



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

1st SUNDAY IN LENT 5 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/Sts Perpetua & Felicity
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	Lent Weekday/St John of God
THURSDAY	12 noon	Lent Weekday/St Frances of Rome
FRIDAY	8.00 am	Lent Weekday (Lent Fast Day)
SATURDAY	11.30 am	Lent Weekday (Novena 11.15)

CONFESSIONS

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

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER St Peter's, Middleton

Collection last Sunday £1227.91. Thank you also for donations of £20 and £50.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

The Parish Library

A new selection of books etc is now available. Choose one to follow during Lent. The Library is in the hall and is open after both Masses on Sunday mornings.

"Walk with Me"

This booklet is described as "A Lenten Journey of Prayer for 2017". Pick up your free copy from the piety stall, along with the Lenten Calendar.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day is next Friday, 10 March. This year, the focus is on Zambia in Southern Africa,

and the efforts that families there are making to be self-reliant in feeding and educating their children. Fast Days are our opportunity to support this vital work.

You are invited to take the envelope pinned to this newsletter home, and remember to hold your fast next Friday. Please put as much as you can into the envelope, and put it in the collection next weekend. If you are a taxpayer, would you kindly sign the Gift Aid slip on the envelope? CAFOD will then be able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give, at no extra cost to you.

H.P.C.T. Fair

Come and join us for lunch next Saturday 11 March at the HCPT Fair in the parish hall. The Fair will open at 10.30 am with many stalls selling a variety of goods.

All proceeds will help send sick children to Lourdes at Easter and help with the fares of young helpers from the parish travelling with the diocese.

Bake a Cake for CAFOD

Our Bishop, John Arnold, chairs CAFOD's Trustees. He is coming to Our Lady of Grace for the **Deanery Lenten Station Mass**, to be held here on **Thursday 16**

March at 7.30 pm. We would like parishioners to make and donate a cake, to be served in the Parish Hall after the Station Mass - and we will be asking people who attend, from all over the Deanery, to make a donation to CAFOD in return.

It would be great if the cakes baked for the Station Mass could incorporate one or more Fairtrade ingredient. You can buy these in the Parish Hall at our Traidcraft stall **this Sunday 5 March**, after both the 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses. We will also have available the Real Easter Egg, the only chocolate egg that tells the story of Easter.

Come and browse Traidcraft's new spring catalogue, which includes a new range of craft goods and Easter cards and gifts that we can order for you.

Early Mass in Lent

The early morning Mass at 8 o'clock on the Fridays during Lent got off to a very good start last Friday.

Primary School's New Build

The construction of Our Lady of Grace RC Primary School's **New Foundation Unit** is underway and making great progress. The builders are working very hard in order that it will be completed in readiness for our new intake in September 2017.

Photographs will be available to view on our school website over the next few weeks:
www.ourladyofgracercprimaryschool.co.uk

Deanery/Diocese

Bishop John Arnold will be here at Our Lady of Grace church next Wednesday 8 March at 2.30 pm for a Holy Hour with priests of the diocese. Benediction c.3.15, then a cup of tea in the hall.

Caritas Diocese of Salford (4)

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

Caritas includes **Catholic Family Care** which provides practical help through quality clothing for families. It also encourages **Caritas Ambassadors**, making Catholic Social Teaching part of the everyday lives of young people and school communities.

Caritas In Action is a project designed to help teachers deliver the Social Teaching of the Church from EYFS to Key Stage 5. It is central to the delivery of Religious Education Curriculum Directory Part 4.

Caritas is active too in the field of **Justice and Peace** and **Racial Justice**, advocating for justice for those on the margins of society.

(Next time – Homelessness services - To be continued)

Were you at Notre Dame?

The **Notre Dame Manchester Association** will hold a Soup and Sandwich Event on **18 March** in Our Lady of Grace hall from 12 noon until 3.00 pm. Fee of £5 includes as much tea or coffee as you can drink! "Please do come along and bring your family

and friends. Enquiries to Pauline on 07834 575138."

Or St Joseph's?

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions from 11am. Refreshments in the parish hall after Mass.

The Lenten Fast

When did fasting and abstinence begin in the Church? "From earliest times" is the answer. The *Didache*, also known as *The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles*, is an early Christian treatise, dated by most modern scholars to the first century after Christ. The first line of this treatise is "The teaching of the Lord to the Gentiles (or Nations) by the twelve apostles".

It prescribes that Christians "should fast on Wednesdays and Fridays". The pattern of Wednesday and Friday fasting became more or less universal in the early Church and is kept by the Eastern Churches to the present day.

Wednesday has largely disappeared as a day of fasting in the Western Catholic tradition, except for the start of Lent, while Friday remains a day of penance in honour of the passion of Christ Our Lord. The tradition of meatless Fridays has a very ancient origin.