



OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

'Stay with us, Lord, on our journey'

Phone/Fax: 0161 773 2324

Parish web page:
www.ourladyofgrace.co.uk

Diocesan web page:
www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

6th SUNDAY 'OF THE YEAR' 11 FEBRUARY 2018

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am
MONDAY 9.15 am
TUESDAY 12 noon

WEDNESDAY **ASH WEDNESDAY** **Day of fasting and Abstinence**
Masses 12 noon and 7.00 pm with blessing and distribution of ashes at both

THURSDAY 12 noon Lent Weekday
FRIDAY 8.00 am Lent Weekday
SATURDAY 9.30 am Lent Weekday

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY 11.30 am-12.30 pm 6.00-6.45 pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT this week Saturday 10.00-11.00 am

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich

Collection last Sunday £1080.47. Thank you also for a donation of £10.
Thanks to your generosity in the Starving World box in January, we are able to give £575.96 to Aid to the Church in Need. The February contents will go to CAFOD, along with the Lenten Family Fast.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

Sacramental Programme

Today in the parish hall at 9.50 am. The theme is: We are People who celebrate Forgiveness.

Please note Mass times this week: as above for Ash Wednesday, plus the usual Friday Lenten Masses at 8.00 am. Next Saturday is

9.30 am, fitting in with the diocesan meeting in the hall (see later in Newsletter).

Stations of the Cross

Next Friday, the first Friday in Lent, 16 February at 7.00 pm, we will follow a reflective journey through the Stations of the Cross with the help of Aid to the Church in Need, hearing

stories of the persecuted Church.

School Vacancy

The post of PA to Head Teacher/Office Manager has been **re-advertised**. See notice outer porch.

Deanery/Diocese

'Hope in the Future'

On **Saturday 17 February** we are hosting this diocesan meeting for two deaneries, from 10.00 am to c.3.30 pm. **Fr Gerard Kelly** will lead the day, reflecting on what it is to be 'missionary' and what we mean by 'discipleship'. **Emilia Pogliano** and **Jamie McCaffer** will represent our parish but there should be room for two or three others who may wish to go. If you would like to be there please see Fr Allen for details.

Ashes at Wardley Hall

*People are invited to visit the Bishop's house, Wardley Hall, Worsley M28 2ND on **Ash Wednesday 14 February** for a Shrine of Turin exhibition and the imparting of ashes throughout the day, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.*

St Monica's High School

Children attending St Monica's from the local parishes will have parish assemblies in school this week at 8.30 am. It is Our Lady of Grace's turn on Thursday morning.

Reignite

*Every third Sunday of the month there is a special Mass and Social for young adults at Salford Cathedral M3 5LL at 5.30 pm. The next Mass & Social will be **next Sunday 18 February**. See poster in outer porch.*

'Adoremus' Congress

A **National Eucharistic Congress** will take place in Liverpool 7-9 September this year. All Catholic dioceses in England and Wales will take part.

On **Sunday 9 September**, following Mass in Liverpool Cathedral, there will be an outdoor Blessed Sacrament Procession, leaving the Cathedral at 1 o'clock and finishing about 3 o'clock. The Sunday programme is obviously open to all comers.

The Friday and Saturday programmes have to be pre-booked.

Friday 7 September offers presentations and of special workshops interest to those actively involved in parish life.

Saturday 8 September, in the Echo Arena, will welcome 10,000 delegates or representatives of parishes and communities from all over England and Wales. The keynote speaker will be **Bishop Robert E. Barron** from Los Angeles. Our Lady of Grace has **five places** for this event.

If you would like to go to either or both of these days please ask for a pack from the presbytery giving more details. Information should also be on the diocesan website shortly.

Pope Francis on the Mass

On Wednesday, **Pope Francis** continued his catechesis on the Mass, on the **Gospel and the Homily**.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, The dialogue between God and His People, developed in the Liturgy of the Word of the Mass, reaches its climax in the proclamation of the Gospel...

We stand to listen to the Gospel, but it's Christ who is speaking to us there. And so we are attentive, because

it's a direct conversation. It's the Lord who is speaking to us. Therefore, we don't read the Gospel in the Mass to know how things happened, but we listen to the Gospel to become aware of what Jesus did and said once; and that Word is living, the Word of Jesus, which is in the Gospel, is living and reaches one's heart. This is why it's so important to listen to the Gospel with an open heart, because it's a living Word. Saint Augustine wrote: "the Gospel is the mouth of Christ. He reigns in Heaven, but doesn't cease to speak on earth" ... We listen to the Gospel and we must give a response in our life...

Christ also makes use of the word of the priest who, after the Gospel, gives the homily ... One who gives the homily must fulfil well his ministry. He who preaches ... offers a real service to all those taking part in the Mass, but those who hear him must also do their part. First of all, by paying due attention, namely, by assuming the right interior dispositions, without subjective demands, knowing that every preacher has merits and limitations... And one who gives a homily must be conscious that he's not doing something of his own; he is preaching, giving voice to Jesus, he is preaching the Word of Jesus. And the homily must be well prepared; it must be brief, brief! ... And how often we see that during the homily some fall asleep, others chat or go outside to smoke a cigarette . . . Therefore, please, make the homily brief, but it must be well prepared... And how is it prepared? With prayer, with the study of the Word of

*God and by doing a clear
and brief synthesis; it must
not go beyond ten minutes,
please.*

(Full text on Vatican website)