



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

33rd SUNDAY 'OF THE YEAR' 19 NOVEMBER 2017

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am

MONDAY 9.15 am

TUESDAY **9.15 am**

WEDNESDAY 12 noon

THURSDAY 12 noon

FRIDAY 9.15 am

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St Cecilia

(St Clement/St Columban)

St Andrew Dung-Lac & Korean martyrs

with children from Our Lady of Grace school

11.00 am

Funeral Mass for Mary Heaps

(St Catherine of Alexandria)

SATURDAY 11.00 am

SUNDAY NEXT – Solemnity of Christ, Universal King: International Mass at 11.00 am

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY 11.30 am-12.30 pm 6.00-6.45 pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday 11.30 am-12.30 pm

YOUR PRAYERS are asked for Mrs Mary Heaps of Bury Old Road, Prestwich. May she rest in peace. Her son, Fr Christopher Heaps SDB, will offer her Funeral Mass here next Friday at 11 o'clock.

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Holy Family, Kirkholt

Collection last Sunday £1143.43.

Thank you also for a donation of £20 as well as various donations towards the Christmas Fair.

Today there will be a second collection for the **Retired Priests Fund**. Please be as generous as you are able in your contribution to the support and care of our retired priests.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

International Mass

Our annual International Mass will be at 11 o'clock **next Sunday 26 November**, the solemnity of Christ the

King. If you would like to take part by reading or joining the offertory procession or providing national food at the party afterwards in the parish hall, please let Fr Allen know.

Young people especially welcomed! Thank you.

Christmas Fair

*The Fair will be held on **Saturday 2 December**. Doors open at 12 noon. This is a warm 'Thank you' to*

those who delivered the 2018 Year Book to houses in the parish during the past week. At the time of going to press, four districts of the sixty still await delivery. If you don't live in the parish please pick up your letter, Year Book and raffle tickets from the piety stall. Goods for the Fair will be gladly welcomed and may be left at the presbytery. If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please refer to the list by the choir stairs. Thank you to those who have already signed.

Sacramental Programme

Please note the date of the meeting for parents. It is **next Wednesday 22 November** in Our Lady of Grace Primary School at 6.30 pm. This meeting is for parents of **all** children entered for the programme this year, including those of children attending other schools.

Children's Liturgy

Also next Sunday children from Year 2 and below are invited to the Children's Liturgy in the parish hall at the start of the 11 o'clock International Mass.

Deanery/Diocese

World Day of the Poor

Pope Francis has established a special day calling on Catholics to focus on the poor in our society, to encourage the world's Christian communities to become "an ever-greater sign of Christ's charity for the least and those most in need".

The first World Day of the Poor will be celebrated

globally in Catholic churches **today Sunday 19 November**. "This day is meant, above all, to encourage believers to react against a culture of discard and waste, and to embrace the culture of encounter," Pope Francis wrote.

Our parish already help poor people in a number of ways, such as the SVP, CAFOD, Cornerstone, Caritas, the Bury Food Bank, Sister Theresa's school in Uganda, etc. This 'Day' will remind us of what we are already doing and encourage us to continue.

Quarant'ore at the Hidden Gem

If you are in town 22-25 November you might call at St Mary's, Mulberry Street, during the Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The "Forty Hours" starts next Wednesday with Mass at 12.30 pm and ends with Benediction on Saturday at 4.00 pm. See the diocesan website for further details.

Red Wednesday

Aid to the Church in Need asks that we stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their peacefully held beliefs. We are urged to wear an item of red clothing **next Wednesday 22 November**.

'Teachings on the Eucharist'

Last Wednesday Pope Francis continued his new series of talks on the Mass. Here are short extracts of what he said: "To understand the beauty of the Eucharistic Celebration, I

want to begin with a very simple aspect: the Mass is prayer, rather, it's the prayer par excellence, the highest, the most sublime and, at the same time, the most "concrete." In fact, it's the encounter of love with God through His Word and the Body and Blood of Jesus, an encounter with the Lord.

"To pray, as every true dialogue, is also to be able to remain in silence, in silence together with Jesus. And when we go to Mass, perhaps we arrive five minutes early and we begin to chat with the one who is next to us.

"However, it's not the moment to chat: it's the moment of silence to prepare oneself to dialogue. It's the moment to recollect oneself in the heart to prepare oneself for the encounter with Jesus. Silence is so important!

"Remember what I said last week: we are not going to a show; we are going to an encounter with the Lord, and silence prepares us and accompanies us. We remain in silence together with Jesus. And from God's mysterious silence gushes His Word, which resounds in our heart. Jesus Himself teaches us how it is really possible "to be" with the Father and He demonstrates it with His prayer.

"The Gospels show us Jesus who withdraws to places apart to pray. The disciples seeing this, His intimate relationship with the Father, feel the desire to be able to participate in it, and they ask Him: "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).

For full text visit
www.vatican.va and click on
'audiences', or
www.zenit.org and see their
Wednesday newsletter.