



St Luke, Swinton Park Rd, Irlams o'th' Height, Salford M6 7WR
 Ss Peter and Paul, Park Road, Pendleton, Salford M6 8JR
 Parish Priest: Canon Michael Cooke (*Vicar General*)
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Newsletter – 8 January 2023
The Baptism of the Lord
Sunday – The Baptism of the Lord (Feast) Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am
Monday – Weekday (Week 1, Cycle 1) No Mass today
Tuesday – Weekday Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm
Wednesday – Weekday Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am
Thursday – Weekday or St Aelred of Rievaulx Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm
Friday – Weekday or St Hilary of Poitiers Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am
Saturday – Weekday or Our Lady on Saturday Mass at SsPP 12noon Reconciliation: 12.30-1pm at SsPP; 5.45-6.15pm at SL
Sunday – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – <i>Peace Sunday & Special Collection for SPUC (White Flower Appeal)</i> Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am
Live-stream: www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/

Prayers Requested
Sick: All those who are sick at this time, especially Kevin Walker and Archbishop Patrick Kelly
Lately Dead: Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Carol Groves, Pawel Klasoawicz, Pat Fox, Frank Crompton, Brian MacDonald, Harold Adeg Barker, Dr Rebecca Brooke, Rita Tapp
Anniversaries: Shirley Beckitt, Jack Sloyan, Bridget Sloyan, Keith Scott, Maura Murray
Masses Received: Bernadette & Rachel Bower, Frank Crompton (LD), Brian MacDonald (LD), Harold Adeg Barker (LD), Dr Rebecca Brooke (LD), Shirley Beckitt (A), In Thanksgiving, Deepu & Anu and Family, The Catholic Church, The Sick and Deceased, Rita Tapp (LD), Alan Roberts, Jack Sloyan (A), Bridget Sloyan (A), Fr John Williams (B), James & Ellen Scott, Keith Scott (A), UCM Members, Maura Murray (A), Deceased Members of the Cox & Sloyan Family, Josef Kalita (S), Gabrielle Jones (S)
Diocesan Prayer Cycle: We pray for the people of the parish of St Joseph, Ramsbottom, with Father Paul Cannon, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school. May all parishioners live out the vocation and mission given them at their baptism.

Ordinary Time

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings our Christmas Season to an end and we enter into what is known as the “Ordinary Time” of the year. But use of that word “ordinary” should not mislead us into thinking that weeks when we are not celebrating a special season are unimportant. It is during the Ordinary Time (from now until Lent and then after Pentecost) that we are presented with the stories and the teachings from Christ’s public ministry.

Reflections for This Week
<i>As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him</i>
It may seem strange, but this is a Christmas Feast. Not if we think of Christmas only in terms of the Baby in Bethlehem, but if we have followed the ideas of the Feasts of Holy Family and especially Epiphany, and have seen the Season in terms of the growing manifestation or appearing of the Son of God: first to the shepherds and then to the wise men from the East. Now in the River Jordan, Jesus, Son of Mary, is revealed to all as the fullness of all God’s promises: “This is my Son, the Beloved”. On this day we stand before the revelation of God’s love for us, such that he would send his only Son into the world. Christmas without the Baptism of the Lord, and the words that are spoken from heaven, would be incomplete, since it is only in them that we fully see the wonder of what happened in Bethlehem, that we fully understand the reason for the joy with which we celebrated Christmas Day. As we come to the end of Christmas today, and look forward to hearing the Gospel in Ordinary Time, we do so having been shown who it is we listen to: the only Son of God, the Beloved.
Marriage Matters: You are my chosen one: Today, Isaiah and Matthew talk of Jesus being ‘the Chosen One’ and ‘the Beloved’. So often, we are aware of the times when our partner annoys us. We need to develop a sensitivity so that, when we are tempted to be critical, we remember that this is my ‘chosen one’ and look for ways to affirm our partner, our ‘beloved’.
Think Vocation: At baptism, when we entered the family of God, we received the gift of faith as well as the promise of eternal life. Let us try to find out the name of the priest or deacon who baptised us and pray for them whether they are living or deceased.

Contactless Giving	
These machines enable you to make donations with your card or mobile phone and to gift-aid donations. The money comes into the parish account a few days later (rather than having to wait a month with the website/QR donations). Currently we have the basic screen at start-up. In the new year we will add to this so that you will be able to select different funds to donate to before selecting an amount.	
Donate by QR Code  <small>Our Lady of Hope, Salford</small>	Bank Details <i>(for Standing Orders or BACS):</i> TSDT Our Lady of Hope 50317403 20 55 34 Cheques: Payable to Our Lady of Hope
<i>Diocese of Salford Registered Charity 250037</i>	
Next Week’s Newsletter: Jan McIntyre Please send notices before Wednesday Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk	

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI – Rest in Peace

Pope Benedict XVI served as Supreme Pontiff from 2005 – 2013. He died, aged 95, on Saturday 31 December 2022 in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican.



Credit: Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Bishops' Conference, said: "I am deeply saddened to learn of the death of Pope Benedict. He will be remembered as one of the great theologians of the 20th century. I remember with particular affection the remarkable Papal Visit to these lands in 2010. We saw his courtesy, his gentleness, the perceptiveness of his mind and the openness of his welcome to everybody that he met. He was through and through a gentleman, through and through a scholar, through and through a pastor, through and through a man of God – close to the Lord and always his humble servant. Pope Benedict is very much in my heart and in my prayers. I give thanks to God for his ministry and leadership."

Bishop John, in his homily at the diocesan Requiem Mass for Pope Benedict on Thursday, said: "Pope Benedict, by nature, by personality, was really quite a shy and retiring man. Intellectual, scholarly, certainly to a really exaggerated degree, he gave himself to his studies and that's really where he was working in his ministry as a priest. But he was called from that to take this immense responsibility for the Church. A Church in changing context. A Church global in its impact and working each day in 190 nations in different ways, in different people's lives. But Pope Benedict accepted that challenge and adapted his way of life to be all that he could be as our pope."

We are invited to continue praying for the eternal rest of Pope Benedict through this prayer written by Bishop John:

Loving Father, we ask you to welcome Pope Benedict into eternal life, rewarding him for his selfless devotion and service of your Church. May his example live on in our Church as we seek to be ambassadors of Christ in our daily living. As the family of the Church, we pray in communion that you will forgive any human frailty or transgression and bring him into the light of your presence where, one day, we may celebrate your infinite love and mercy together. May he rest in peace. Amen.

T	N	A	E	D	V	O	I	E	C	JESUS	JORDAN	JOHN
S	I	D	R	O	J	F	A	R	A	BAPTISM	FITTING	DEMANDS
U	D	R	O	J	I	R	N	T	S	WATER	HEAVENS	SPIRIT
E	M	S	I	T	P	A	B	A	S	DOVE	VOICE	SON
S	C	S	T	P	D	T	A	W	D			
E	E	I	U	R	S	D	A	W	N			
J	N	N	O	S	O	T	N	H	A			
G	O	J	I	V	E	M	O	O	M			
T	O	H	E	R	E	J	E	J	E			
E	S	N	E	V	A	E	H	E	D			

Parish Notices

White Flower Appeal: Next weekend we will have our annual collection to support the work of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC).

Union of Catholic Mothers: Both of our UCM groups are meeting this week. The St Luke UCM meet on Wednesday at 7pm and SsPP UCM meet on Thursday after the 6.30pm Mass.

Ecumenical Service: In two weeks' time, on Sunday 22 January, as part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Churches Together on the Height will hold a joint service at 3pm at St John's Church. We were due to host this at St Luke's but the lack of heating made it advisable to seek a different venue!

Mikron Theatre: Just to give you advance warning that the next production (raising money for Loaves and Fishes) will be on Wednesday 19 April at Ss Peter & Paul. More details to follow.

Votive Candles: We will shortly be taking advantage of a free trial offer for a new system of votive candles at both our churches. Called St Killians, it claims to be the cleanest, safest, and most environmentally friendly votive candle burning system in the world. The candle holders are made from recycled glass and, as the candles fit directly into them, there is no plastic or aluminium waste. As the candles burn, the final bit of wax drops through into a water bath (increasing safety) and this waste wax is collected for recycling. Salford Cathedral have been using this system for some years now, so you may have seen it already. We are awaiting a date for delivery of the trial stands/candles and will provide a bit more information about them at that time.

Diocesan Notices

Archbishop Patrick Kelly: The former Archbishop of Liverpool, who was previously Bishop of Salford, had a bad fall before Christmas and has been admitted to hospital. He has fractured some bones in his neck. Treatment has been hampered by the fact that he has contracted Covid. So please keep him in your prayers.

Young Adults Mass: Our next Young Adults Mass will take place on Sunday 8 January at 5.30pm at St Augustine's, Manchester. This month, we are delighted to welcome Fr Mark Paver as our main celebrant and to hear from seminarian Paul Chisnall at our social after Mass. As always, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available between 4.45pm and 5.15pm before Mass. All are very welcome to attend. The following Young Adults Mass will take place on Sunday 12 February with Bishop John Arnold.

Sharing the Hope: As part of our Hope in the Future programme, the Diocese of Salford Department for Formation is set to host a number of deanery days to help individuals, parishes, and deaneries learn more about the needs in their community and then to prayerfully discern how best to respond with the resources available to them. The first of our Sharing the Hope Days will have a specific focus on Bolton, Salford, and Bury and Rochdale deaneries, and will take place on Saturday 21 January (10am-2pm) at Cardinal Langley RC High School, Middleton, Manchester, M23 2GL. Find out more at:

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/sharing-the-hope-day-1-bolton-salford-and-bury-rochdale-deaneries/>

Christmas Tree Recycling Project: Do you have a real Christmas tree to dispose of this year? The Just Helping Christmas tree recycling project is a convenient way to dispose of your tree while making a difference to our planet and raising funds for local charities. To find out more about the project or other collection points across Greater Manchester and Lancashire, head to <https://just-helping.org.uk/register-tree>