

Diocesan Notices

Caritas Sunday: Did you know that on Sunday 26 January we will be marking Caritas Sunday? This annual occasion is a great opportunity to celebrate work of our diocesan charity, Caritas Diocese of Salford. To find out more about the work of Caritas Salford and how you can get involved, please visit <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/caritas-sunday/>. We invite you to keep our diocesan charity in your prayers over this coming week.

Young Adults Pilgrimage to Rome: Young adults across the diocese are invited to join our Diocesan Youth Ministry Team for a rare pilgrimage to Rome this summer. Pope Francis has announced a special Jubilee for Youth in celebration of the 2025 Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee, which also coincides with the canonisation of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. To find out more about this remarkable opportunity and to register your interest, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/jubilee-of-youth-rome/>

Accessible Prayer Walk: The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is teaming up with diocesan charity Caritas Salford to host an accessible prayer walk. The session offers an opportunity to explore the beautiful, accessible grounds of the Laudato Si' Centre along with a peaceful prayer reflection, taking place between 10 and 11.30am on Friday 31 January. Find out more and register by emailing laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Pilgrims of Hope and A Popular History of the Diocese of Salford books on sale: Two brand new books, Pilgrims of Hope, and A Popular History of the Diocese of Salford, written by Monsignor John Allen have gone on sale - with proceeds going to our diocesan charity Caritas Salford. The books, which give fascinating insights into the Catholic history of Greater Manchester and Lancashire can be purchased from the Caritas Salford website using the following links: www.caritassalford.org.uk/pilgrimbook and www.caritassalford.org.uk/historybook

Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee in our Diocese: Pope Francis has declared that the year 2025 will be a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church, an event that takes place once every 25 years and offers the faithful an opportunity to renew their relationship with God, each other, and all of creation. Over the coming months, there will be plenty of opportunities for you to observe this special year of grace in our own diocese. To find out more about the Jubilee and how to get involved, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/>

Job Vacancies: The Diocese is currently recruiting for a Parish Administrator for St Patrick's Presbytery, Rochdale. Find out more and apply at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies>



DIOCESE OF  SALFORD

St Luke, Swinton Park Rd, Irlams o'th' Height, Salford M6 7WR
Ss Peter and Paul, Park Road, Pendleton, Salford M6 8JR
Parish Priest: Canon Michael Cooke (*Vicar General*)
Assistant Priest: Father Emmanuel Chukwujekwu HFFBY
Tel: 0161 736 2696 Email: priests@ourladyofhope.org.uk
Parish Website: www.ourladyofhope.org.uk

NEWSLETTER 12 JANUARY 2025

The Baptism of The Lord

Sunday – The Baptism Of The Lord (Feast) - *The Christmas Season ends with this feast - Special Collection for SPUC*

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

Monday – Weekday (Week 1 of Ordinary Time) or St Hilary
Mass & Cenacle Prayers at SsPP 6.30pm

Tuesday – Weekday
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at SL 6pm
Mass at SL & live-streamed 6.30pm

Wednesday – Weekday
Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Thursday – Weekday
Rosary at SsPP 6pm; Mass at SsPP 6.30pm

Friday – St Anthony
Mass at SL & live-streamed 9.30am

Saturday – Weekday or Saturday Memorial of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass at SsPP 12noon
Reconciliation 12.30-1pm at SsPP; 5.45-6.15pm at SL

Sunday - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Peace Sunday
Masses at SL & live-streamed Sat 6.30pm & Sun 9.30am
Masses at SsPP Sun 8am & 11am

Live-stream: www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopesalford/

Reflections for This Week

It may seem strange, but this is a Christmas Feast. Strange if we think of Christmas only in terms of the Baby in Bethlehem, but not if we have followed the ideas of the Feasts of Holy Family and especially Epiphany, and have seen the Season in terms of the growing manifestation or appearing of the Son of God: first to the shepherds and then to the wise men from the East. Now in the River Jordan, Jesus, Son of Mary, is revealed to all as the fullness of all God's promises: "You are my beloved Son". On this day we stand before the revelation of God's love for us, such that he would send his only Son into the world. Christmas without the Baptism of the Lord, and the words that are spoken from heaven, would be incomplete, since it is only in them that we fully see the wonder of what happened in Bethlehem. As we come to the end of Christmas today, and look forward to hearing the Gospels in Ordinary Time, we do so having been shown who it is we listen to: the only Son of God, the Beloved.

Marriage Matters: *Being what we promised to be:* Today's feast tells us who Jesus really is; it calls us to be what we promised at our wedding – a sign to the world of God's love for all of us. At the core of this commitment is the undertaking to trust our spouse with who we really are – feelings, thoughts, ideas; all that makes us who we are today.

Think Vocation: At baptism, when we entered the family of God, we received the gift of faith as well as the promise of eternal life. Let us try to find out the name of the priest or deacon who baptised us (if we don't already know) and pray for them whether they are living or deceased.

Prayers Requested

Sick: All who are sick (at home or in hospital)

Lately Dead: Sue Melvin, Larry Dunne, Margaret Lawton, Marie Duddle

Anniversaries: Maura Murray, Sean & Julia Lynch, Marie Wardle

Masses Received: Jack & Bridget Sloyan, Maura Murray (A), Fr John Williams (B), John Byrne (BM), Sue Melvin (LD), Sean & Julia Lynch (A & B), Marie Wardle (A)

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: This week we pray for the people of the parish of Our Lady of the Valley, Clitheroe, Sabden and Dunsop Bridge, together with Provost Paul Brindle, their parish priest, and Deacon Damian Buggie. Let us pray also for their parish primary schools and Clitheroe Hospital.

Next Week's Newsletter:

Could you please send notices before Wednesday
Email: newsletter@ourladyofhope.org.uk

Financially Supporting Our Parish

Contactless: The Dona machines (card or mobile phone)
Bank Details: TSDT Our Lady of Hope
50317403 20 55 34
Cheques: Payable to Our Lady of Hope
Diocese of Salford Registered Charity 250037

Parish Notices

Happy Birthday: We send out best wishes to Fr John for a very Happy 90th Birthday on Monday. There will be a parish celebration for him on Sunday 19 January (1-3pm) in the parish centre at St Luke's. If you would like to attend that celebration, please sign up at the back of church to assist with the planning.

Advance Notice: The Requiem Mass for Margaret Lawton will take place on Wednesday 29 January at 12noon at SsPP. May she rest in peace.

Paul Chisnall: Following his ordination of Deacon in December, Paul is now on placement here in the Parish, until his ordination as Priest, hopefully next summer.

SPUC: We will have our annual White Flower Appeal this weekend to support the work of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. SPUC's vision is for a world where abortion is unthinkable, they work to protect unborn human lives at the local, national and international level to build a world free from abortion and euthanasia, promoting a culture of life and dignity for all. To read more about their current campaigns please follow the link [SPUC – Making abortion unthinkable](#).

Sacramental Programme: Reminder that the next meeting is this Sunday 12 January.

SVP Meeting: The monthly general meeting of the SVP is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, January 14th 2025 at 7:00pm at St Lukes Church. New members are welcome. St. Vincent De Paul Society is a Catholic voluntary network dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need. We visit vulnerable or isolated people and offer them friendship and practical support

Christian Unity: On Sunday 19 January, St Luke's will be hosting the annual Service of Prayer for Christian Unity for the Churches on the Height. This will be at 3pm (not 2pm as previously advertised).

Children's Liturgy: This takes place at the 9.30am Sunday Mass at St Luke's and will resume next weekend after the Christmas break. The team providing this is quite small. If you would like to volunteer to help with this, please contact Angela on 07547 602923.

Men's Fellowship: We wish to warmly invite you to join us for our Men's Fellowship at St Lukes Church on Tuesday 21st January, 2025 at 7:00pm. For further information, please contact Ian (icgifford@hotmail.com) or Calli (calli.onyebuchibe@outlook.com).

Diocesan Synod: Following the Theme Gathering meetings held in November and December, copies of our parish proposals submitted to the diocese are available at the back of each church.

Gluten Free Hosts: There are an increasing number of people who need gluten free products and we have hosts which accommodate this need. To assist anyone who might be shy about asking for these at the point when they arrive at the altar for Communion, one of our parishioners has kindly created some small cards which say "Gluten Free Host Please". These are available in a small container at the back of each church so that you can pick one up on the way into Mass and then simply present it to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister when you come forward for Communion.