



# OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

'Stay with us, Lord, on our journey'

Phone/Fax: 0161 773 2324

Parish web page:  
[www.ourladyofgrace.co.uk](http://www.ourladyofgrace.co.uk)

Diocesan web page:  
[www.salforddiocese.net](http://www.salforddiocese.net)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER 30 APRIL 2017

### HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am
MONDAY	9.15 am Easter Weekday/St Joseph the Worker
TUESDAY	12 noon St Athanasius
WEDNESDAY	12 noon St Philip & St James, apostles
THURSDAY	12 noon <b>The English Martyrs</b>
FRIDAY	9.15 am Easter Weekday (with Year 5 children)
SATURDAY	11.30 am Easter Weekday (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

Guardian Angels, Bury

Collection last Sunday £1130.39. Thank you also for a donation of £50.

**Next weekend** there will be a second collection for the **Priests' Training Fund**. Bishop Arnold writes: *"We will be celebrating Vocations Sunday on 7th May. We have a very encouraging eight applicants for the selection conference this year, which is certainly an answer to prayer. If we have a good number of successful candidates, the Vocations Sunday second collection will be of all the greater importance this year and in coming years. Please do all you can to spread this good news and call on people's generosity in helping to prepare our future priests."*

## NEWSLETTER

### Parish

#### Coming shortly

- **Today** the children on the Sacramental Programme, and their parents, meet at 9.50 am in the parish hall. The theme is "We are the Body of Christ".

- **Today** is also the **Children's Liturgy** at the 11 o'clock Mass. At the start of Mass children in Year 2 and younger are invited to go with the parish catechists into the parish hall where

they will celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word.

- **Rev Gavin Landers**, a deacon in training for the priesthood in Salford Diocese, will speak at all Masses on Vocations Sunday **next weekend**.

- Our monthly **Traidcraft** stall is **next Sunday 7 May**, in the parish hall after the 9am and 11am Masses. Continue to feast at Easter on our wide range of premium chocolate and help poor communities in the

developing world at the same time. And if it's time for spring-cleaning, our "Clean and Fair" cleaning products, made with the world's first Fairtrade palm oil, is just the ticket.

- **The May Procession and Crowning** will be here at 3.00 pm on **Sunday 14 May**.

### Rome 2018

*Fr Allen will DV lead this 5-day parish pilgrimage to Rome, 5-9 March next year. Places are rapidly*

filling up so please book now to avoid disappointment. Booking forms are available from the table by the CTS rack.

### **End of Financial Year**

If you gave to the parish in the financial year that ended on 5 April – either using gift envelopes or by standing order – there is a letter for you ready for collection from outside the sacristy. If you collect your letter it will save the cost of postage.

### **Line Dancing**

Please note that because of the elections there will be **no** line dancing in the hall next Thursday. On **Thursday 11 May** line dancing will begin one hour later than usual, at **2.00 pm**. From 18 May onwards dancing will be at the usual time 1.00-4.00pm.

### **200 Club April winners:**

**£80** 91 Mrs M Taylor,  
agent Mrs M Makin

**£40** 60 Mrs V Lindsey,  
agent Mr A Scholes

**£20** 257 Mrs G Kerlake,  
agent Mr A Scholes

## **Deanery/Diocese**

### **Bank Holiday Monday**

**Mass for Migrants** at St John's Cathedral 11.30 am. All are welcome to attend and to celebrate the diversity in our parishes.

Also on Monday, from 1.30 to 4.00 pm Caritas Diocese of Salford is assisting at the **Greater Manchester Citizens Assembly** at the **Lowry Centre**. This is a family event. Anyone wishing to attend this event is asked to email eddie.welch@yahoo.co.uk who will give further details. See posters in inner porch.

### **Walsingham Pilgrimage** **next Saturday 6 May**

Seats are available on the coach leaving from St Mary's church, Oxford Street, Eccles M30 OLU at 8.00 am. £20 per person, discount for children. Contact Mary Hall 07478 765010 or [madrecasita@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:madrecasita@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Syrian refugee family to find a home**

Our neighbours in St Michael's and St Bernadette's parish in Whitefield are beginning a new project to home and care for a Syrian refugee family. Jacinta Yates of the 'Sponsor a Syrian Family Group' writes:

**"We would like to invite you to St Bernadette's Social Centre on Friday 12 May at 7.30 pm for a social and fund raising evening.**

The evening will be fun and formative with a detailed presentation of the 'Sponsor a Family' scheme. We will be entertained by our adult choir and the local schools will be sharing their ideas and artwork. Entrance is free although there will be a donation box and chance to buy raffle tickets. Tea and cake will be available and the bar will be open. Please note date is **12 May not 21.**"

### **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>

### **Are we being silenced?**

A series of Penal Laws oppressed generations of Catholics in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

In particular, the **Test Acts** excluded Catholics and Nonconformists from any public office. They made a person's eligibility for public office depend upon profession of the established religion. Only those people taking communion in the established Church of England were eligible for public employment. Severe penalties were pronounced against recusants, whether Catholic or Nonconformist.

Such Acts were passed in Scotland from 1567, in England from 1661 and in Ireland from 1704. In England the test was removed in 1828 and the Test Acts were repealed in the 1860's and 1870's. Tests in Ireland were abolished in 1871 and in Scotland in 1889.

But do we get the impression that a new form of Test Act is taking shape? Not the previous test of taking communion in the established Church but one that scrutinises our beliefs and, if it finds they do not fit in with current fashion, would deem us unfit for public office? More than ever, we need to know our Faith and have confidence to stand up for it.