

Diocesan Notices

Relics of St Carlo Acutis to Visit Diocese of Salford - January 2026: This month, the relics of St Carlo Acutis will be hosted at two of our churches over five days, during which time the Diocese will welcome schools, parishioners and people from all over for veneration. Carlo is the first millennial saint, and is celebrated for his profound faith and his use of the internet to log Eucharistic miracles from around the world. He was passionate about spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church up until his death from leukaemia at the age of 15. The relics will be presented at St Mary's Church, Burnley from 28-29 January 2026 before they travel to St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst from 30 January to 1 February 2026. For more information and to view the schedule for the visits, please visit: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/relics-of-st-carlo-acutis-to-visit-diocesan-churches/>

Exploring God's Creation within Catholic Theology: Dr Finlay Malcolm from the University of Manchester will be delivering an interactive teaching session exploring how creation and the environment are integral to Catholic faith and theology. The session will involve theological and environmental teaching, spiritual reflection, and discussion of how we can be part of God's work, through the Church, in redeeming God's creation. The event will take place on 25 February 2026, 7-9pm, at Guardian Angels Roman Catholic Church in Bury. Refreshments will be provided. For more information and to sign up for the event, please use the following link: [Exploring God's Creation within Catholic Theology - Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford](#)

Lenten Talks: School of Prayer - During Lent, a series of talks and prayerful reflections will be taking place every Tuesday from 10:30am to 12:30pm, led by Mgr Paul Smith, Sr Joan Kerley and Maria Kidd. These will be held at Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church, Little Hulton, from 17 February to 24 March, and light refreshments will be served. For more information on how to book your place please visit the diocesan website by clicking the following link: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lenen-talks-school-of-prayer/>

Racial Justice Sunday resources for 8 February: Caritas Salford has collated a set of resources for Racial Justice Sunday on 8 February, including the excellent Churches Together resource 'Love Your Neighbour' which has ideas on how parishes can take action. Read more and access the free resources, prayers and other information here now: www.caritassalford.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/

Early Career Teachers - Primary Pool Applications: The Diocese of Salford Education Team are inviting applications from ECTs to be added to their Primary Pool for 2026. The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who will gain Qualified Teacher Status in summer 2026 for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for September 2026. The Application Form, Person Specification and Job Description can be found in Vacancies on the Diocesan website by following this link: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/education/vacancies/>. If you require further information, please contact the Education Team by emailing education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



DIOCESSE 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 Paul Chisnall

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

Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

NEWSLETTER 25 JANUARY 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - *Caritas Sunday - Special Collection for Caritas - End of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

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

Masses at SsPP Sun 8.00am & 11am

Monday – Weekday

No Mass today

Tuesday – Weekday or St Angela Merici

Requiem Mass for Carmela Bartkiw at SL 10:15am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm

Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm

Wednesday – St Thomas Aquinas

Requiem Mass for Catherine Knight at SL 12:15pm

Thursday – Weekday

Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm

Friday – Weekday

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Saturday – St John Bosco

Mass at SsPP 12noon

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

Sunday - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at SL (No live-streaming this weekend) Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am

Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am

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

Reflections

We will spend most of the Sundays of the coming year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel (like the others) has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment. Today is a perfect example. "Zebulun and Naphtali" was an old name for the area round Capernaum by the side of the Lake of Galilee, a busy fishing and trading area, with many Gentile towns and settlements: it is here, rather than in the dangerous town of Nazareth, that Jesus "settles" and begins his ministry. This is where the proclamation of the Kingdom of God begins, as was foretold, and the first followers are invited to join Jesus.

Marriage Matters: *God has a stake in our marriage:* Today, we see two aspects of God's plan for our marriage: '... (I will make) their joy increase' (Isaiah) and 'I will make you fishers of men' (Matthew). God wants us to make our love for each other as close to Jesus' love for us as possible, that all whose lives we touch might experience how much God loves them.

Think Vocation: "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Perhaps Jesus chose a number of fishermen as his disciples because fishermen need to be strong, trusting and courageous. Despite their weaknesses they all proved themselves to be up to the task eventually. The Lord continues to call men to be his priests today: they also need to be tough and resilient. Let us pray that the priests of our Diocese have the courage and strength they need to lead the Church and preach the Gospel.

Prayers Requested

Sick: Beryl Crabtree and all who are sick (at home or in hospital)

Lately Dead: Dennis Simcox, Colin Doyle, David Ogden, Carmela Bartkiw, Michael Govin, James Collins, Margaret Connor, June Cusack, Margaret Barlow, Janis Kirkham, Anne Marie Galliano, Gavin Taggart, John O'Gorman, Fr Thomas Mullin, Mary O'Sullivan, Monica Beckett, Morgan O'Brien

Anniversaries: Linda Riley

Masses Received: James Bowers (BM), Kevin Hazeldine (Loving Memory), Joan Knowles, Colin Doyle (LD), David Ogden (LD), Barbara McMahan (A), Eric Burke (BM), Anthony Horton (BM), Eveline & James Edwards, Dennis Simcox (LD), John Unsworth

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: This week we pray for the people of the parish of the Holy Spirit, East Manchester, for Fr Matthias and the Spiritan Fathers, for the three parish primary schools and for the work of the Mary and Joseph Home.

Parish Notices

Funeral: There will be a Requiem Mass for Carmela Bartkiw on Tuesday 27 January at 10:15am at St Luke's. There will be a Requiem Mass for Catherine Knight on Wednesday 28 January at 12:15pm at St Luke's. May they rest in peace.

Caritas Sunday: This is our annual day to pray for and financially support our principal diocesan charity, Caritas Diocese of Salford, which works to support local people experiencing poverty, homelessness and displacement. Copies of their newsletter, *Love in Action*, are available in church highlighting just some of the difference your support has made possible in the past year. Visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/caritassunday for more information. Please do support Caritas through our second collection today or via the Dona machines.

Bingo evening: Save the date! Friday 13 February at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Open to all. More details to follow next week.

Our youth choir and drum group are now one: Pulse of Hope. Bringing together music, dance and rhythm, Pulse of Hope is open to young people aged 10+ to create music, podcasts and videos, while also supporting music at Mass and parish events. Next sessions: Drum group – Thursday 29 Jan 6pm; Music & podcast – Sunday 1 Feb, after 9.30am Mass. Scan the QR code or see the parish website for full details.



Burns Night: To celebrate 70 years of Catholic Excellence, St Ambrose Barlow RCHS invites you to an unforgettable evening, full of music, poetry, bagpipes, dancing and the ceremonial address to the haggis. Enjoy a three course Scottish feast with entertainment from staff and pupils. Thursday 12 February 7-9pm, £20 per person which includes a commemorative gift. Please contact 0161 921 1570 or email office@stambrosebarlowswinton.org to book your place.

500 Club: We have not published 500 Club winners for a few months, whilst we sorted out who the members still were. One of the numbers drawn in July turned out not to be in use and so that prize was redrawn and the winner was Angela Garner (161) £120. From August onwards, having recalculated the number of members, the prize money has dropped down a bit. The winners are as follows: **August:** Audrey Brassloff (191) £101, Vincent Lawton (173) £50.50, Kevin Garner (160) £50.50; **September:** Elizabeth Markendale (229) £101, Greg Bailey (228) £50.50, Terry Leahy (68) £50.50; **October:** Pat McGrath (36) £101, James Theempalangadan (28) £50.50, Catherine Murphy (131) £50.50; **November:** Julie Perkins (222) £101, Jane Bentham (128) £50.50, Pat Kasili (7) £50.50; **December:** Kathleen O'Brien (143) £101, Debbie Killeen (132) £50.50, Marie Loughheed (292) £50.50; **Annual Bonus Draw:** Terry Leahy (68) £336, Natalie Ingram (127) £168, Norma O'Connor (45) £168. **Congratulations** to all of our winners and thank you to all who support the 500 Club. This has made around £2500 for parish funds in 2025, with only 101 members. Just think how much it would make if we had 500 members – and the prizes would also be greater. Why not join (or rejoin if you have dropped out)?

Next Week's Newsletter:

Could you please send notices before Wednesday

Email: newsletter@ourdadyofhope.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