

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

August 29th/30th 2020

Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year (A)



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



RETURN OF WEEKEND MASSES AT OUR LADY'S AND HOLY FAMILY

This weekend's Masses: the Vigil Mass will be on Saturday at 6.00pm and the Sunday Mass at 9.30am, both at Our Lady's.

We hope to open Holy Family for Mass on Sunday 6th September at 11.15am.

In this Newsletter we have details of how Masses will have to be arranged and managed.

However, all parishioners are reminded that, at present, there is still no obligation to attend Mass.

Response to the Psalm: **Gospel Acclamation**

**For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the
eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call
holds for us.
Alleluia!**

FOR THOSE NOT READY 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 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)

PARISH NOTICES

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Thoughts for the 22nd Sunday of the Year.

After last weekend's great profession of faith by St Peter, "You are the Christ the Son of the Living God" and the words of Jesus, "You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church ...", we learn this weekend the true cost of being a disciple when Jesus tells Peter and the disciples, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me".

We enter into a living relationship with Christ and his Cross when we are baptised. The cross is traced on our forehead by priest, parents and godparents. The cross is also ours but the cross leads to the resurrection.

The gift and grace of Baptism sustains us in the difficult and often challenging road that we face in following Jesus' life and teaching. And this is one that is sustained by prayer, the support of our fellow Christians, the intercession of Our Lady and the saints, the Word of God in the Scriptures, the Sacramental life of the Church, Confirmation, the Blessed Eucharist, Reconciliation, and the Sacraments of Marriage and Ordination and the Sacramental care of the sick. For all of which we are eternally grateful.

Fr. Kevin

MASS INTENTIONS

Received this week:

- For the British Empire and Commonwealth War Dead
- Philomena Higson, lately dead
- John and Agnes Hawkins
- Mary Fegan
- and for a birthday intention.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are sick at this time and especially Bob Westmorland, Tony Webber and Bob Connor .

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

1. To Tom Staziker and family, on the death at home of Ivy, of Aspull, on Tuesday 25th August. Funeral to be arranged.
2. To Mary, sister of John Leather of Hollins Green, Warrington, a long time supporter of Our Lady's Parish and personal friend of Fr. Kevin, Gordon and the late Mary Cunliffe and Jane and Ian Oakes

BAPTISMS

Nine celebrations of the Sacrament have been postponed since March. Parents are invited to telephone Fr. Kevin, speaking to him directly (not just a voicemail message please!) with a proposed date for the Baptism and an alternative date.

The Ritual has been adapted, members attending are limited by Government regulations and only one child, of one family, may be baptised at a time.

FUNERALS

Government Regulations restrict attendance at funerals in places of worship to a maximum of 30 people.

People are asked to wait outside church until the Funeral Party has been seated. If there is then space available, a steward will direct you to a seat. If the church has reached its capacity, the service will be relayed through the external speaker by the church door to anyone outside.

At the end of the service please keep the area outside church clear and observe social distancing.

MASS TO RESUME AT HOLY FAMILY

We are planning to re-open Holy Family Church for the celebration of Mass on Sunday 6th September at 11.15am.

However, there will be no Exposition before Mass until further notice. The church will only open approximately 20 minutes before Mass and parishioners are asked to take their seats, as directed by stewards, and wait in respectful quiet until mass begins.

No one will be able to wait in the entrance areas; you must go into the main body of the church.

For safety reasons and following Government advice the maximum number who can attend at Holy Family is 42.

Further updates, if needed, will be on the Parish Facebook page.

RESUMPTION OF MASS IN OUR PARISHES

We recently re-opened Our Lady's for weekend masses. It has been lovely to see so many people attend. The numbers last weekend were an increase on our first weekend.

If you are planning to attend this coming weekend or in the near future, we do need to remind you that for the immediate future there is no obligation to attend Mass, but if you wish to attend, then there will be a number of things we must all follow.

Anyone who has any symptoms of Covid-19 must not attend church.

Everyone **MUST** wear a face covering unless they are exempt.

You will need to use the sanitising gel at the entrance to church.

You are advised to wear a warm coat if the weather is cold as the church doors will be open throughout Mass.

Everyone attending must take a seat. No one may stand at the back except for the designated stewards. You may also have to be directed where you should sit.

There will be a maximum number of people who can attend at any one time. For Our Lady's this will be between 42 and 84 depending on whether people come on their own, as a couple or as a family.

Once that limit is reached a sign will be displayed outside the entrance and unfortunately no one else will be allowed to enter.

There will be no singing.

Communion will be distributed after the final blessing and those receiving communion will leave immediately after receiving the Eucharist, following the one-way system. We are all asked not to congregate outside church after Mass but to move away as soon as possible. (Please take all your belongings with you to communion).

Unfortunately, the toilet will not be available.

At present votive candles are not available.

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.

Hymn books and Mass Cards will not be available for safety reasons.

We will continue to update the parish of any changes via the Newsletter, WhatsApp group and Facebook.

LIVE STREAM SERVICES THIS WEEK

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

Sunday - 10.00am

Tuesday to Friday - 9.00am

Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In these times when we cannot attend Mass, we can still receive the sacrament through Spiritual Communion.

THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Until this emergency is over and normality resumes, even though we have re-opened for Mass, future Newsletters will only be available on-line via the Parish link on Our Lady's School website. They are also available via The Holy Family School website <http://www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk/> or it can be emailed directly to you if you let Kevin Riley have your email address, which will only be used to keep you informed of Parish matters. It is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group.

No paper copies of the Newsletter will be available for those attending Mass.

Items for the newsletter to Fr. Kevin by Wednesday (a.m.) or to Kevin Riley (01204 695017) by early Wednesday, please. Please let us know of any significant events such as births, anniversaries, etc. so we can keep the parish community informed.

PARISH FACEBOOK

The Parish Facebook page, to cover both parishes, can be found by searching Facebook for - Our Lady's R.C. Church, Aspull or @ourladyschurhaspull

PARISH WHATSAPP GROUP

The Parish WhatsApp group is managed by Cecilia Kitts to allow parishioners to keep in touch, share thoughts and keep a sense of parish community. To join this group contact Cecilia on 07984 827374. Please give her your name and mobile number and she will organise the rest. When posting to this group **do not forget to end your message with your name** so we all know who you are. Thank you.

Every good wish and blessing.

