

## Diocesan Notices

**Racial Justice Sunday resources for 8 February:** Caritas Salford has collated a set of resources for Racial Justice Sunday, 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/](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/)

**Talk from Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP:** On 17 February, Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP will be giving a talk as part of a series of guest lectures from Manchester Universities Catholic Chaplaincy. The theme will be 'How we can keep our hope alive today.' The talk will begin at 6PM at the Catholic Chaplaincy Church of the Holy Name, 339 Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9PG. British Sign Language interpretation will be available. For more information please contact [mucc@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:mucc@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**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/>

**Online Gospel Readings During Lent:** During the Lenten period, there will be a series of gospel readings taking place every Tuesday and delivered online by various speakers including Fr Michael Deas, with the final reading to be given by Bishop John Arnold ahead of Palm Sunday. The first reading will be given by Fr Michael Deas on Tuesday 17 February: **First Sunday of Lent (Feb 22):** Matthew 4:1-11 (The temptation of Jesus). For more information, please visit the diocesan website: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/online-readings-for-lent/>

**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](#)

**Caritas Salford Call for Volunteers:** Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is looking for parish volunteers to help with a range of activities. These are flexible roles that can be tailored in line with your availability, skills or interests. If you're able to give even a few hours to help, they would be hugely grateful. You can find out more at: [www.caritassalford.org.uk/service/in-your-parish/](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/service/in-your-parish/)



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](mailto:priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk)

Parish Website: [www.ourladyofhope.org.uk](http://www.ourladyofhope.org.uk)

## NEWSLETTER 8 FEBRUARY 2026

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Sunday** - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - *Racial Justice Sunday*

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

Masses at SsPP Sun 8.00am & 11am

**Monday** – Weekday

No Mass today

**Tuesday** – St Scholastica

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm

Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm

**Wednesday** – Weekday or Our Lady of Lourdes - *World Day of Prayer for the Sick*

Requiem Mass for Margaret Barlow at SL 11.30am

**Thursday** – Weekday

Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm

**Friday** – Weekday

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

**Saturday** – Ss Cyril & Methodius (Feast)

Mass at SsPP 12noon

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

**Sunday** - Sixth 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/](http://www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/)

#### Next Week's Newsletter:

Could you please send notices before Wednesday

Email: [newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk](mailto: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

## Reflections

While the world may seem to be very indifferent to Christianity most of the time, it can be very critical of Christians who do not seem to be following the most basic tenet of their faith – to be a people of “good deeds”, as Jesus teaches in today’s portion of the Sermon on the Mount. While we may sometimes feel indignant about the world’s criticism of our faults, we have to remember that we are in a vital relationship with “the world” – we are to be its light. This means that we should welcome the world’s gaze and scrutiny of our actions and beliefs and we should, in a sense, be accountable to the world for the way we live. We should never be salt that loses its taste. This openness to the gaze of all is not for our own glory, however: it is so that others may find what we have found – their way to the Father.

**Marriage Matters: *Unity is the key:*** *When we married, a new flame was lit in our Church, signified by the lighting of a new candle as we made our vows and became “Little Church” together. Now, as we think of our life up to now, we can see how our love has been reflected on to our children, our family and our Church community.*

**Think Vocation:** “Share your bread with the hungry and shelter the homeless poor.” Those in need and those who have nothing are very close to the Lord. He wants no one to suffer and he will judge us on how we who have more than we need, have treated those who have nothing. Let us count our blessings each day and open our eyes and our hearts to those we come across who need our help.

## Prayers Requested

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

**Latently Dead:** Michael Farragher, Dr. Alan Chapman, Fr Francis Austin, Fr Francis Frost, Stewart Shields, Dennis Simcox, Colin Doyle, Bernard Hayward, 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

**Anniversaries:** Thérèse Lyons, Norman McKenzie

**Masses Received:** Kevin & Sandra Shields (Golden Wedding A), Maura Murray (B), Thérèse Lyons (A), Michael Farragher (LD), Veronica Bradbury (BM), Dr. Alan Chapman (LD), Norman McKenzie (A), Joan McKenzie (BM), Doreen Cotton

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** We pray for the people of the parish of St. Chad’s and for Fr. Richard and the Manchester Oratory. We pray for their parish primary school and for the Chaplaincy to HMP Manchester.

## Parish Notices


**Funerals:** There will be a Requiem Mass for Margaret Barlow on Wednesday 11 February at 11.30am at St Luke’s. May she rest in peace.

**Congratulations:** To Kevin & Sandra Shields who are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this week.

**St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP):** The monthly general meeting of the SVP is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 10 February at 7pm at St Luke’s Church. New members are welcome.

**Flower Arranging:** Our first meeting this year is on Wednesday 11 February 1-3pm at SsPP. Demonstration by Veronica. Tea, coffee, cake and a chat, everybody welcome!

**Union of Catholic Mothers:** OLOH UCM meeting is on Wednesday 11 February at 7-8.30pm in the Parish Hall. Please join us for an evening of prayer and friendship. All ladies of the parish welcome.

**Pulse of Hope choir and drum group:** 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 (beginners) – Thurs 12 Feb, 6pm; Music & podcast – Sun 15 Feb, after 9.30am Mass. See our website for full details. 

**Bingo & Quiz Night:** In aid of Parish Funds. Friday 13 February at 7pm in the Parish Centre, followed by the parish quiz at approx. 8.30-8.45pm. Bingo tickets £1 per book or £5 for 6 books. Prizes for 1 line and full house! Bar open, bring your own snacks. Bring your family & friends, all welcome!

**Lent 2026:** Lent begins on Wednesday 18 February, 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. There will be a CAFOD Soup Lunch after the 12noon Mass on Saturdays (see below) and there will be a Day Retreat on Saturday 28 March. Further details for all of these events will be in the newsletter over the coming weeks.

**CAFOD—Join us for a Lenten Soup Lunch:** Following the success of last year’s lunches, we will once again be inviting you to share a simple yet nourishing soup lunch, every Saturday throughout Lent, 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 21st February**. All are welcome - bring a friend!

**All Hallows RC High school:** This week in our collective worship every morning during form time, we have listened to the Gospel reading of the Beatitudes, reflecting on where we can find happiness and how we share that happiness with others. Pupils have also reflected on songs and paintings to inspire them into how to connect with Jesus. Some pupils visited a local refugee centre to donate coats that had not been collected from lost property and the centre was very grateful for the donations.