

Diocesan Notices

Diocesan Synod: We are now approaching the last phase and important culmination of our Diocesan Synod, which we began in 2023. Next weekend we will be holding our Diocesan Voting Day, where clergy and lay synod members will come together to vote on recommendations that will form the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. Please pray for all those involved in the Synod Process that the Holy Spirit may guide and inspire us as we work together to discern God's call for the Church in our diocese.

The following day there is an opportunity to give thanks for the Synod and pray for guidance as we move into the planning and implementation phases. This Thanksgiving Service will officially close the Diocesan Synod and is open to all to attend.

When: Sunday 2nd March 2025. **Venue:** St Patricks RC Church, Livesey Street, Collyhurst, Manchester. M4 5HF. **Time:** 15:00 to 17:00. **Parking:** Available in Caritas House car park at the end of Nobby Stiles Drive and various car parks within easy walking around the Church.

Primary ECT Pool 2025: 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 2025 are being invited to apply for recommendation for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for September 2025. Email millie.burton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more and apply or call 0161 817 220.

Annual St Joseph's Technical High School Reunion Mass: Former pupils and staff of St Joseph's RC Technical High School (Laindon Road, Manchester) are invited to this year's reunion with their families to celebrate the school's history. The reunion will take place on Saturday 22nd March 2025 at St Bernard's RC Church, Burnage. Mass begins at 12 noon, with opportunity for confession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11am. Please arrive by 11.30am to sign in. Refreshments will be available in the parish hall after Mass.

Jubilee for Interfaith and Ecumenism: This February marks the Jubilee for Interfaith and Ecumenism. To mark this month's celebrations, our Episcopal Vicar for Dialogue has written a number of reflections encouraging us to consider how we are called to walk with pilgrims of other faiths in peace and harmony. Read more at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/calendar/>

Jubilee Book Signing Event: A special book signing and reading event is due to take place to celebrate the launch of two new books about our diocese by Mgr John Allen - 'A popular history of the Diocese of Salford' and 'Pilgrims of Hope: Out and About in Salford Diocese'. It will be held on Monday 3 March at 5pm at St Patrick's Church, in Collyhurst. You can book your free place now at www.caritassalford.org.uk/booksigning. All proceeds from book sales go to Caritas Salford.

Job Vacancies: Parish Administrator - St Mary's Presbytery, Oswaldtwistle. Find out more and apply at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies>



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

Deacon: Rev Paul Chisnall

Tel: 0161 736 2696 Email: priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk

Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

NEWSLETTER 23 FEBRUARY 2025

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am

Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am

Monday – Weekday

No Mass Today

Tuesday – Weekday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm

Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm

Wednesday – Weekday

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Funeral Service for Maureen Keating at Agecroft Crematorium 11am

Mass at SL for St Ambrose Barlow School 70th Anniversary 6pm

Thursday – Weekday or St Gregory of Narek

Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm

Friday – Weekday

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Saturday – St David (Feast)

Mass at SsPP 12noon

Reconciliation 12.30-1pm at SsPP; 5.45-6.15pm at SL

Sunday - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am

Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am

Live-stream: www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/

Reflections for This Week

What is compassion? What is love? And how do we live them out in our own age? These are the questions that spring from the Gospel today. In many ways this is the hardest teaching Jesus offers us, because it goes against so much of what the "modern world" would have us believe. Look at the first reading: David and Saul are enemies, and Saul is suddenly in David's power. The logic of the modern world would say "Strike while you can." But David chooses another path. He is com-passionate. We can all think of times when we were in a position to take revenge, score a victory over someone, take it out on them. Our measure of our faith is whether or not we were compassionate - especially with our enemies - as Jesus taught us.

Marriage Matters: *An unconditional way of life:* Today's Scripture sets out a blueprint for life: love enemies, bless those who curse you, turn the other cheek, give without expecting anything in return, don't judge or condemn. When marrying and promising 'to have and to hold', 'for better for worse', we said yes to this way of life: an unconditional acceptance of one another without counting the cost!

Think Vocation: "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate." Let us pray that all priests may be compassionate in the celebration of the sacrament of Reconciliation and in all their dealings with those who are vulnerable and in need of reassurance that God loves them.

Prayers Requested

Sick: Claire Faulkner, Stella Murray and all who are sick (at home or in hospital)

Lately Dead: Obieze Osudguu, Cecilia O'Neill, Peter Hovington, Dennis Nicholson, Pat Gaffey, Lucy Watts, James McKeown, Lily Ortega, Joyce Hilton, Jacob Sebastian, Denis Wardle, Maureen Keating, Terence Milnthorp, Sylvia Connor, Michael Riley, Alan Summerville, Linda Riley, Maureen Jones, Betty Mills

Anniversaries: Maisie Leung, Eric Ball, Matthew Kerrane

Masses Received: Cecilia O'Neill (LD), Bob Shalliker (BM), Special Intention, Maisie Leung (A), Eric Ball, Emeka & Nnenna Egbebu & Family, Obieze Osudguu (LD), Matthew Kerrane (A)

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: We pray for the parishioners of the parishes of St. Mary, Clayton-le-Moors, Our Lady and St. Hubert with St. Wulstan, Great Harwood and St. Charles Borromeo, Rishton, with Fr. Ethelbert Arua OSJ, their parish priest, and Fr. Stephen Adedeji OSJ. Let us pray for their four parish primary schools.

Please keep Pope Francis in your prayers at this time.

Next Week's Newsletter:

Could you 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
Diocese of Salford Registered Charity 250037

Parish Notices

Funerals: There will be a Funeral Service for Marureen Keating on 26 February at 11am at Agecroft Crematorium. There will be a Requiem Mass for Terence Milnthorp on 6 March at 10am at Ss Peter and Paul. May they rest in peace.

Ambrose Barlow School: Our local Catholic High School is 70 years old and is celebrating this with a Mass at St Luke's Church on Wednesday 26 February at 6pm (celebrated by Bishop John) followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to attend.

FACT: The next Strategy and Governance meeting in on Wednesday at 7.30pm at St Luke's.

Lent 2025: Lent begins on Wednesday 5 March, when we will have two Masses for Ash Wednesday (9.30am at SL & 6.30pm at SsPP). During Lent we will have the usual series of Lenten Station Masses across the deanery on Wednesday evenings and our Ecumenical Lenten Lunches at the various churches on the Height on Thursdays. In addition, this year, Deacon Paul will be giving a series of talks on four Thursday evenings, there will be a CAFOD Soup Lunch after the 12noon Mass on Saturdays and there will be a Day Retreat on Saturday 29 March. Further details for all of these events will be in the newsletter over the coming weeks.

Sacramental Programme: Reminder that the next preparation meeting is Sunday 2 March. Reconciliation will take place at SL on Wednesday 12 March at 6pm.

Men's Fellowship: We wish to warmly invite you to join us for our Men's Fellowship at St Lukes Church on Tuesday 4 & 18 March at 7pm. For further information, please contact Ian (icgifford@hotmail.com) or Calli (calli.onyebuchibe@outlook.com).

CAFOD - Join Us for a Lenten Soup Lunch: Throughout Lent, we invite you to share a simple yet nourishing Soup Lunch every Saturday after the 12noon Mass at SsPP. The meal is free, but we encourage donations to CAFOD to support those in need. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, reflection and charity as we journey through Lent together. The first meal will be on offer on **Saturday 8 March**. All are welcome - bring a friend!

St Vincent De Paul Society: The monthly general meeting of the SVP is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 11 March at 7pm at SL. New members are welcome.

CAFOD Annual Family Fast Day: The Family Fast Day will take place on 14 March, we are all encouraged to eat a simple meal on this day and to think of people who do not have as much food as us. We are encouraged to make a donation to CAFOD which will make a difference to people in need. The Family Fast Day envelopes will be distributed at each Mass on the 8 & 9 March.

Day Retreat For Lent: A day retreat for Lent is taking place on the 29 March from 10am to 4pm at SsPP. The retreat is aimed at helping parishioners reflect on our relationship with God and to gain a deeper understanding of our faith. There will be talks, praise & worship and adoration. Lunch will be provided and Tea & Coffee available.