

Newsletter – 16 July 2023 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayers Requested

Sick: All who are sick, especially John McDermottroe

Lately Dead: Sheila Unwin, Sheila Smith, Oliver Peyton, Ambrosmar Gamotin, David Fallon, Ray Nicholls

Anniversaries: Anna Shalliker

Masses Received: Anna Shalliker (A)

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: We pray for our Mother Church, our Cathedral Church of St John, together with the parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Joseph, Salford. We pray for Bishop John as he celebrates his Fortieth Anniversary of priestly ordination, for Canon Michael Jones, the Cathedral Dean, Fr Ignatius, and Fr Churchill. We pray also for the two parish primary schools, for the chaplaincy to Salford University and for all who work in the Cathedral Centre. May their sowing bring forth a rich harvest.



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*) Assistant Priest: Father Mark Paver (*Vocations Director*) Tel: 0161 736 2696 Email: priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

Reflections for This Week

A sower went out to sow

The Gospel today is the beginning of a new section in Matthew, called 'The Parabolic Discourse' - a section of parables Jesus tells the crowd, which we will read over the next three weeks. A parable is a story with a hidden meaning: we can easily remember the story, and gradually the true meaning becomes clearer and clearer. Today is a famous example: The Parable of the Sower. In itself, it is a story that would easily be understood by Jesus's audience - people who lived in an agricultural economy. Jesus uses their understanding to make an important teaching about the message he has brought: it is like a seed that is thrown out and received in different ways - the ideal is when the seed finds good soil, and produces a crop that can be seen and harvested: so the ideal listener to the word is one who allows it to lodge in the heart, but also produces a visible result. What is the harvest we should yield, when we have heard the word?

Marriage Matters: *Listen to the person behind the words:* The stony ground is when we are too engrossed in the telly, reading or working on the computer to listen to our partner. The thorny ground is where we disengage with such but not wanting real involvement, suggest a cuppa as a diversion. We are called to be fertile ground by real listening – hold hands, look ineach other's eyes.

Think Vocation: We pray that the call to serve Christ and his Church in the priesthood and consecrated life, will fall on the rich soil of hearts prepared by prayer, hard work and generous service to others.

Change of Assistant Priest

As you will know from the announcement at Masses last weekend, Father Mark will be leaving us in September to become Parish Priest of St Winifred's, Heaton Mersey, Stockport. We have been lucky to keep him here in our parish for the past five years and he has done a lot of good work and played a significant part in shaping the parish after the amalgamation. We will have chance to wish him well nearer the time but please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for this next step in his priestly ministry. He celebrates the sixth anniversary of his ordination next Saturday.

Our new Assistant Priest will be Father Emmanuel Chukwujekwu. He comes from Nigeria and belongs to a Religious Order called The Holy Family Fathers and Brothers of the Youth, the order which is now running our neighbouring parish of St Ambrose Barlow. We will find out more about Father Emmanuel in due course and hopefully he will begin to work with us soon, even though he won't move into the parish until September.

Parish Notices

World Youth Day: The three young people from our parish who will be attending the World Youth Day in Lisbon this August will be speaking briefly at each of the Masses this weekend and they will also be raising some funds through a raffle. Please support them if you can. Thanks.

Stella Maris: Thank you for the £486.57 given in the special collection last weekend, together with £55 given via the Dona machines. This will help with the work of supporting seafarers in our ports and on their ships.

Summer Draw: Please ensure all counterfoils (and money) are returned in time for the draw which will take place during the Summer Fair this Sunday afternoon.



Summer Fair: This takes place at Ss Peter & Paul from 2pm to 4pm this Sunday afternoon. Please support it if you can. Thanks.

Next Flower Arranging class will be on Wednesday 19 July at Ss Peter & Paul's 1.00pm everybody welcome.

Save the Date: Ss Peter & Paul's UCM are holding an Afternoon Tea. Sunday 10 September at St Luke's Parish Hall 2pm until 4pm. Everybody welcome. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Communion Under Both Kinds - Catechetical Reflection Five However we receive Holy Communion, it should always be a moment filled with reverence, respect and profound faith. We should participate fully in all the prayers of the Mass, but at the same time develop a personal longing and thirst for Jesus in our hearts. We can imagine ourselves gathered with the apostles at the Last Supper, hearing the words spoken by the Lord over bread and wine, and affirming deep inside ourselves that his words are true: "This is his body ... this is the chalice of his blood."

We process forward to the Altar, bow before the Sacred Host and say 'Amen' when the minister says, 'The Body of Christ'. We receive it on the palm and place it on our tongue straight away (or some choose to receive it on the tongue). Then we consume it immediately. If we are receiving the Precious Blood, we bow before the Chalice and say 'Amen' when the minister says, 'The Blood of Christ', We take the Chalice, consume the Precious Blood and return it to the minister. We should approach Holy Communion with a profound sense of God's love being lavished upon us, and our "Amen" as we receive the host and/or the Precious Blood should be confident – our personal act of faith.

> Next Week's Newsletter: Please send notices before Wednesday Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk

Financially Supporting Our Parish

Contactless: The Dona machines (card or mobile phone) Bank Details: TSDT Our Lady of Hope 50317403 20 55 34

Cheques: Payable to Our Lady of Hope

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Diocesan Notices

Ruby Jubilee: Please pray for Bishop John as he celebrates the fortieth anniversary of his ordination as a priest this Sunday. The special Mass to mark this occasion is at 3pm in Salford Cathedral. The Mass is open to all and will be followed by light refreshments (tea/coffee & biscuits). The Mass will also be live-streamed on www.churchservices.tv

Deanery Synod Holy Hours: Bishop John is currently leading a Holy Hour for our Diocesan Synod in each Deanery. All are invited to attend any of these times of prayer as we embark on our Diocesan Synod asking the Holy Spirit to enlighten us on this next stage of our journey. The time of prayer will include hymns, silence, scripture, and a reflection from Bishop John on the vision for our Synod. There is just one taking place this coming week:

Deanery of St John Southworth (Blackburn) – Tuesday 18 July, 7-8pm - St Joseph Church, Audley Range, Blackburn BB1 1TG The final three will take place next week.

Lourdes Pilgrimage: The Diocese of Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage Team invites you to join them for this year's Pre-Departure Mass. Bishop John will lead the Mass at 5.30pm on Sunday 23 July at St Bernadette's, 436 Bury New Road, Whitefield M45 7SX. All are welcome to attend the Mass and to stay for refreshments afterwards.

Women Saints and Spirituality: Join us as we continue our fascinating series of talks exploring the life and spirituality of women in the Church throughout history. Our next session takes place on Friday 21 July at 10am at Wardley Hall and has a special focus on Kateri Tekakwitha. Contact Sister Joan Kerley at joankfmsj@gmail.com or 07934 816 796 to reserve a place. Find out more at https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/women-saints-and-spirituality/

Thinking Faith Retreat - Change and Renewal: 22 - 29 July at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria. Walk, talk, and pray with like-minded Catholics at a spiritual escape on the edge of the beautiful Lake District. The Thinking Faith course is aimed at younger adults (in their 20s - 40s) and offers a week-long stay in stunning surroundings to nurture mind, heart, body and soul! Led by Sr Margaret Atkins and Fr Richard Finn OP, this retreat provides an opportunity to hear fascinating talks, deepen our faith, make new friends, and explore the wonderful Cumbrian countryside. Prices are flexible but few places remain. For more information, email margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk or visit www.boarbankhall.org.uk

Diocesan Vacancies: For details of any posts please visit: https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/

