



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

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER 14 MAY 2017

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am	
MONDAY	9.30 am	Our Lady of Grace feast day: Mass with whole school
TUESDAY	12 noon	Easter Weekday
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	Easter Weekday
THURSDAY	12 noon	Easter Weekday/St John I
FRIDAY	9.15 am	Easter Weekday/St Dunstan
SATURDAY	11.30 am	Easter Weekday/St Bernardine of Siena (Novena 11.15)

CONFESSIONS

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

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Our Lady's, Langley, & St John Fisher, Boarshaw

Collection last Sunday £1283.22. Thank you also for a donation of £15 for flowers. The Collection for the **Priests' Training Fund** came to £1219.66, since increased by further donations of £70. The Fund will remain open for donations for the next three weeks.

Thanks to your generosity in the **Starving World box** in April we are able to send £843.77 to Cornerstone. The contents of the box in May will go to **Sister Theresa Abigaba** for her school in Western Uganda for handicapped children.

There are reports in the media of shops refusing to take the old £5 notes! To save you any embarrassment we will be happy to take them.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

Today the **May Procession and Crowning** will be here at 3.00 pm. This is a lovely occasion when we show our love for Our Blessed Lady, patron of our parish. Do please be sure to come in great numbers.

Rome 2018

*It seems that the **parish pilgrimage to Rome, 5-9 March next year, is now***

*full. We will start a waiting list. If you would like to join pick up a booking form from the table by the CTS rack. Fill it in and return it to the presbytery **without** any money.*

Notre Dame Association

Next Saturday 20 May members of the Notre Dame Association will attend the 11.30 am Mass and afterwards will have a social in the parish hall. If you went

to any Notre Dame school or college please know you will be very welcome.

Red Box News

Our parish raised £3507.62 for APF-Mill Hill Missions in 2016. Thanks are due to all direct contributors, box holders and collectors who have donated their time and money so generously.

*The Annual Mission Mass will be on **Saturday 10 June***

at St John's Cathedral,
Salford, starting at 2.00 pm.
Refreshments will be served
afterwards in the Community
Room. All direct
contributors, red box holders
and promoters are welcome.

Deanery/Diocese

Wanted Parish Youth Rep

The diocesan formation department is recruiting Parish Youth Reps in every parish: young adults 18-25 who are already part of the parish, and who are passionate and confident about enabling/encouraging other young people to share in the life of the parish, deanery and diocese. Training and support are promised and Bishop Arnold will commission the Youth Reps. Initial training day is **Saturday 27 May**. See posters in inner porch.

Fr Allen would be glad to hear from volunteers for this important post. The deanery rep is already pressing for names.

Calling young people

A message from the diocesan youth team reads: **"If you are aged 13-29 the Catholic Church wants to hear what you have to say about your life and faith.** This Mega Youth Poll should take between 10 and 15 minutes to complete, depending on how much you want to tell us. We have kept the poll anonymous to give you the freedom to be frank and without fear of criticism. **This poll will be closed on Monday 5 June and the responses we receive will be used in a report that will be sent to the Vatican in preparation for a gathering led by Pope**

Francis."
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cathnews-synod-youth-poll>

Fostering

Caritas Diocese of Salford invites people interested in fostering to a coffee morning on **Thursday 18 May**, 10.30 am-12.30 pm at the Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP. See poster in inner porch.

Lourdes Pilgrimage

*If you have never been to Lourdes now is a good time to go. The diocesan pilgrimage is from **28 July to 3 August** – six nights, by air. Poster in inner porch gives more details, or check the diocesan website.*

Our Lady of Grace

Tomorrow, 15 May, is our patronal feast day. We share our patron with numerous churches around the world. The dedication to 'Our Lady of Grace' is found especially in Italy, India, Australia, United States, France and the Italian-speaking region of Switzerland.

Our Lady of Grace is the patron of the diocese of **Faenza** in the north-east of Italy. Faenza is noted for its manufacture of majolica-ware glazed earthenware pottery, known from the name of the town as *faience*.

She is also the patron of **Nettuno** near Anzio, on the Mediterranean coast near Rome. How this dedication came about makes fascinating reading. It is all connected with the famous shrine of Our Lady of Grace in Ipswich in pre-Reformation England.

Wikipedia recalls the following: The medieval town of Ipswich was a busy maritime centre of trade and shipbuilding. The inns and taverns of the town were full of pilgrims who flocked to the shrine of Our Lady of Grace in Lady Lane, near St Mary the Elm Church.

The shrine to Our Lady of Grace at Ipswich is first recorded in 1152. Between 1517 and 1522, Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon paid separate visits to the shrine, as did Sir Thomas More and Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, who was born in Ipswich.

The shrine was suppressed during the English Reformation, and its famous statue was taken to Chelsea to be burnt, along with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham on 20 September 1538. It is documented that the statue arrived at Chelsea. Regarding the image, Thomas Cromwell's steward wrote to him that he had received it, with 'nothing about her but two half shoes of silver'.

A wooden statue of the Madonna and Child in the local church of the Italian seaside town of Nettuno closely matches various descriptions of the Ipswich statue. The statue is known locally as "Our Lady of the Graces" or "The English Lady". Radio carbon dating places the era when the tree was felled to provide the wood of which the statue is carved at circa 1280 to 1420 with 94% certainty.

How did the statue get from Ipswich to Nettuno? Find out in next week's Newsletter.