



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 23 FEBRUARY 2020



“Love your neighbour as yourself.” These are words we associate so clearly with the teaching of Jesus and the way of life the Gospel calls us to. But it may be a surprise to some people to hear that these words come first from the Old Testament, in the mouth of Moses himself. Moses was speaking the Lord God’s instruction for the community – the community of the people of Israel in flight from Egypt in their long sojourn in the wilderness. God’s instructions were about how that community had to work – without grudges, resentment or vengeance, but with love and forgiveness and tolerance. When Jesus comes with the message of the Kingdom of heaven, it is the same – instruction for a perfect, God-guided society, which depends on how each of us lives with others. The “wisdom of this world”, which Saint Paul mentions in the Second Reading, will not teach us this: the world will believe in vengeance and friendship only for your friends. Each of us must ask how we can embrace the apparent folly of Jesus’ teaching: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..

Marriage Matters: *Finding the joy in our sacramental relationship:* The joy of courting couples is obvious for all to see. Over the years, excitement can lessen, our independent attitudes strengthen; competition and jealousy creep in. Today Jesus calls us to “...turn the other cheek...”. In confidence share, in trust listen, in faith forgive, so that our spouse will grow in selfworth and the sparkle of joy will reignite.

Think Vocation: “If anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him.” Going the extra mile has crept into our vocabulary to express the need to give everyone a fair chance. We should avoid hastily judging people who have wronged us or let us down. Sometimes we may have to take risks for the sake of the Kingdom which is built on love and mercy. The Lord has high standards for those whom he calls to serve him in the Church.

Masses / Services	St Luke’s	Ss Peter & Paul
Sunday – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – <i>Day of Prayer for the Unemployed</i>	Sat 6.30pm Vigil Mass 9.30am Mass	8am Mass 11am Mass
Monday - Weekday	No Mass	9am Mass & Adoration
Tuesday – Weekday – <i>Shrove Tuesday</i>	9am Mass	No Mass
Wednesday – Ash Wednesday – <i>Day of Fasting and Abstinence</i>	9am Mass 7pm Mass	9am Mass 7pm Mass
Thursday – Lent Weekday	9am Mass	9.45am Requiem Mass for Renee Tyldesle 7pm Novena & Mass
Friday – Lent Weekday	9am Mass	9am Mass & Adoration 6:30pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday – Lent Weekday	No Mass 6-6.20pm Confessions	11-11.20am Confessions 11.30am Mass
Sunday – First Sunday of Lent	Sat 6.30pm Vigil Mass 9.30am Mass	8am Mass 11am Mass

Sick: Robert Livesey, Alice O’Malley, Nuala Corrigan, Michael Kelly, Tomas Cusack, Kay Kimmins, Stephen Smith, Fr Peter Gooden, Clare McGovern

Lately Dead: Renee Tyldesley, Michael Henry Kehoe, Michael Geoghegan, Eileen Smith

Anniversaries: Margaret Holmes, Rose Morris

Birthday: Maureen Fanning, Martin Murray

Masses Received: Martin Murray (Birthday Remembrance), Stephen Smith (Sick), Margaret Holmes (Anniversary), Rose Morris (Anniversary), Renee Tyldesley (Lately Dead), Fr Peter Gooden (Sick), Clare McGovern (Sick), Edith Blacklock, John Blacklock

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Let us pray for the people of the parish of St John Paul II, Padiham and Burnley, and for Fr Allan Swift, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools.

Collections: (Sunday 16 February): £1349.17

Lent: Our annual penitential season begins this week with Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and abstinence. We will have morning and evening Masses in both churches that day so that you can come and receive ashes. Lent is a time when we traditionally give something up but it can also be a time when we try to do something extra. There are details overleaf of many Lenten activities taking place in the parish or the local area.

Lent 2020

During Lent there are a number of additional activities that you may wish to participate in. Details will be given on the newsletter each week but the overall pattern of events is as follows:

Deanery Station Masses: On Wednesday evenings (from 4 March to 1 April) there will be Lenten Station Masses at different churches across the deanery. To facilitate attendance at those Masses, there will not be any 7pm Masses at St Luke's on those Wednesdays (except 25 March when we are hosting the Mass). There is a list at the back of each church for anyone requiring a lift to the various churches or anyone willing to offer a lift. These Station Masses are a chance for us to grow in our sense of belonging to the deanery – a larger unit that just our parish.

Early Morning Mass and Adoration: Wednesdays (4 March to 8 April) at 7am at St Luke Church, followed by one hour of Adoration from 7.30-8.30am.

Stations of the Cross: Before Daily Mass at St Luke Church and every Friday during Lent at 6.30pm at Ss Peter and Paul Church.

Ecumenical Lenten Lunches on the Height: Come together with other local Churches to reflect on Scripture, share fellowship and enjoy lunch together. Thursdays during Lent from 12 to 2pm. The first one is this week (27 February) at Height Methodist Church.

Ecumenical Stations of the Cross: Palm Sunday, 3pm at St Luke Church.

Service of Reconciliation with Individual Confession: Tuesday 7 April, 7pm at Ss Peter and Paul Church.

Short course on the Mass: During this stage of Hope in the Future, we are being asked to deepen our understanding and reflect on how we celebrate the Mass. Over four weeks, come to our short course to learn and reflect together. Tuesday 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March from 7pm to 8.30pm at St Luke Church Centre (Lounge).

Sycamore Lenten Pathway: A short film based course for practicing Christians, or for people with some Christian background, who wish to renew their faith in the Season of Lent. The focus of these sessions is on knowing God and the salvation he offers in Jesus Christ and on our response to this offer of salvation in faith, freedom and love. Come yourself, invite family or friends who are searching. Comes with free coffee and continental breakfast! Saturdays during Lent (29 February to 4 April) at Ss Peter and Paul Church, 9.45am to 11.15am.

Walk With Me: The usual booklets for guiding us through this season by way of daily reflections are available free of charge at the back of each church.

EnviroLent: Throughout Lent we are once again invited to reflect on care for our common home. The diocese has produced a series of posters which place a weekly focus on ways we can take practical action. Each week will focus on a different R: reduce, reuse, recycle, rewild and reclaim. Please use the Lenten period to think about each aspect of EnviroLent, and how we can take part in the care of our own

community. The posters and a prayer resource will be made available on the diocesan website.

Weekday Masses: Fr David has kindly agreed to help out with a hospital chaplaincy in another part of the diocese where we currently need some additional cover. This means that, for the next few weeks, we will not always be able to have morning Mass on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Ss Peter and Paul.

Communion Under Both Kinds: In order to introduce this at St Luke's we need to recruit some additional Eucharistic Ministers for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please have a word with one of the priests or with Kevin Lyons or Jacqui McCormick.

Children's Liturgy at Ss Peter & Paul: When this begins again next week, the children will not be going into the sacristy or the presbytery. Instead, there will be one group of children and they will meet in the porch area of the church. This means that those who normally sit in the porch during 11am Mass will need to move into the main body of the church (where there are plenty of seats available).

GIFT AID: Important news for those who contribute using Gift Aid envelopes or pay by standing order. From April, St Luke's and Ss Peter and Paul's Gift Aid donations will amalgamate under our new parish name of Our Lady of Hope. Therefore it is necessary that **ALL** present donors sign a **NEW** Gift Aid declaration form before the middle of March. These forms will be sent to you in the coming week. Once we receive these new forms we can then issue your boxes of envelopes. Please note that your numbers may change. Your donations are very valuable to our parish and we thank you for your ongoing support. Thank you.

St Luke's 9.30 Sunday mass: If you would like to join our informal group of singers and musicians to help lead the congregation, particularly when we introduce new hymns., then please just come along. We meet at 9am before mass to practice. This is open to adults and children (every week).

Next Week's Newsletter: Beryl Wakefield
Please send notices before Wednesday
Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk

St Luke, Swinton Park Rd, Irlams o'th' Height, M6 7WR Tel: 0161 736 2696

Ss Peter and Paul, Park Road, Pendleton, Salford M6 8JR Tel: 0161 789 4555

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Cooke VG (resident at St Luke's)

Assistant Priests: Canon David Ryder & Father Mark Paver

Email: priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk

www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

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