



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 24 January 2021

Where does Jesus begin his ministry? Where John the Baptist left off - preaching a message of repentance, of change, to welcome the new Kingdom of God. There is a simplicity about this message, which is not compromised by anything - today's Gospel has these simple words from Jesus, and then the story of his calling more disciples to follow him and share in the work of spreading this message. Repentance has had something of a bad press - we tend to think of it as an old-fashioned concept. But every age needs to hear this call: to look at what we do and say and assume, and realise that there are such things as right and wrong, and that sometimes we follow the wrong path. To follow Jesus, and to accept the Kingdom of God, demands that we make a radical choice, which might well change our lives.

Marriage Matters: *Change of Lifestyle:* Jonah the prophet and Jesus call us to repent, to a change of lifestyle. When we married there was a radical change in our lifestyles. He became husband, she became wife and together we became a flesh and blood 'sacrament of marriage'. This is our continued call to each other - live a new life of love in the Lord.

Think Vocations: "Follow me and I will make you into Fishers of men". Christ formed his disciples to be ready to preach the Gospel. We need to remember that those who are to serve as priests in the Church also need to be formed first. Let us pray for the priests, religious and laypeople who serve on the staff in our seminaries and houses of formation in this country and elsewhere.

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Let us pray for the parishioners St Peter and St Thomas More, Middleton, for Fr Peter Hopkinson, their parish priest, for Fr Kevin Tierney and for Fr Marcel and the chaplaincy to the Romanian community in the Diocese. We pray also for their parish primary schools. May they know that the Lord, who called Peter, has called them also.

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.

Masses / Services This Week

Unlike in previous lockdowns, we are able to keep our churches open for public worship this time. Government guidelines require people attending places of worship to wear a face mask (unless exempt for some reason)

Sunday – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - *Sunday of the Word of God*

Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am
Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & Sun 11am

Monday – The Conversion of St Paul (Feast) - *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends today*

No Mass today

Tuesday – Ss Timothy and Titus

Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm

Wednesday – Weekday or St Angela Merici

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Thursday – St Thomas Aquinas

Mass at SsPP 6.30pm

Friday – Weekday

Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Saturday – Weekday or Memorial of BVM

Mass at SsPP 12noon

Sunday – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - *Caritas Sunday - Racial Justice Day*

Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am
Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & Sun 11am

Live-streaming is via our Facebook page:

Our Lady of Hope Parish, Salford

(<https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/>)

Sick: All those who are suffering from the coronavirus and others who are sick at this time, including, Robert Livesey, Nuala Corridan, Tomas Cusack, John Ainsworth, Emily Martin (a sick child), Marie Campbell, David Pickup, Sue Remmer. Sr Therese Murphy, Pat Griffin

Lately Dead: All who have died of the coronavirus and others who have died recently: Denis Wright, Jean Oldfield, Frank Flynn, Michael Hogan, Patricia Kelly, Bernadette Higson, Kathleen Ryan, Archbishop Philip Tartaglia (Glasgow), Tony (Anthony) Devine, Patricia Mary Smith,

Anniversaries: Margaret Sullivan, Shirley Beckitt, Michael Henry Kehoe, Deborah Barrett, Alan Roberts

Masses Received: Jean Oldfield (LD), Anthony Horton (BR), Julie Webster, Margaret Sullivan (A), Shirley Beckitt (A), Tony Devine (LD), Michael Henry Kehoe (A), Deborah Barrett (A), Patricia Mary Smith (LD), Alan Roberts (A), Eric Burke (BR), William Frederick Ward (BR)

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

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Cooke VG **Assistant Priest:** Father Mark Paver

Email: priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk **www.ourladyofhope.org.uk**

Diocese of Salford Registered Charity 250037

Bank Details (for Standing Orders or BACS)

TSDT Our Lady of Hope

50317403 20 55 34

Cheques: Payable to Our Lady of Hope

Christian Unity: The annual Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity runs until 25 January. The theme chosen, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", is based on John 15:1-17. An online service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been prepared by the Churches on the Height. It will go live at 2pm on Sunday afternoon and you are invited to join us via the YouTube channel for Height Methodists - <https://youtu.be/KaNbweOL6ns>
At 3pm there will be an opportunity to join a Zoom gathering to have a chat about the service or just to catch up with friends from the other churches. If you are interested in joining that gathering, please email priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk and ask us to send you the link

We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord; and we pray that all unity will one day be restored.
For they'll know we are Christians by our LOVE.
Love is the patient architect that builds misunderstandings into UNDERSTANDINGS.

Sacramental Programme 2020-21: For those whose children are Catholic and in year 3 at St Luke's school, you will be contacted via the channels of communication the school has and will be given the option to take part in the programme automatically. If your child is not in year 3 at St Luke's school, is a Catholic, year 3 or above and has not yet made their first Holy Communion, please make contact with us to register your child as part of the programme for 2020-21. We can be contacted by telephone on 0161 736 2696 or email at priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk.

We are holding an online information session for parents and carers involved in this year's programme on Sunday afternoon (24 January) at 1pm on Zoom. The link has been sent to those we know are going to be involved. If you have not already notified us that you wish to be included in the programme, please get in touch straightaway.

Stewards: A reminder that if you would like to volunteer as a steward to help keep our churches open for worship, please contact priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk or telephone 0161 736 2696. Thank you.

Our Lady of Hope 500 Club: As noted in last week's newsletter, the decline in membership of the St Luke 500 Club means that it is no longer viable. We will now have just one 500 Club for the parish, rather than one based on each church. If you would like to join the Our Lady of Hope 500 Club for 2021, please get in touch via email to office@ourladyofhope.org.uk

Our Lady of Hope Online Choir: During lockdown, many of us miss singing and making music. Following on from the popular Carol Advent Calendar we are starting our online choir. If you love to sing, please join in. <http://www.ourladyofhope.org.uk/index.asp?t=onlinechoir>

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

Online Talk by Austen Ivereigh: Let Us Dream!:

Saturday 30th January, 11am - 2.30pm. Let Us Dream! is the first book written by a pope in response to a major crisis, and the first ever to be drafted in English – by Austen Ivereigh. To access this live stream event go to www.sppilford.org.uk and click on live stream remote services.

Event available subsequently on www.whatgoodnews.org. Questions for Austen may be emailed beforehand to adriangraffy@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Caritas - Who is my neighbour?



Fr Ged Murphy: Episcopal Vicar for Caritas

The Parable of the Good Samaritan is a familiar one: a traveller is beaten by robbers, stripped and left for dead by the road. First a holy man and then another comes by, but both avoid the man. Finally, a Samaritan happens upon and helps the injured man, showing great compassion, reflecting the lengths to which love will go. He treats the injured man not as an enemy but as a neighbour, as one of his own. Through this parable, Jesus indicates that a person truly acts as a neighbour through love.

"But who is my neighbour?"

Every gift Caritas receives means we can love and support the most vulnerable and marginalised in our communities. We provide a befriending service for older people, preventing loneliness and isolation. We welcome the stranger, teaching English to those seeking asylum and those with refugee status so they can quickly integrate into their new home community. And we continue to love and feed the hungry, and shelter the homeless, across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Pope Francis reminds us that, before we are anything else, we are brothers and sisters sharing a common home, and we are called to become neighbours and friends.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen rising inequalities in wealth and new forms of poverty and a disregard for human worth. We have a universal responsibility to act; to accept the obligations we bear to each other, and to find 'fraternal love'. A willingness to respond to human need wherever it is found.

So I ask for your help in responding now. Please choose to help Caritas to continue its life-changing work during 2021 with our brothers and sisters in need.

The best way to answer the question 'Who is my neighbour?' is to choose to become a neighbour, itself a chosen journey along a road. To accept the invitation to approach the other with love, and cooperate with a wider process of grace.

<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/serviceview/sunday2021>