



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.salforddiocese.net

2nd SUNDAY IN LENT 12 MARCH 2017

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am
MONDAY	9.15 am Lent Weekday
TUESDAY	12 noon Lent Weekday
WEDNESDAY	12 noon Funeral Mass for Noreen Ball
THURSDAY	7.30 pm Deanery Lenten Station Mass with Bishop John Arnold
FRIDAY	8.00 am St Patrick, patron of Ireland
SATURDAY	11.30 am Lent Weekday/St Cyril of Jerusalem (Novena 11.15)

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY 10.00-11.00 am 12.00-12.30 pm 6.00-6.45 pm

YOUR PRAYERS are asked for Mrs Honora (Noreen) Ball, late of Birch Avenue, Whitefield, and Fr Geoffrey Hilton, PP of St Osmund, Brightmet, Bolton. May they rest in peace.

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER St Thomas More, Alkrington

Collection last Sunday £1090.96.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

The Prayer Group will meet on **Monday 13 March** 7.00-8.00 pm at 1B St Margaret's Close, Prestwich. All are welcome.

2017 Almanac

The diocesan almanac for 2017 was delayed to allow for the results of the recent consultation about parishes. The almanac has now been published and is available from the piety stall, only £3. It reports on the recent consultation and gives up-to-date appointments of clergy and diocesan departments.

Lenten Station here Thursday 7.30 pm

Bishop John Arnold is coming to Our Lady of Grace for the **Deanery Lenten Station Mass, here next Thursday 16 March** at 7.30 pm. Afterwards he will meet everyone in the parish hall. We will offer all who come our usual hospitality.

In addition, we invite parishioners to make and donate a cake, to be served in the hall after the Station Mass - and we will invite those who wish to make a donation to CAFOD in return.

The envelopes for CAFOD's Lenten Fast Day may be put into the Offertory collection today. If a taxpayer, would you kindly sign the Gift Aid slip on the envelope, so enabling CAFOD to claim an extra 25p for every £1 given, at no extra cost to you?

Ideas for Lent

*As part of our Lenten programme why not try to deepen and nourish our faith by feeding our minds? The two stalls at the back of church – the **CTS** rack by the choir stairs and the **Lighthouse** rack near the piety stall – offer plenty of*

material, as does the parish **Library** in the hall. The Library is open after both Sunday morning Masses.

Sacramental Programme next Sunday 9.50 am in the parish hall.

Gift Aid If you are a taxpayer please take a copy of the information sheet "A Taxing Question" from the table at the back of church.

Deanery/Diocese

Caritas Diocese of Salford (5)

"What does Caritas do?" To help answer that question the Newsletter will print details as space permits.

Cornerstone Day Centre in Denmark Road, Manchester 13 provides a practical, compassionate and immediate response to assist homeless and vulnerable people.

More than 200 visitors attend every weekday. Many enjoy breakfast, most avail of a three course cooked lunch, and sandwiches and hot and cold drinks are available all day. There are shower facilities for male and female visitors, a hairdressing salon, a 'good as new' clothes shop, free telephone and a fully functioning computer suite.

Help and advice is available on housing, social security and health and welfare issues. Classes in English, Music, Home Economics, and Computer Competence are among more recent developments of this project that can look back on countless numbers of homeless people housed, many with addictions treated, those without hope given confidence and a

sense of dignity restored in all who come.

Cornerstone needs about £250,000 a year to meet expenses, all of which it must raise by itself. Thanks to parishes and diocesan schools, a number of trusts and some very generous individuals, groups and companies the money comes in each year. [In 2016 Our Lady of Grace parish contributed £1404.52]

The **Red Door Homeless Project** in St Joseph's presbytery, Peter Street, Bury provides a welcoming and safe space for homeless people and those experiencing hardship.

(To be continued)

In Brief

- The **Notre Dame Manchester Association** will hold a Soup and Sandwich Event **next Saturday 18 March** in Our Lady of Grace hall from 12 noon until 3.00 pm.

- **The Annual Reunion Mass for St Joseph's Technical High School for Girls (1871-1985)** formerly on Laindon Road, Victoria Park, M14, will also be **next Saturday 18 March** at St Bernard's Church, Burnage Lane, Manchester M19 1DR at 12:00 noon.

- **Blessed Oscar Romero Commemoration** at Sacred Heart Church, Queen Street, Colne, BB8 9NB on **Saturday 25 March**. 1.30 pm Tea/Coffee, 2.00 pm Talk by Fr Jim O'Keefe, 3.00 pm Mass.

- **Mike and Joy Wanless** are running a **Marriage Enrichment Course** at Elmwood Church, Eccles Old Road, Salford starting

on **Monday 27 March**. See poster in outer porch.

- **Our Church as a Dementia Friendly Church** at the Cathedral Centre, Salford, M3 6DP, 10.00 am-3.00 pm **Wednesday 5 April**. A Conference to explore our role in creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for people with dementia and their carers, in the context of our parish and deanery communities.

- **Diocesan Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham** led by Bishop John Arnold **Saturday 6 May**. Poster in inner porch.

- Four day **Pilgrimage to Walsingham 18-21 May**. Details from Lily and Leo Brooks or Betty Boland 0161 723 3803.

- **Northern Catholic Conference** at Liverpool Hope University **9-11 June**. Poster in inner porch.

Lenten Focus

Each week of **Lent Aid to the Church in Need** focuses on countries where its projects are helping the Faithful and often making the **difference between life and death**.

In Sudan, being a Christian means being under constant pressure to convert, but Christians have a strong faith and are prepared to stand up for their beliefs, regardless of consequences.

When South Sudan was created as a new nation in 2011, a mass migration of Christian refugees fleeing to the south faced big problems – no homes, jobs, schools or security. Christians left in the north lost their Sudanese citizenship and their rights.

ACN has a long history of practical and pastoral support for the Church in Sudan and South Sudan.