

Diocesan Notices

Lenten School of Prayer: This takes place on the Tuesdays of Lent (10.30am-12.30pm) at Our Lady and the Lancashire Martyrs, Little Hulton (M28 0DL) with the overall theme Our Lenten Call. This week's session on 17 March is entitled *God Calls us to Fullness of Life*. Please contact Sr Joan Kerley (joanfmsj@gmail.com or 07934 816796) to reserve a place.

This Lent, Will You Make a Change to Change a Life?: Whether you're making a change to your diet, fasting, amending your behaviour or adapting your thoughts and focus...as you pray, fast and give this Lent, the change you're making could also help change lives in your parish. By remembering our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, during Lent, your actions, donations and prayers will make a real difference to the lives of the local people experiencing homelessness, poverty and discrimination in Greater Manchester and Lancashire. Visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lent now for ways you can help. Thank you.

Exploring our Lenten Gospels: Each Tuesday during our Lenten period, a series of reflections will be given online by various speakers, exploring the meaning of our Lenten Gospels and their implications for our lives today. The series will continue on Tuesday 17 March with Sr Joan Kerley reflecting on The raising of Lazarus and will close with Bishop John reflecting on the Palm Sunday readings. For more information on how to book your free place, please visit the diocesan website: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/online-readings-for-lent/>

Manchester Chinese Catholic Community (MCCC): MCCC would like to invite you to their monthly Mass. This takes place on the second Sunday of the month at 2pm and is held in Salford's temporary Cathedral on Great George Street, M3 6EH.

Youth pilgrimage to Lindisfarne: Following on from the success of last years pilgrimage to Lindisfarne, we are offering young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 another opportunity to go to Lindisfarne from Friday 22 May – Sunday 24 May 2026. The cost is £120 which includes travel by coach and full board accommodation. We will be staying on the island at the SVP Camp. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Young Adults Hub: The diocesan Youth Team are delighted to share news of the Young Adults Hub, created especially for those aged 18–35 across the Diocese of Salford. The Hub offers a welcoming space for young adults to deepen their faith, build authentic friendships, and grow together through prayer, formation, and social gatherings. If you would like more information, please reach out to Mikey hub.president@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk and Edward hub.chair@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk



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 Paul Chisnall

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

Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

NEWSLETTER 15 MARCH 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare Sunday - Mothers' Day

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

Masses at SsPP Sun 8.00am & 11am

Monday – Lent Weekday

No Mass today

Tuesday – St Patrick, Patron of Ireland (Feast)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm

Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm

Wednesday – Lent Weekday or St Cyril of Jerusalem

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Deanery Station Mass at SsPP 7.30pm

Thursday – **St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese (Solemnity)**

Requiem Mass for Michael Jordan at SL 11.30am

Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm

Friday – Lent Weekday

Stations of the Cross at SL 9am

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Saturday – Lent Weekday

Mass at SsPP 12noon (Followed by CAFOD Lenten Soup Lunch)

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

Sunday - Fifth 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/

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

Reflections

When we get to Easter, there are two symbols of the resurrection that we use in Church: fire and light (the Easter Candle) and water (the Font). Last week we reflected on water, and this week there are passages all about light – true light, that defeats the blindness of sin. Again, this would have been offered to those preparing for baptism, but speaks to all of us who have been baptised, inviting us to be renewed in the light of Christ at Easter. Remember that one of the oldest titles of the newly baptised was “neophyte”, which means “newly enlightened.” There is a subtle link between the readings this Sunday: in the first reading, David is anointed, and the Spirit of the Lord seizes on him. This anointing lights him along the right path – ‘no evil would I fear’ as the Psalm says. Then Paul tells us more about this light, it is Christ shining on us, calling us to live as children of light. All this is summed up in the Gospel, the marvellous story of the healing (by being ‘anointed’ with spittle) of the man born blind. Jesus is the light of the world.

Marriage Matters: *Stop and see, be aware:* God was aware of David’s adultery with Bethsheba, Uriah’s wife, and how he arranged Uriah’s murder to cover his sin. Amid political and business ‘cover ups’ in today’s world, it’s important to ‘stop and see’ – the beauty of nature, the beauty and goodness of your spouse. Don’t be too busy to recall the joys you have brought to each other.

Think Vocation: Today Jesus helps a man who has never seen with his eyes to be able to see what many people miss. He gave the man the gift of his sight but also allowed the man to gradually and steadily grow in his faith. May all of us treasure the gift of our sight but also treasure the gift of our faith.

Prayers Requested

Sick: All who are sick (at home or in hospital)

Lately Dead: Marjorie Rice, Beryl Crabtree, Jessie Collins, Pat Bentham, Martin O’Reilly, Michael Jordan, Fr Robert Morrow, Mary Jacques, John Ashfield, Winifred Thorpe, Michael Farragher, Dr. Alan Chapman

Anniversaries: Winifred Bowers, Nick Archer, Sarah Horton, Samuel Horton, Anthony Horton, Alice Gooden, Joe Brewer

Masses Received: Stacey Hough, Winifred Bowers (A), Norah Livesey (MDR), Ellen Ryan (MDR), Nick Archer (B), Nick Archer (A), Michael & Alison O’Connor, Sarah Horton (A), Samuel Horton (A), Anthony Horton (A), Maria Connor (MD), Dolly Clooney (MDR), Colm Folan (BM), Alice Gooden (A), Florence Jackson (MD), Anthony Johnson, Joe Brewer (A)

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Let us hold in prayer the parishioners of St. Anne’s parish, Openshaw, Fr. Churchill Emeghera, MSSCC, their parish priest, and their parish primary school.

Parish Notices

Funeral: There will be a Requiem Mass for Michael Jordan on Thursday 19 March at 11.30am at St Luke’s. May he rest in peace.

Hold the date!: Music for a Spring Afternoon, 2-4pm, 19th April, Parish Centre. Tickets available soon.

Dear Friends of Missio: The Spring Edition of Mission Today is now available at the back of the Church which focuses on the role of Missio in supporting the training of future priests and sisters in mission dioceses all over the world. The magazine also highlights the Pope’s prayer intentions for each month of 2026. Please take a copy.

All Hallows R.C. High School: We are delighted to share the outcome of the school’s recent Section 48 Catholic Schools Inspection where we were judged Outstanding across all three areas of Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship. Feedback was extremely positive, praising the pastoral care, inspirational leadership and sense of community in the ‘All Hallows family’. Inspectors commented on the exceptional behaviour of pupils and commitment of all staff. On Tuesday in school, the whole of Y9 celebrated Mass and Y10 pupils brilliantly led assemblies for each year group this week around the theme of the meaning of Lent.

Lent

Day Retreat at SsPP: A day retreat for Lent is taking place on **Saturday 28th March 2026 - 10am to 3pm**. 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.

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 fourth one will be on 18 March at SsPP.

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 entitled *The Final Week*. This week’s lunch is on 19 March at St John’s, Bolton Road, Pendlebury, M27 8XX.

Stations of the Cross: These will take place at St Luke’s at 9am each Friday of Lent.

CAFOD—Join us for a Lenten Soup Lunch: We are 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. All welcome!

HAPPY MOTHERS’ DAY



A Happy Mothers’ Day to all mothers. Today is a chance to remember our mothers, living or deceased and to thank God for the love shown to us through them.

