

There is no break between Christmas and Ordinary Time – one flows almost seamlessly into the other through the Baptism of Jesus. We ended our Christmas Season thinking about the “revelation” of the Son of God – people realising who this “Jesus of Nazareth” actually was – and this continues today, as we interject a passage from Saint John before we begin our weekly reading through Saint Matthew’s Gospel. New Year is about beginnings, and as we return to the beginning of Our Lord’s public ministry there is a sense of something exciting about to happen – even though we know the story, we dive into it once more, like returning to a favourite novel or film. So, it is with joy that we stand in the country of the river Jordan, and recognise Jesus of Nazareth as the Chosen One of God, who offers himself to do God’s work.

Marriage Matters: *We need ‘power from on high’:* Were Jesus’ fears eased when he heard the Father was ‘well pleased’? He was empowered by the Holy Spirit to begin his mission: to bring to the world the Good News of God’s compassion, mercy and forgiveness for our sins. By daily dialogue about concerns and issues and by seeking ‘help from on high’, we can overcome our fears.

Think Vocation: “Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.” We could do no better than put this response to today’s psalm on our lips, as the first words we speak each and every day. If we want to live fruitful and fulfilling lives we will want to seek to do God’s will and not just satisfy our own wishes. Through the quality of our prayer-life we will develop a personal relationship with Christ which will enable us to know deep down the direction Our Lord wants our lives to take

Masses / Services	St Luke’s	Ss Peter & Paul
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – <i>Peace Sunday – Day of Prayer for Peace</i>	Sat 6.30pm Vigil Mass 9.30am Mass 3pm Service for Christian Unity Week	8am Mass 11am Mass
Monday - Weekday or St Fabian or St Sebastian	No Mass	9am Mass & Adoration
Tuesday – St Agnes	9am Mass 6pm Sacramental Programme Reconciliation Service	9am Mass & Adoration
Wednesday – Weekday or St Vincent	10.30am Requiem Mass for Terence Waldron 7pm Mass	9am Mass
Thursday – Weekday	9am Requiem Mass for Mary Dolan	7pm Novena & Mass
Friday – St Frances de Sales	11am Requiem Mass for Robert O’Connor at SL	9am Mass & Adoration
Saturday – The Conversion of St Paul – <i>End of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	No Mass 6-6.20pm Confessions	11-11.20am Confessions 11.30am Mass
Sunday - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – <i>Sunday of the Word of God – Caritas Sunday – Special Collection for Caritas Diocese of Salford</i>	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

Lately Dead: Terry Waldron, John Beswick, Norah Heavey, Mary Dolan, Robert O’Connor, Betty Featherstone

Anniversaries: Margaret Sullivan, Shirley Beckitt, Anne Grogan, James Sargent, Therese Lyons, Deborah Barrett, Andrew McKay

Masses Received: Amy Dionson, Alice O’Malley, Denis O’Malley, Anthony Horton (Birthday Remembrance), Margaret Sullivan (Anniversary), Shirley Beckitt (Anniversary), Anne Grogan (Anniversary), Martha Robinson (Birthday Remembrance), James Sargent (Anniversary), Mary Dolan (Lately Dead), Terry Waldron (Lately Dead), Eric Burke (Birthday), John Beswick (Lately Dead), Therese Lyons (Anniversary), Norah Heavey (Lately Dead), Deborah Barrett (Anniversary), Andrew McKay (Anniversary)

Collections: (Sunday 12 January): £1,250.38

Christian Unity: This Sunday afternoon at 3pm in St Luke's Church, we are hosting the Ecumenical Service for the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. Please come along to support this service and give a good welcome to our fellow Christians from the other churches in the area.

Some Changes to Our Sunday Liturgy

Just a brief reminder that, from next weekend, we will discontinue the weekly second collection at St Luke's and replace it with a retiring collection on those weekends when we are asked to collect money for a particular cause (which next weekend will be Caritas). We will also begin our new format for the Offertory Procession at our Sunday Masses from next weekend. This will be that the Offertory Collection will be taken immediately after the Bidding Prayers and then one or more of the collectors will bring that money forward to the Altar, along with the people who are bringing the bread and wine. At those Masses where there is a Children's Liturgy, the children will also join in the Offertory Procession and bring forward the work that they have been doing.

Communion Under Both Kinds: When Bishop John asked in his Pastoral Letter last October that all our churches should establish the practice of Communion under both kinds at Sunday and weekday Masses, he wrote: "While it is true that receiving Holy Communion under one kind alone is to receive Our Lord whole and entire, it is also true that the Lord invited us to 'take and drink' as well as to 'take and eat'. It is right, where possible, to respond to this invitation of Our Lord. In this way, and in many others, we will examine in this coming year, we can deepen our reverence towards, and understanding of, the real presence of the Lord who gives himself to us and continue to grow in appreciation of the Mass as a personal encounter with our loving Saviour." Over the next few weekends, we will put something more about this on the newsletter and then we will introduce it at St Luke sometime in February.

Peter and Paul Union of Catholic Mothers' meeting: Thursday 6th February after the 7.00pm Mass. Guest speaker is from Cornerstones Manchester. All ladies from the parish are welcome to join us.

Peace Sunday: The theme for Peace Sunday 2020 is "Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion". It is about People putting Peace into Action. Peace - based on justice. A world where human rights are respected, basic needs are met, people feel safe and valued in their communities and we care for our common home. Let us pray today for the work of Pax Christi, the International Catholic Movement for Peace, and let us work for peace in our own lives, our own neighbourhoods.

Sunday of the Word of God: Sunday 26 January, besides being Caritas Sunday in our diocese, is this year the first Sunday of the Word of God, called such by Pope Francis. Pope Francis hopes that this Sunday each year will be a Sunday given over entirely to the Word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people.

Caritas Sunday: Next Sunday we will pray for the work of our diocesan charity Caritas Diocese of Salford. This year Caritas is asking all parishioners to support the goal of a 2020 with #NobodyLeftBehind and to help House the Homeless, Build Stronger Families and Communities, and Welcome Refugees. Our retiring collection after Masses next weekend, together with any ongoing support, will allow Caritas Diocese of Salford to continue important work in our parishes and across the diocese.

St Luke's 500 club: Thank you to everyone who has renewed their subscription to the 500 club for 2020 and welcome to the new members.

For anyone still wishing to take part in the 2020 draw please put your subscription (£12) in an envelope with your name on and put into the collection at any Mass.

Next Week's Newsletter: Beryl Wakefield

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