 **22nd February 2020 – 1st March 2020**	Omega

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

THE FIRST MASS OF THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Parishioners Intentions**	
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Kenneth Mutch (Birthday Remembrance)**	
Monday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Tuesday	**9.00 am**	**Private Intention (ID)**	
Wednesday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Wednesday	**7.00 pm**	**Bobby Parkes (Birthday Remembrance)**	**Ash Wednesday**
Thursday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Friday	**9.00 am**	**Flo Wilson (Remembrance)**	

THE FIRST MASS OF THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Parishioners Intentions**
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Joe McQueen (Remembrance)**

Confessions – St Elizabeth's – Saturdays -11.30 – 12 noon and on request

Please pray for the following who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.
Please remember the sick and those who care for them.

Lately Dead: Jennifer O'Mahony, Millie Hollinshead, Kathleen Howard

Anniversaries:

Sick; James Roche, Daniel Harden, Robbie Pennington, Bill Sainsbury, Amanda Fessey, Christopher Brown, Joyce Sainsbury, Jonathan Noble, James Johnson, Philip Shepherd Eleanor McCaffrey, Sheila Thompson, Jacqueline Johnstone, Peter West, Julie Machell, Katie Rushton, Sandra Dryhurst, Thomas Smith, Dorothy Corris, Eddie Swarbrick, Ann Mardell, Colin Faulke, Richard Potts, Poppy Jessop, Mary (Traynor) Hemmings, Ann & Joe Johnson, Chris Parkes, Gerard Burke, Cayle Royce, David Morgan, Tom Niblock, Jose Howard, Michael Hanton, Hilda Prince, Roisin Dooley, Baby Lucy Hand, Ethan Hand, Ann Bretherton, Thomas Bainbridge, Mary Wild, Karl McGee, Arthur Snellgrove, Seanie Jones, Ann Bailey, Susan Neary, Jimmy Doyle, Mary Simpson, Doug Faulke, John Rimmer, Phil Jones.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

6.30pm – J Rehm, S Jolley, M Murphy
Reader – J Jones

11am – D Faulke, P Faulke, M Wildman
Reader – T Wainwright