



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
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Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

Newsletter 18 February 2024 First Sunday of Lent
Sunday – First Sunday of Lent Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am
Monday – Lent Weekday No Mass today
Tuesday – Lent Weekday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm
Wednesday – Lent Weekday or St Peter Damien Requiem Mass for Owen Patton at SL 10.30am Deanery Station Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury 7.30pm
Thursday – The Chair of St Peter Requiem Mass for Graham Marsden at SL 10.30am Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm
Friday – Lent Weekday or St Polycarp – <i>CAFOD Lent Fast Day</i> Stations of the Cross at SL 9am Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am
Saturday – Lent Weekday Mass at SsPP 12noon Reconciliation 12.30-1pm at SsPP; 5.45-6.15pm at SL
Sunday – Second Sunday of Lent – <i>Collection for CAFOD</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: 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, Henry Madden, Germana Fesalvo
Anniversaries: Renee Tyldesley
Masses Received: Roman Lyzniak, Lucy "Pat" Barlow, Connie Moss, Frederick Owen Moss, Pauline Halpin, Brian Halpin, Maureen Roberts (LD), Pauline Edwards (LD), Renee Tyldesley (A), Henry Madden (LD), Frank Moore (LD), Germana Fesalvo (LD), Isabelle Lyons (BM), Martin Murray (BM), Gabrielle Ward (BM)
Diocesan Prayer Cycle: We pray for the people of the parish of St Clare, Blackley, for Fr Jeremiah Budau and for Fr Colin Mary Edwards, of the Conventual Franciscans. We pray for the Good Shepherd Sisters, for the Romanian language chaplaincy, for Our Lady's High School and St Clare's Primary School.

Reflections for This Week
<p>We begin our Lenten journey at the decisive moment of the flood, when God establishes his first Covenant with man, in the person of Noah. Noah was saved from the waters, while we (as Saint Peter points out) are saved by the waters of Baptism. This is the Covenant we live in, thanks to Christ, who came to establish this "new and eternal Covenant in his blood". He is the only one who can do this, because he is without sin, despite "having been tempted in every way that we are".</p> <p>Marriage Matters: <i>We hunger for closeness:</i> 'Wilderness' can be a reality in our marriage relationship at times, a kind of 'desert experience': hungering for a gentle touch or return of the closeness in our relationship. Yet, we can look back on such times and recognise the Spirit was at work. God's grace was in our yearning, calling us to choose life and turn away from self-indulgence.</p> <p>Think Vocations: Temptation is a very powerful force at work in our world. It is as strong today as it ever was. Society can make us narrow minded and think only of ourselves and what we can get out of life. This can lead to destruction of the spirit of generosity needed to foster vocations within the Church. Temptation can make us closed to the promptings of the Holy Spirit that lead us closer to God. If we are tempted to despair over the future of the Church, then let us reconnect during this Holy Season of Lent with the New Covenant established in Our Lord Jesus Christ.</p>

This Weekend
Gift Aid: Peter Lougheed, a member of our Parish Finance Committee, will speak briefly at each Mass about the benefits to the parish of tax-payers gift-aiding their contributions to the parish. Forms will be available for those who wish to gift aid and/or to pay their contributions by standing order. Thank you for whatever financial support you are able to give to the parish.
CAFOD: Envelopes are being distributed for the Family Fast Day on Friday and will be collected in next weekend.
UCM & CARITAS: Boxes for the St Joseph's Penny Appeal are being handed out, since the Diocesan UCM has adopted Caritas as its charity for the year.
Right To Life: Please support an amendment to reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction to the abortion law. Please collect a postcard today (from the back of each church) and post it to your MP in support of this amendment.

Parish Notices

Funerals: 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.

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.

St Patrick's Celebration: Saturday, 8pm, 16 March, St Luke's Parish Centre. Live music - Cracked Flag. Bar open. Raffle. Tickets £8 (limited number) available at the back of both churches.

Winter Serenade: Thank you to all those who organised and supported this event. We certainly have some very talented parishioners! £250 was raised for Parish funds.

St Peter & St Paul's UCM Cake Sale: Last week's cake sale raised £202.50p (£50 of which was given to parish funds). Many thanks to our bakers, supporters and the Parish Craft Group.

Diocesan Notices

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/>

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: Liz Connolly

Please send notices before Wednesday

Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk

Lent 2024

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*. **We are hosting the Lunch this week (22 February) at St Luke's in the Parish Centre.** All welcome.

Prayer in Lent: 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. A series of prayer workshops is taking place on the Fridays of Lent, 10am to 12.30pm, at Wardley Hall. This week's topic is *Praying in the Gospels, Part 1*. 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 it's 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

Lent Resources: During Lent, the diocese will be sharing a range of resources to accompany people in prayer over the coming weeks. The resources have been created to support our journey throughout this Year of Prayer, as we prepare for the Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee in 2025. Resources can be accessed via the diocesan social media channels or by visiting the website at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lent-2024-rediscovering-prayer/>

Stations of the Cross at the Laudato Si' Centre: The Laudato Si' Centre at Wardley Hall will be hosting a special Stations of the Cross this Lent. The Stations of the Cross will take place on Saturday 16 March in the beautiful setting of the Centre's woodland area. Specific times will be announced in due course.