

What a gift it is, to be able to recognise the true value of things, and choose those which will last forever and bring us true happiness! Solomon, renowned for wisdom, is able to make the right choices when offered the chance to have anything he wants. What would we choose? The parable in the Gospel tells us that, in a sense, the choice is already before us: we can see the kingdom of heaven waiting for us: it is of greater value than anything else, and so all our hearts should be set on it. Nothing should stand in our way.

Marriage Matters: *Discover what loving really means:* Instead of praying for 'treasure', King Solomon prayed for wisdom 'to discern good from evil'. When discerning what 'loving' really means, you find 'hidden treasure' in these weekly reflections on Scripture. They will also help you to discover the 'hidden treasure' in each other. Sharing this, you sow 'seeds' of love in the minds and hearts of others.

Think Vocation: Material possessions are of no comparison to the pearl of great value which is found in one's vocation. Let us celebrate when men and women, following the will of God, embrace the poverty of monasticism.

This Week	Masses / Services
Sunday – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Masses open to parishioners: Sat 4pm (SsPP) & 6.30pm (SL)* Sun 8am (SsPP), 9.30am (SL)*, 11am (SsPP) & 12.30pm (SL) <i>(*Live-streamed from St Luke's)</i>
Monday – Weekday	<p style="text-align: center;">St Luke Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Masses open to parishioners attending & Live-streamed Monday to Friday at 9.30am & Wednesday at 6.30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ss Peter & Paul Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open for Private Prayer & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11am to 1pm, Monday, Wednesday & Saturday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Masses open to parishioners attending Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 12noon</p>
Tuesday – Weekday	
Wednesday – St Martha	
Thursday – Weekday or St Peter Chrysologus	
Friday – St Ignatius of Loyola	
Saturday – St Alphonsus Mary Liguori	
Sunday – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Masses open to parishioners: Sat 4pm (SsPP) & 6.30pm (SL)* Sun 8am (SsPP), 9.30am (SL)*, 11am (SsPP) & 12.30pm (SL) <i>(*Live-streamed from St Luke's)</i>

Prayer During the Pandemic: O God, our refuge and our shield, even when we walk in the shadow of death you are there at our side. Be with your people in this time of danger: bring strength to the afflicted and protection to those untouched by disease. Give us love and courage that we may trust in your power to save and reach out to all who need our care. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Sick: All those who are suffering from the coronavirus and others who are sick at this time, including Robert Livesey, Nuala Corridan, Michael Kelly, Tomas Cusack, Kay Kimmins, John Ainsworth, Peter Lea, Emily Martin (a sick child), Jimmy Farragher.

Lately Dead: All who have died of the coronavirus and others who have died recently, Nadine Brown, Joseph Clarke, Patrick Hession, Bill Ashton, Maureen Goodwin, Thomas Cosgrove, Fr Arthur Nearey, Jennie Doherty, James Whelan Neville Pitchford, Fr Bernard McGarry, Sister Silvi, Fr Peter Sheahan

Masses Received: Ann & Harry Ainscough (Golden Wedding), Alan Roberts, Deceased members of the Sloyan and Roberts families, Deceased members of the McMannimon and Gravlin families, Joseph Clarke (Lately Dead), Winifred Clarke (Birthday Remembrance), Sister Silvi (Lately Dead)

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Let us pray for the people of the parish of St Mary, Heaton Norris, and for Fr Geoffrey Marlor, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for St Anne's High School

Churches Reopening for Public Worship

We began to celebrate Masses in our churches again this past week and that seems to have gone well. The numbers were nowhere near capacity and there were still a good number of people following the streamed Masses. We will monitor the situation over the next few weeks and make adjustments as we need to

A **paramount principle** in everything we do must be the minimising of risk to the health and life of others. This is everybody's responsibility. It means staying away if you (or a member of your household) have any symptoms or have had contact with those that have. It also means observing all the regular aspects of hygiene, especially the use of hand sanitiser.

Another important aspect is **social distancing of 2m** which we will maintain until told otherwise. We are very grateful to those who have volunteered to be stewards, and to those who have attended church this week, for helping us to implement these safety measures.

The following parishioners have kindly agreed to be points of contact if anyone has questions relating to the reopening of our churches: Liz Ainley (0161 736 5768), Kevin Garner (07505 448072), Joan Sweeney (0161 736 5588) & Kevin Walker (07888 666368).

We start **Sunday Masses** this weekend and we are offering a broader range of times to start with (whilst capacity is limited). Times are listed overleaf. We have put the same times down again for next weekend. However, as with the weekday Masses, we will monitor this and adjust accordingly.

We will continue with two live-streamed Sunday Masses (one on Saturday evening and one on Sunday morning). **Remember that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is currently suspended.**

What will be different at Mass?

Please allow more time when arriving at church before Mass since stewards will need to guide you to your place (to ensure social distancing). Please do not wander around the church touching statues or trying to light votive candles. Every surface you touch could be (or could become) a source of infection and will require cleaning after each service.

We will be **keeping our time in church to a minimum**. There will be no singing, only a short homily or period of silence, no bidding prayers, no offertory collection, no offertory procession and no sign of peace.

The biggest noticeable change will be that **Communion will be distributed at the very end of Mass**, with people being guided (row by row) by the stewards and being asked to leave church immediately afterwards.

Lourdes at Home

Since this year's annual pilgrimage to Lourdes had to be re-scheduled to 2021, the organisers have arranged a way for us to participate in "Lourdes at Home 2020" on the days when we would have been there, under the theme "Every day I go in Spirit to the Grotto". Please feel free to join in these events, even if you were not intending to go to Lourdes this year.

Friday 31 July (7pm) Introduction from Bishop John, with Adoration and Benediction

Saturday 1 August (12noon) Video messages from Bishop John, Gwyneth Walker and members of our pilgrimage family

Sunday 2 August (3pm) Live streamed Pilgrimage Mass with Bishop John

Monday 3 August (7pm) Video message from volunteers: "What Lourdes means to me"

Tuesday 4 August (7pm) Stations of the Cross with Bishop John

Wednesday 5 August (7pm) Rosary and farewell message from Bishop John, followed by footage of a candle being lit in Lourdes to signify the spiritual presence of the Diocese of Salford

The events on Saturday and Monday can be followed on the Salford Lourdes website, Facebook page & YouTube channel. The other events are all at Salford Cathedral and will be live-streamed on www.churchservices.tv/salfordcathedral.

Golden Wedding: We congratulate Ann and Harry Ainscough who are celebrating 50 years of married life this weekend. We pray that they will have many more happy and fulfilling years together.

Students for Priesthood: Please remember Carmine Rea and Mark McGeehan in your prayers. They will shortly be entering their propaedeutic year, an initial stage of priestly formation. We wish them well. We need to do whatever we can to promote vocations, including a local approach to those we consider suitable candidates.

St Luke's Church: The sound system has been upgraded, including two new high-quality speakers, two new bar microphones (on the altar and the ambo) and the fitting of a new loop system.

Online Donations: If you would like to make an online donation to Our Lady of Hope Parish, it is now possible to do this directly by following a link on our parish website.

Cheques: Please note that **all cheques should now be made payable to Our Lady of Hope** (not to St Luke or Ss Peter & Paul). Thanks.

Next Week's Newsletter: Liz Connolly

Please send notices before Wednesday Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk