



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 11 February 2024 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – <i>World Day of Prayer for the Sick</i> Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am
Monday – Weekday Mass & Cenacle Prayers at SL 6.30pm
Tuesday – Weekday Requiem Mass for Pauline Edwards at SL 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm
Wednesday – Ash Wednesday – <i>Day of Fasting and Abstinence</i> Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am Mass at SsPP 6.30pm
Thursday – Lent Weekday Requiem Mass for Francis (Frank) Moore at SsPP 10.30am Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm
Friday – Lent Weekday Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am Requiem Mass for Claire Kelly at SL 12noon
Saturday – Lent Weekday or Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order Mass at SsPP 12noon Reconciliation 12.30-1pm at SsPP; 5.45-6.15pm at SL
Sunday – First Sunday of Lent 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: Michael Gilbert and all who are sick.
Lately Dead: Claire Kelly, Pauline Edwards, Frank Moore, Maureen Roberts, Leandro Sison, Anthony O’Leary, Owen Patton, Graham Marsden, Joshua Freedman
Anniversaries: Denis Eagleton, Andrew McKay, Norman McKenzie
Masses Received: Owen Patton (LD), Denis Eagleton (A), Joshua Freeman (LD), Andrew McKay (A), Gabrielle Ward (BM), Michael Gilbert (S), Brian Lambert (S), Amy & James Rodgers, Ethel & Ted Lambert, Eddy Lambert, Mike Fahy, For family & good health of Nnenna Egbegu, Maureen Roberts (LD), Norman McKenzie (A), Joan McKenzie (BM), Graham Marsden (LD)
Diocesan Prayer Cycle: We pray for the people of Christ the King Parish, Newton Heath, and for Fr Derek McCartney, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school.

Reflections for This Week
Thankfully, we do not encounter leprosy in our culture. It can therefore be difficult to enter into the real depth of today’s readings. We have to understand that leprosy meant exclusion, rejection and the end of “normal” life. For your leprosy to be cured would be like being given a second chance at life. What is the cause of exclusion and rejection in our society – or even in the Church? Who are those who must “live apart”? And how can we put into effect in our day those most touching of the words of Jesus, when asked if he wants to cure the leper: “Of course I want to!”? Contemplating exclusion and rejection in our world can be hard work: Saint Paul guides the way: the Christian path is not to work “for my own advantage, but for the advantage of everybody else”.
Marriage Matters: Sometimes we have a sense of being at odds and separated from each other. The question, often unasked, is ‘do you love me?’ The answer is the same as Jesus gave to the outcast leper ‘of course I do!’ From being apart, we can be one again. How often do we say to each other ‘I love you’?
Think Vocations: St Paul tells us to model ourselves on Christ. Jesus had time for those who were pushed away by society and the authorities. There are people in the Church today who strive to ensure that no one is excluded from the Lord’s love. We pray for those who work with the homeless and marginalised to feed them, shelter them and show them the love of Christ.

Marriage Week 2024
Marriage Week is an annual celebration offering the opportunity to support and promote marriage and family life. It is celebrated this year from 7-14 February. A Christian marriage is rooted in faith; that means faith in God, as the giver of life and the one who promises eternal life to those who believe in him. The vocation of marriage is a response from two people, by God’s sustaining divine grace, who promise to build a lifelong, intimate and sacramental partnership of love and life. Here is a simple prayer in thanksgiving for the vocation of marriage:
<i>God, our Father, we pray in thanksgiving for the vocation to marriage and for each couple that you join together in order to make a family.</i>
<i>We ask that every marriage brings each couple closer to you and closer to holiness.</i>
<i>We pray for those who are struggling in their marriage at present, that they can make it through this tough time and support each other in their differences.</i>
<i>We make this prayer through Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.</i>

Parish Notices

Funeral: There is a Requiem Mass for Pauline Edwards on Tuesday 13 February at St Luke's at 10.30am, a Requiem Mass for Francis (Frank) Moore on Thursday 15 February at Ss Peter and Paul at 10.30am and a Requiem Mass for Claire Kelly on Friday 16 February at St Luke's at 12noon. May they rest in peace.

Advance Notice: There will be a Requiem Mass for Owen Patton on Wednesday 21 February at St Luke's at 10.30am and a Requiem Mass for Graham Marsden on Thursday 22 February at St Luke's at 10,30am. May they rest in peace.

A Winter's Serenade: Tickets now available at back of each church - £5 each. **Tickets also available on the door.** Sunday, 11 February, 2pm, St Luke's Parish Hall. A musical afternoon with entertainment provided by our talented parishioners. Proceeds in aid of parish funds. Bar open.

Cenacle: The monthly Cenacle Prayers will be at St Luke's on Monday evening, starting with Mass at 6.30pm.

Ecumenical Quiet Day: Churches on the Height have organised this for Saturday 16 March (1.30 to 5pm) at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Kearsley. The Venerable Dr John Applegate will give two short talks based on the Gospel stories of Peter as pictured by the artist and priest Sieger Koder. There will be time for personal prayer and reflection, to visit the shrine, the gardens or sit and enjoy the views across the Irwell. Tea/coffee provided. There is a suggested donation of £5 per person. They need to know numbers attending by 9 March, so please let one of the priests know if you wish to attend.

500 Club: If you would like to join the 500 Club, please give your contact details (either in writing or by email) to one of the priests. It costs £5 per month, preferably paid by monthly or annual standing order.

Diocesan Notices

Young Adults Mass: The next Diocesan Mass for Young Adults takes place on Sunday 11 February, 5.30pm, at St Augustine's, Manchester. Coinciding with the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, this month's Mass welcomes Canon Tony McBride - former Director of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes - as our guest celebrant. Join the team after Mass as they explore more about the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in our Centenary Year. Please note, there is currently no vehicle access to the church. Details of alternative parking can be found at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/young-adults-mass-feb-2024/>

Service of Blessing for Engaged Couples: On Saturday 17 February, there will be a Service of Blessing for Engaged Couples, led by Bishop John. The service will take place at 2pm at St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst. Please let one of the priests know if you intend going so that your names can be passed on to the organisers.

Great Manchester Run: Caritas Diocese of Salford is looking for people to take on this year's Great Manchester Run to raise funds to support its work across the diocese, supporting people across Greater Manchester and Lancashire who are experiencing poverty, homelessness, and discrimination. Find out more at www.caritassalford.org.uk/EveryStep

Job Vacancies: For information on current vacancies within the Diocese of Salford, see: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

Lent 2024

Ash Wednesday: The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, with a day of fasting and abstinence. We will have two Masses on Wednesday at which the ashes will be distributed: 9.30am at St Luke and 6.30pm at Ss Peter & Paul

Walk With Me: The booklets are now available for you to take (free of charge). These are a wonderful resource to accompany us on our Lenten journey.

Ecumenical Lent Course & Lunch: Organised by the Churches on the Height, these will take place on the Thursdays of Lent (12.30-2pm) using a resource from Christian Aid entitled *Act on Poverty*. The first lunch is on 15 February at St John's and we are hosting it the week after (22 February) at St Luke's. All welcome.

Prayer in Lent - Our Father: The first of a series of prayer workshops is set to begin this February with a focus on the Our Father. In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee, Pope Francis has designated 2024 as a Year of Prayer, calling people to revisit the basics of the prayer and, in particular, the Our Father. The first of these workshops invites you to rediscover this beautiful prayer on Friday 16th February, 10am to 12.30pm, at Wardley Hall. To book or find out more, visit: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lent-prayer-programme-1/>

Deanery Station Masses: There will be five Masses at various churches across the deanery at 7.30pm on the Wednesday evenings of Lent (with Reconciliation available from 7pm). The first one will be on 21 February at St Thomas of Canterbury, Higher Broughton. The others are at St Mary, Eccles (28 Feb), St Mark, Pendlebury (6 Mar), St Luke (13 Mar) and Lancashire Martyrs, Little Hulton (20 Mar and celebrated by Bishop John).

CAFOD: The Lent Fast Day is coming up on Friday 23 February. On this day we are encouraged to eat more simply and to make a donation to CAFOD's appeal for 2024. Envelopes will be handed out after each Mass on 17 & 18 February. These envelopes can be returned the following weekend. This year your donations will help families in coastal areas of Liberia to earn a living by fishing in a safe and sustainable way. More information about CAFOD and its work throughout the world can be found on its website: www.cafod.org.uk

Some of you might like to sign up for CAFOD's Lent Challenge - The Big Lent Walk - which invites you to walk 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty. You can get further details or sign up, via the website.

St Joseph's Penny and Lent Appeal: Caritas Salford has lots of information and resources on its website about how you can join in with this year's Lent and St Joseph's Penny appeals. Get the latest news and resources - as well as your free St Joseph's Penny box to collect coins to donate during Lent - at www.caritassalford.org.uk/SJP

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: Margaret Haydock

Please send notices before Wednesday

Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk