

The Gospel of the third Sunday is the remarkable conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman by the well, the theme is water - which gives life, which cleanses, which is so necessary. This reading forms part of the catechesis given before Baptism at Easter: the candidates who would go into the water are invited to reflect on what that means. But more necessary than the water which gives life is the water which gives eternal life - the water of baptism, the water flowing from Jesus' side on the cross. Even if your Church does not have any candidates preparing for Baptism, we will all renew our baptismal promises at Easter: we should take this opportunity to reflect on what baptism has given us, and what God has done for us in this gift..

Marriage Matters: Find our 'living water': Jesus' message to the woman at the well reminds us of His first miracle at Cana where He changed water into wine. Today, He promises us "living water where we will never be thirsty again...a spring inside...welling up to eternal life". When His grace is poured into us, into our marriages, it can overflow, strengthening us, reaching out to others.

Think Vocation: Our Lord kindly reveals himself to the Samaritan woman as she routinely fetches water. There are many people who search for direction and meaning in their lives. May we always imitate Our Lord in his eagerness and patience with those who want to know more about our faith and our Church.

Masses / Services	St Luke's	Ss Peter & Paul
Sunday - Third Sunday of Lent – <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	Sat 6.30pm Vigil Mass 9.30am Mass	8am Mass 11am Mass
Monday - Lent Weekday	No Mass	9am Mass & Adoration
Tuesday - St Patrick, Patron of Ireland (Feast)	9am Mass	9am Mass
Wednesday – Lent Weekday or St Cyril of Jerusalem	7am Mass 7.30-8.30am Adoration	No Mass
Thursday – St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)	9am Mass	5.30pm Holy Spirit Evening (including 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 - Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday – Mothers' Day - <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	Sat 6.30pm Vigil Mass 9.30am Mass	8am Mass 11am Mass

Sick: Robert Livesey, Alcie O'Malley, Nuala Corrigan, Michael Kelly, Tomas Cusack, Kay Kimmins, Fr Peter Gooden, Clare McGovern, John Ainsworth.

Lately Dead: Stephen Smith, Terry Jordan, Renee Tyldesley, Paul Binyon, Carmel Barnard, Brian Halpin, Eileen Smith, Margaret Jennings, Natasha Reddican, Wilfred Stanley, Archbishop Peter Smith (Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark).

Anniversaries: Maureen Brannan (Birthday Remembrance), Colm Folan (Birthday Remembrance).

Masses Received: Stephen Smith (Lately Dead), Terry Jordan (Lately Dead), Brenda Parkinson, Maureen Brannan (Birthday Remembrance), Alan Roberts, Ellen & Tom Hudson, Jack & Bridget Sloyan, Deceased members of the Roberts & Sloyan families, Colm Folan (Birthday Remembrance), Edith Blacklock, John Blacklock, Wilfred Stanley (Lately Dead).

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Let us pray for the people of the parish of St Joseph and St Peter, Newchurch-in-Rossendale, and for Fr Philip Boast, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools.

DBS Clinic: On Saturday 28 March, our Diocesan Safeguarding Team will put on a DBS Clinic at SsPP from 12.15pm to 3pm. This is for those parish volunteers (from both churches) who undertake roles which bring them into contact with children or adults at risk and who do not have a DBS for this "church worker" status (or need to renew it). To prevent long waits, since there are a lot of people to check, we are asking you to sign up for a particular 10 minute slot. There is a form for this on the table at the back of SsPP Church, together with packs of forms that you need to complete and that will help you to bring the right documentation to the DBS Clinic. Any parishioners who attend St Luke Church and who cannot get down to SsPP to sign up for a slot should send an email to priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk and we can let you know which slots are available.

Collections (Sunday 8 March): Offertory Collection: **£1,455.08**, CAFOD Figure to be advised

All parishioners are encouraged to return their **Gift Aid** forms as soon as possible, thank you.

Coronavirus Advice Update

On Monday we received notice to say that the precautionary measures we introduced last weekend were now to be implemented with immediate effect. In addition to those measures (no holy water, no sign of peace, no Communion on the tongue or under both kinds), there were several more. We are removing the hymn books and other items that might be handled by several people in close succession. We will print out some hymns for each of the Masses at which we sing and these sheets, together with the missalettes and any remaining newsletters will be removed from church and binned after each Mass. Door handles will be cleaned regularly with sanitary wipes. We will suspend the Offertory Procession so that the sacred vessels are not being handled unnecessarily nor the hosts/wine/water left exposed to greater risk of contamination with the virus. We are advised not to pass the collection basket around, so our collection(s) will be taken as you leave church. We will introduce new procedures for serving tea/coffee after Mass, so please co-operate with these and leave it to those who have been instructed in how this is now to be done.

There are reminders that everyone should follow the usual approach to good hygiene, noting the "Catch it – Bin it – Kill it" campaign. Whilst we are encouraged to provide hand sanitizer gel for everyone entering the church, this is currently in short supply so it may be a week or more before we can do this. Gel is available for the priests and Eucharistic ministers to sanitize their hands before and after distributing Communion. Any ministers or others (such as SVP members) who are going to see people in their homes should observe the instruction not to visit anyone who is self-isolating and to follow advice from staff on infection control in care homes or hospitals.

It is important that we protect ourselves and others as best we can. There is particular advice from the Bishops' Conference regarding the most vulnerable (such as the elderly and those with weakened immune systems or underlying conditions like cancer, diabetes or heart disease). The advice is to "refrain from large parish gatherings and stay at home". Likewise, anyone (of any age) with cold or flu symptoms should stay away from Mass or other public events until such time as the symptoms have cleared up and they are certain that they have not got the virus. Anyone following this advice should dispense themselves from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass during this time.

There is a lot to take in here but most of it is common sense and general good practice. We can act together to keep our church environment as safe as possible for all who use it (including ourselves).

Prayer: 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.**

Lent Activities This Week

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.

Short Course on the Mass: Tuesday 17 March from 7pm to 8.30pm in the Lounge of St Luke's Centre.

Early Morning Mass and Adoration: Wednesday 18 March at 7am at St Luke Church, followed by one hour of Adoration from 7.30-8.30am.

Deanery Station Mass: 18 March at 7pm (preceded by Confessions from 6.30pm) at St Mark, Station Road, Pendlebury M27 6BY.

Ecumenical Lenten Lunch on the Height: Thursday 19 March from 12 to 2pm at Holy Angels Church.

Sycamore Lenten Pathway: Saturday 21 March at Ss Peter and Paul Church, 9.45am to 11.15am.

Enviroilent: This week's focus is on Recycle. The resources are on the diocesan website.

Caritas Diocese of Salford: Our diocesan charity runs a number of projects that support many of the most vulnerable members of society (including the homeless and rough sleepers) and is conscious that there may be disruption to food supplies or shortages due to increased demands. Consequently they are asking parishioners to donate the following food items: Cereals; Tinned soups, stew, meat, fish, beans, vegetables and fruit; Pasta, rice and pasta sauce; Long life milk or natural fruit juices. Alternatively, you might like to make a financial contribution so that Caritas can purchase the things it needs most. Your donations can be made at any of the Caritas centres across the diocese (phone 0161 817 2250 for details) or can be left in our churches to be passed on. Thank you for whatever help you can provide.

Altar Servers Retreat Day Being led by the Diocese on Saturday April 18th (aged 8-11) and Saturday May 16th (aged 12-17) at The Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst, BB7 9PZ. A coach will be provided from Salford. Fr Mark will be accompanying the coach (this is not meant to put you off!). It would be wonderful if our great servers could take part! To register your place or for more information - visit: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/hope/events/> email: hope@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or call: 0161 817 2214. An under 18's consent form must be downloaded from the above link, completed by parents/carers and returned to the above email address. Also please let us know you have registered by emailing us at priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk to.

Thank you for the donations of toiletries to **Cornerstone and Loaves and Fishes** they were very gratefully received. Following the Bishop's lead of Enviroilent the **Laudato Si Group** would like to collect used towels and bedding. Please bring your unwanted towels and bedding to either church during the weekend of 28/29 March and they will be handed on to people who need them. Thank you

Holy Spirit Evening Thursday 19th March 5.30-8.30pm at St Peter & Paul's RC Church.

The next meeting of the **SVP** will be on Tuesday 17th March at 7.00 pm in the parish meeting room at St Luke's.

Next Week's Newsletter: Łukasz Łukasiewicz

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

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Diocese of Salford
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