

With open eyes – and heart

28 SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY

Plus 

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week II** Year C

England & Wales: Harvest Thanksgiving

Poverty

Beneath a very aged tree,
I saw an aged man,
whose mortal days were seemingly
Worn to the shortest span.

His dress was ragged, and his brow
Deep marks of sorrow bare;
His eyes, once bright, were darken'd now,
By teardrops of despair.

He spoke – but none would hear his tale
Of sorrow and distress;
He wept – yet tears had no avail –
All pass'd him pitiless.

The very drops e'en seem'd to stand
With fearful loathing by,
Dreading the cold touch of his hand,
The chill glance of his eye.

I marvell'd much, I marvell'd long,
Who this sad wretch could be;
I asked one of the passing throng:
He said, 'twas Poverty!

Joseph Middleton, 1840



God loves to communicate himself, not in the roar of thunder
and earthquakes, but in the “whisper of a gentle breeze”.

Pope Leo XIV

A conscientious objector

By **Sr Janet Fearn**
FMDM

It was a secret sign and, at the same time, a declaration of belief and trust in the Trinity. The early Christians quickly saw that the anchor could represent the stability of a faith anchored in God. However, they also went one step further: the ring at the top symbolised the Father. The body, shaped like a cross, was Jesus, the Son who was crucified. The curved base denoted the Holy Spirit in the

form of a winged dove. In times of persecution, an anchor meant everything to the early Church as a summary of Christian belief. That is why sometimes, they also portrayed the anchor holding two fish, those who had been called and drawn into a relationship with Jesus.

Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.



Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus: to reach out and touch him and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  Amen.

Robert Cull

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Anchored in hope

The image of the anchor is eloquent; it helps us to recognise the stability and security that is ours amid the troubled waters of this life, provided we entrust ourselves to the Lord Jesus. The storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear and death. This hope, which transcends life's fleeting pleasures and the achievement of our immediate goals, makes us rise above our trials and difficulties, and inspires us to keep pressing forward, never losing sight of the grandeur of the heavenly goal to which we have been called.

Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the year 2025:25



READINGS

Today:
Amos 6:1a. 4-7
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

Monday:
Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14
John 1:47-51

Tuesday:
Zechariah 8:20-23
Luke 9:51-56

Wednesday:
Nehemiah 2:1-8
Luke 9:57-62

Thursday:
Exodus 23:20-23a
Matthew 18:1-5. 10

Friday:
Baruch 1:15-22
Luke 10:13-16

Saturday:
Baruch 4:5-12. 27-29
Luke 10:17-24

Next Sunday:
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Timothy 1:6-8. 13-14
Luke 17:5-10