

home, now called the Shrine of the Saint Margaret Clitherow, is open to the public; her actual house (10, The Shambles) is further down the street.

In 1586 she was arrested and called before the York assizes for the crime of harbouring Roman Catholic priests. She refused to plead to the case so as to prevent a trial that would entail her children being asked to testify. She was executed by being crushed to death – the standard punishment for refusal to plead. On Good Friday of 1586, she was laid out upon a sharp rock, and a door was put on top of her and loaded with immense weight. - **Bernard Kellett.**

---

**Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

**First Reading: 1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23**

**Responsorial Psalm:10: R/ The Lord is compassion and love.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Luke 6: 27-38**

**Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

**Communion Antiphon: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.**

---

*"We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace." Pope Francis.*



## **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C, 2025 Weekly**

**Reflection:Cheshire/Lancashire**

**Martyrs (4) John Rigby 1570-1600**

John was born at Chorley, Lancashire, the fifth or sixth son of Nicholas and Mary Rigby. Working for Sir Edmund

Huddleston, whose daughter Mrs. Fortescue was summoned to the Old Bailey for recusancy (refusing to attend Church of England services), because she was ill, he decided to appear for her; he was compelled to confess his own Catholicism and was sent to Newgate.

The next day, February 14, 1600, he signed a confession saying that since he had been reconciled by John Jones, a Franciscan. He was chained and sent back to Newgate, until he was transferred to the White Lion. Twice he was given the chance to repent; twice he refused. His sentence was therefore ordered to be carried out. On his way to execution, the frame dragging him to his execution, was stopped by a Captain Whitlock, who wished him to conform and asked him if he were married, to which the martyr replied, "I am a bachelor; and more than that I am a maid". The captain then asked Rigby for his prayers. Rigby was executed by hanging at St. Thomas Waterings on June 21, 1600. John Jones, the priest who had reconciled Rigby, had suffered on the same spot July 12, 1598.

**Margaret Clitherow (1556–86) "the Pearl of York"**: Margaret was born the daughter of a Sheriff of York in Middleton after Henry VIII of England split the Church of England from the Roman Catholic Church. She married John Clitherow, a butcher, in 1571 (at the age of 15) and bore him two children. She converted to Roman Catholicism at the age of 18, in 1574. She then became a friend of the persecuted Roman Catholic population in the north of England. Her son, Henry, went to Reims to train as a Catholic priest. She regularly held Masses in her home in the Shambles in York. There was a secret tunnel between her house and the house next door, so that a priest could escape if there was a raid. A house once thought to have been her