



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

7th SUNDAY 'OF THE YEAR' 24 FEBRUARY 2019

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	12 noon	Funeral Mass for Margaret O'Donovan
THURSDAY	12 noon	
FRIDAY	9.15 am	St David, Patron of Wales
SATURDAY	11.00 am	(Novena 10.40)

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY 11.30 am -12.30 pm 6.00-6.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 11.30 am to 12.30 pm

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER Sacred Heart, Rochdale

Collection last Sunday £1165.35. Thank you also for donations: £10 for altar flowers; £20 for CAFOD; £50 for Caritas; £200 for the SVP.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

Children's Liturgy

Today at the 11 o'clock Mass, for children aged 3 to 7 (Nursery to Year 2).

The Prayer Group will meet tomorrow **Monday 25 February** at 1B St Margaret's Close, Prestwich, 7.00-8.00 pm. All are welcome!

Party time next Saturday!

'Church Workers' Party' in the parish hall from 7.30 pm next **Saturday 2 March**. We

now have an idea of numbers but it would still help with catering if you would kindly fill in the slip on the other side of this Newsletter and return it to the presbytery or put it in today's collection.

The Party is intended as a small 'Thank you' to those who play an important role in the life of this parish. So many people are most generous with their time and talents and we owe you a great deal.

Sacramental Programme

Parishioners play an important role by

volunteering to be Prayer Partners of a child preparing for first Holy Communion. If you missed the chance to sign up last week, sheets are at the back of church.

*And would **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist** please pick up your new schedule from the sacristy.*

Getting nearer

Our new project is intended to help people with memory loss or dementia, together with their carers. **Meet in the Cottage on Thursday 7 March** at 11.30 am, to enjoy

an hour or so singing some old favourites, and having a chat over a warm drink in a safe and happy place. **Please spread the word about this project to anyone you know who might benefit from it.**

200 Club: *the February draw will be on Thursday 28 February. All monies and books to the presbytery please. Annual subscriptions are now due. **New members welcome!***

Work in the parish hall

The re-furbishment of the ladies toilets will hopefully be finished this week. Meanwhile the disabled toilet is available for use.

Deanery/Diocese

Deanery Mass for our Young People

"Be Who God Created You To Be" – a deanery event **next Tuesday 26 February 7.00 pm** at Sacred Heart Church, Rochdale, OL16 5BX. All are welcome at this Mass for Youth, especially the young but all others who wish to encourage and pray for our young people. A great celebration and refreshments afterwards. Come if you can.

World Day of Prayer

*The service for the WDP will be held at Prestwich Methodist church, Bury New Road, on **Friday 1 March** at 1.30 pm. Everyone is very welcome.*

European Citizens

A "EU Citizens' Rights Session" **Saturday 9 March at 10.30 am in Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall**, to explain the Settled Status application. **All European Citizens are invited to this important meeting.**

Pope Pius XII and Jewish people

'Historical evidence shows that the Catholic Church, under the Pontificate of Pius XII, saved an estimated 847,000 Jews during World War 2.'

Against the present news background of anti-Semitism, it is interesting to record the meeting in Rome last week between Pope Francis and Pave the Way Foundation (PTWF), a US based nonsectarian organization.

PTWF Directors, Mr John Drexel IV and Dr Bennett Solberg, presented the Pope with primary source documents evidencing Vatican intervention to save the Jews of Rome, revealing how Pope Pius XII acted directly to end the arrest of the Roman Jewish community on 16 October 1943. General Reiner Stahel enabled the Pope to successfully force the end of the arrests at 2pm the day they began.

Dr Solberg presented the Pope with a copy of a handwritten diary entry in 1943, wherein the community of Augustinian Nuns wrote "today we were asked by the Holy Father to protect the Roman Jews and named those they sheltered."

Pope Pius XII lifted the ban of Cloister, to enable monasteries to house women, and convents to house men, and requested shelter for the innocent Jews by Italian Catholics, and other ecclesiastical structures throughout Italy.

Pope Francis was also presented with the sworn testimony of the Commandant of Italy and deputy to Heinrich Himmler,

General Karl Wolff. The document reveals the plans Wolff was ordered to initiate by Adolf Hitler to invade the Vatican, kill any Vatican officials they encountered, and then "rescue" Pope Pius XII by taking him to Lichtenstein, where he would be assassinated.

This plan was revealed to the Pope in September 1943, one month before the arrest of the Roman Jews. Mindful of this imminent planned invasion, Pope Pius XII penned his resignation where he stated that were the Vatican to be invaded, the Nazis would arrest Eugenio Pacelli, not Pope Pius XII. The Cardinals were to leave Rome, elect a new pope, and form a government in exile in Portugal.

The name of Pope Pius XII was smeared by the Soviet Union's KGB, beginning five years after his death in 1963. Gary Krupp, President of PTWF, calls this the greatest character assassination of the 20th century. Historical evidence shows that the Catholic Church, under the Pontificate of Pius XII, saved an estimated 847,000 Jews during WWII. Mr Krupp, who is Jewish, said that "the worst character flaw a Jew can have is ingratitude. It is important for those who are alive today and who have been deceived by Soviet disinformation for five decades now be aware who it was who saved them."

I hope to come to the Party on 2 March.

Name:

Return asap