

Parish Newsletter

**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HAIGH, ASPULL & BLACKROD
WITH THE PARISH OF HOLY FAMILY, NEW SPRINGS**

S.R.C.D.T. REG. CHARITY No. 250037

October 17th/18th 2020

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year (A)

World Mission Sunday



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Masses :
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - Our Lady's
Sunday 9.30am - Our Lady's
Sunday 11.15am - Holy Family



WEEKEND MASSES AT OUR LADY'S AND HOLY FAMILY

This weekend's Masses:

Vigil Mass - Saturday at 6.00pm and the Sunday Mass at 9.30am, both at Our Lady's.

Sunday Mass - Holy Family at 11.15am.

Parishioners are reminded that, at present, there is still no obligation to attend Mass. We will let you know when this changes.

There are no mid-week Masses planned for the near future.

Response to the Psalm: Give the Lord glory and power.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

FOR THOSE NOT READY OR ABLE TO RETURN TO CHURCH - SERVICES ONLINE

A number of parishes continue to stream masses on line both daily and on Sundays.

The nearest to our parish at the moment, in our Diocese, is St Vincent's, Over Hulton. Online Live streaming of mass can be accessed via their website: <http://stvincentsbolton.org/>

Other local churches providing online Live Streaming of masses include:

St Cuthbert's, Bolton www.stcuthberts.org.uk

St Gregory's, Chorley www.stgregoryschorley.org.uk

Further options can be found here: <https://www.churchservices.tv/>

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.

Amen.

(based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori)

CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

19th Oct – The Jesuit martyrs of North America St John de Brébeuf and St Isaac Jogues: they were Jesuits who preached the Gospel in North America from 1635. They worked among the Huron and Iroquois between 1642 and 1649. All were brutally killed.

19th Oct – St Paul of the Cross: Paul Danei was born in 1694; he was devoted to the Passion of the Lord and set up houses for others to share his work – the Passionist Order. He died in Rome in 1775.

22nd Oct – St John Paul II: A towering figure on the world stage during his long pontificate 1978 to 2005, the first non-Italian elected since the sixteenth century and the first from Poland. Charles Joseph Wojtyla was born in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. On 16th October 1978 he was elected Pope and took his name

John Paul II. His exceptional apostolic zeal, particularly for families, young people and the sick, led him to numerous pastoral visits throughout the world. He died in Rome on 2nd April 2005.

23rd Oct – St John of Capestrano: born in 1386; after a career as a lawyer he entered the Franciscan Order, and then travelled throughout most of Europe preaching and strengthening Christian morals. He died, aged 70, in 1456.

24th Oct – St Anthony Mary Claret: born in 1807, he was ordained and preached throughout Spain, he founded the Claretians, before being made Archbishop of Santiago, Cuba, where he overcame great trials (such as fifteen assassination attempts). He returned to Spain but fled in 1868 after the revolution; he died in France in 1870.

PARISH NOTICES

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Thoughts for the 29th Sunday of the Year.

‘W.W.J.D.’

Four letters that often appear on posters, wrist bands and screen savers of those who wish to be both challenged and reminded in their everyday lives and decision making of ‘What Would Jesus Do?’

We know from His teaching in both scripture and Church tradition that Jesus has great expectations of His disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” (Luke chapter 9 verse 23). It is certainly quite a daunting task that, honestly, we can only achieve with his help.

One of Jesus’ hopes for us is that we will all be one. This is part of what is known as the High Priestly Prayer recorded in John’s Gospel account of the Last Supper. If we are not one then Jesus feared that the world won’t believe in Him, nor His heavenly Father, nor the hope of Salvation that he came to bring; in other words, our unity was of vital importance to Jesus.

The cause of Christian Unity has come a long way but seems to have stalled in recent years. Thankfully, gone are the days of ignorance, suspicion and open persecution, but if you scratch the surface there is still much intolerance, as well as a declining

understanding and appreciation of the role of faith as both a public and private matter in our society today.

Things were different when I was growing up as most of my dad’s family were not Catholics so we were used to going into other churches or chapels for weddings, baptisms and funerals. It was a regular experience for us but I appreciate it was not for everyone in those days. My sister and I knew that the routine was different, for example, we were not to genuflect as we went into or came out of the bench, although on a couple of occasions my sister and I genuflected by mistake towards the screen when we were leaving a cinema!

As a young adult I was very involved in inter church activities in Stretford and Urmston, learning from others, visiting their churches and making lifelong friends and, since Ordination, Church Unity has become a real passion of mine; doing what Jesus wants so that His message does not go unheard or unheeded. After all, on this Mission Sunday we are encouraged to reflect on our personal calling in the Church to be Missionary Disciples and how much stronger would be a joint witness to a truly better world, guided now by the words of Pope Francis’ latest Encyclical, “Fratelli Tutti”, to the Church and people of good will if there were true Christian Unity; a unity of purpose but not of uniformity.

If all Christians were concerned with mission, and not just maintaining the status quo, what wonders we could achieve.

Amidst the challenges of a difficult world, being outgoing as individuals and as a Church might really be our answer to the question 'W.W.J.D.'

Fr. Kevin

MASS INTENTIONS

Received this week:

- Charles Dillon
- Wishie O'Brian
- Joan Goulding.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for the sick, especially those in hospital with Covid-19, and we also remember Bob Westmorland, Tony Webber, Ken Thomas, Kevin Croston and Kate Hammond.

MISSION SUNDAY

There will be a collection at masses this weekend.

DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN THE RISEN LORD

To Julie and family and her sister and her family in New Zealand on the death of their father, Bob Connor, in Wigan Hospice. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated in Our Lady's Church 9.00am Thursday 22nd October prior to cremation at Wigan. R.I.P.

CAFOD COLLECTION - MANY THANKS

For the collection of £530, the total from both churches for last weekend's CAFOD Mass collections. This does not take into account individual donations sent directly to CAFOD.

MANY THANKS

To the family of the late Joan Goulding for their very generous donation which covered the cost of the magnificent display of flowers on the altar at Holy Family.

CHURCH COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Are now available for collection at Our Lady's. Numbers between 101 and 110 have been reassigned to numbers between 1 and 100. They come into use the first weekend of November.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In these times when many of us cannot attend Mass, we can still receive the sacrament through Spiritual Communion, especially while following a Mass on-line.

Every good wish and blessing.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Year 4 children came to Our Lady's to celebrate Reconciliation in preparation for their First Holy Communion that has been delayed through Covid-19. It is planned that over four weekends in the near future children will be invited to make their First Holy Communion accompanied by immediate members of their family, two children at each of the weekend masses.

FRATELLI TUTTI - PAPAL ENCYCLICAL

Pope Francis's Social Encyclical: 'Fratelli Tutti' was launched at the Vatican on Sunday 4 October 2020. The document focuses on fraternity and social friendship as the ways to build a better, more just and peaceful world - with the contribution of all: people and institutions. The encyclical brings another emphatic 'no' to war and to globalized indifference. (Source: Vatican News)

Here is a link to download the full document.

www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_enciclica-fratelli-tutti.html

LIVE STREAM SERVICES THIS WEEK

For those who are not yet able to attend Mass in our parishes, this weekend's live stream masses at St Vincent's are:

Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm

Sunday - 10.00am

Weekday live stream masses - Wednesday and Friday - 9.30am to 10.00am.

ATTENDING MASS IN OUR PARISHES

The following is a simple reminder.

Numbers are restricted to those set by social distancing guidelines.

Everyone MUST wear a face covering unless they are exempt.

Communion will be distributed after the final blessing and those receiving communion will leave immediately after receiving the Eucharist, following the one-way system. (Please take all your belongings with you to communion and do not return to your bench.)

You are asked not to arrive too early for the Masses; 15 to 20 minutes before Mass is all that you will need and you will be asked to take your seat and **wait in a respectful and prayerful silence** until Mass starts.

Fr. Kevin