



**Our Lady of Hope
Salford**

DIOCESE OF  **SALFORD**

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 Emmanuel Chukwujekwu HFFBY
Tel: 0161 736 2696 **Email:** priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk
Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

| Newsletter – 10 December 2023 Second Sunday of Advent |
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| Sunday – Second Sunday of Advent Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am |
| Monday – Advent Weekday or St Damascus I No Mass today Cenacle Prayer at SL; Adoration at 6.30pm; Prayers at 7pm |
| Tuesday – Advent Weekday or Our Lady of Guadalupe Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm |
| Wednesday – St Lucy Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am School Nativity Carol Service: St Luke's Church (2pm-3pm) |
| Thursday – St John of the Cross School Nativity Carol Service: St Luke's Church (2pm-3pm) Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm |
| Friday – Advent Weekday Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am Funeral Service for Rachel Dargon at SL 12noon |
| Saturday – Advent Weekday Mass and Blessing of the Sick at SL 12noon Reconciliation 5.45-6.15pm at SL |
| Sunday – Third Sunday of Advent – <i>Gaudete Sunday</i> – <i>Special Collection for Salford Loaves and Fishes</i> Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am Carol Service at SL 6pm (with Eccles Borough Band) |
| Live-stream: www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/ |

| Prayers Requested |
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| Sick: Mike Gilbert and all who are sick. |
| Lately Dead: Emmanuel Osuagwu Jnr, Alan Taylor, Bob Sullivan, Rachel Dargon |
| Anniversaries: Linda Rose Gill, Bob Shaliker, Roy Bateson |
| Masses Received: Gabrielle Jones (S), Louise Lindsay (S), For safe arrival of baby Alfred James (Freddie) Shields, Martina O'Brien, Terence Shortt, Linda Rose Gill (A), Bob Shaliker (A), Margaret & Rose (BM), Clare & Walter Smith, Roy Bateson (1 st Anniversary), SsPP UCM |
| Diocesan Prayer Cycle: We pray for the people of the parish of the Holy Spirit, East Manchester, with Fr Matthias Odaudu, CSSp, and the Spiritan fathers. We pray for their parish primary schools and for all assisted by the Mary and Joseph Home. |

Reflections for This Week

Throughout the first three weeks of Advent our focus is very clearly on the Second Coming of the Lord - not so much on the run up to Christmas (until the last week). If we view Advent as a preparation for Christmas these readings will make little sense - and neither will the figure of John the Baptist who appears today: if it's about the preparation for Christmas, then John the Baptist, preaching after Jesus was born, is a confusing figure: but his role is to preach to us, as he did of old, and to prepare us for the (second) coming of the Lord. Today we have a very graphic reference to the end of time and the Second Coming in the reading from Saint Peter; it is a frightening picture, and so the first reading offers tender words of comfort to help us understand who is coming, and why we should be ready to meet him.

Marriage Matters: A voice cries "Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord": Sometimes life can seem to be a wilderness as we look ahead. If we try to live today to the best of our abilities, removing those attitudes and behaviours, that prevent us from being better husbands and wives, then we can become a clearer 'signpost' for everyone.

Think Vocations: When we read the Scriptures - either in church or at home - God is speaking to us today. Our attentiveness to that Word will help us to understand what God is calling us to do in our life.

2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Jubilee

This Advent, Pope Francis invites people across the world to embark on a Year of Prayer in preparation for the 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Jubilee. Over the coming weeks and months, the Diocese of Salford will be sharing a range of resources and ideas to help us journey together through this Year of Prayer. To find out more, head to <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/>



Parish Notices

Funeral: There is a Funeral Service for Rachel Dargon on Friday at St Luke's at 12noon. May she rest in peace.

Annual Mass and Blessing of the Sick: St Luke's Church on Saturday 16 December at 12noon. All parishioners are welcome. There will be a party for the housebound and older members of our parish in the parish centre after the Mass. There is a list at the back of the church for older person's name and contact details.

Salford Loaves and Fishes: Next weekend we will have our annual Christmas appeal as part of the ongoing parish support for this local charity which helps vulnerable people near to us.

Christmas Draw: Thanks to everyone who supported the Christmas Draw. There is a list of prize winners in the porch at both churches. Winners have been notified.

Christmas Fair: Thanks to everyone who organised or supported the Fair. The grand total raised (including the Draw) was £3397.50 and this will be shared equally between the school and the parish.

Almanacs: The new Diocesan Almanac for 2024 is now on sale at the back of each church (at £3.50).

CAFOD: There are prayer cards at the back of church, together with leaflets about leaving a legacy to CAFOD in your will (and detail of a free will-writing offer).

Diocesan Notices

Young Adults Mass: Young adults from across the diocese are invited to join us on Sunday 10 December for our final Young Adults Mass of 2023! Mass begins at 5.30pm at St Augustine's, Manchester, with opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation between 4.45pm and 5.15pm. Join us after as we kickstart the festive season with a fun-filled social complete with Christmassy food and drink!

Advent Retreat Series: The Parish of The Sacred Heart and St Francis of Assisi in Gorton is set to host a series of evening retreats this Advent. Taking place at The Sacred Heart Church, Levenshulme Road, the retreats will begin with Mass, include opportunities for prayer and worship, as well as welcoming a guest speaker each week. Find out more at:

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/advent-retreat-series-2023/>

Schools Singing Programme: Schools across the diocese are set to present a wonderful series of festive carol services as part of the Schools Singing Programme. Services will be taking place over the coming weeks in parishes right across the diocese. To find a carol service near you, head to:

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/school-singing-programme-carol-services/>

ECT Primary Pool 2024: Are you looking for a career in teaching? Do you know someone who is training for a career in primary education? ECT (Early Career Teachers) due to gain Qualified Teacher Status in Summer 2024 are being invited to apply for recommendation for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for September 2024. To find out more and apply, email education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Advent and Christmas

Musical Advent Calendar: How to join in - just video yourself (maybe with family and friends too) singing, playing or reciting your Christmas pieces. This is for all ages to join in. You can send by email/file share to music@ourladyofhope.org.uk. More details linked on our website and Facebook.

Walk With Me: The booklets for Advent are now available – free of charge. Do please take one for your household and use it to help your prayer during this season of preparation for Christmas.

Three Schools Carol Service: Thank you to the pupils from St John's, St Luke's and Summerville for the wonderful carol service on Tuesday morning and thank you to all who came along to support it.

School Nativity Carol Service: In St Luke's Church (2pm-3pm) on Wednesday 13 & Thursday 14 December. All welcome.


Parish Carol Service: This will take place at St Luke's Church on Sunday 17 December at 6pm, supported by Eccles Borough Band. All are welcome.

Carol Singing at Aldi: Saturday 16 December (11am-1pm). All are welcome to come and join in. Collecting for Christian Aid.

Christmas Card: The Churches on the Height have produced the usual card giving times of Christmas services at the churches in the area. The front of the card has been designed by a pupil at St Luke's School. Please take some cards and share them with friends and neighbours to encourage them to attend church this Christmas.

CAFOD World Gifts: Catalogues for these are now available at the back of each of our churches. You may wish to make use of these gifts as an alternative to traditional Christmas presents. You can also see the range of CAFOD world gift ideas by visiting: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/World-Gifts>

Christmas Masses: There will be two Masses on Christmas Eve (5pm at SL & 7pm at SsPP) and two Masses on Christmas morning (9.30am at SL & 11am at SsPP).

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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
Diocese of Salford Registered Charity 250037

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