



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

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER 6 MAY 2018

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am	
MONDAY	9.15 am	Easter Weekday
TUESDAY	12 noon	Easter Weekday
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	Easter Weekday

THURSDAY **The Ascension of the Lord – Holy Day of Obligation**
Mass Wednesday 7.00 pm. Thursday 9.30 am and 12 noon

FRIDAY 9.15 am Easter Weekday
SATURDAY 11.00 am Easter Weekday/Sts Nereus & Achilleus/St Pancras

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 Bridget Thorp, late of Edward Street, Prestwich. May she rest in peace.

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER St Thomas More, Alkrington

Collection last Sunday £1122.30. Further contributions to the **Priests' Training Fund** have increased it to £1183.63. The Fund will remain open for another week.

Thanks to your generosity in the **Starving World box** in April we are able to send £561.35 to St Francis Leprosy Guild. The contents of the box this month will go to Sister Theresa Abigaba for her school for handicapped children in Western Uganda.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

May Procession, Crowning

This year's May procession and crowning will take place **next Sunday 13 May** at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. All are welcome to take part in this act of love for Our

Blessed Lady, patron of our parish.

Next Sunday has also been named in Our Lady of Grace as a **day of prayer** for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life. A diocesan parish or school has been named for each day of the year and asked to pray for this intention.

Happily, our day falls on the day of the May procession and crowning.

Traidcraft

*Our regular monthly sale of fair-trade goods will be held **today Sunday 6 May** in the Parish Hall after the 9am and 11am Masses. New this month – twin packs of*

Geobake biscuits in two new flavours, fruit & lemon and chocolate chip; just the thing to pep up your coffee break. Your continuing support helps ensure that workers and small farmers in many developing countries receive a fair price for their produce.

Deanery/Diocese

Leavers' Mass, St Monica's

Our prayers and good wishes go out to Year 11 students at St Monica's who will leave school shortly. They will celebrate with a Mass for Leavers next Friday.

St Mark's Gospel

*Fr Chris Lough will give a talk on the Gospel of Mark at the parish centre, Sacred Heart Church, Kingsway, Rochdale OL16 5BX **next Tuesday 8 May** at 7.00 p.m. when tea and coffee will be available. The talk will start at 7.30 p.m. Fr Lough will specifically consider some of the forthcoming Sunday readings. There is an open invitation to people to attend.*

World Meeting of Families

Pope Francis will attend this meeting in Dublin. Bishop John Arnold will lead a group from Salford, 21-27 August.

The cost is £690.00 for adults, £545 for children aged 4-12, including coach travel, return ferry crossing Holyhead-Dublin, six nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the 4* Hotel Plaza, attendance at the three-day meeting and guaranteed ticket for the festival of families and ticket for the final Mass with Pope Francis, with coach transfers in Ireland to/from the event.

This event is open to families or individuals. For details, contact formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

National Eucharistic Congress

*The Congress will be held in Liverpool 7-9 September this year. You will find all details on the Salford diocesan website. **Contrary to other reports, there is still time to register for the Congress.** If you would like to know more, see Fr Allen or look on one of the websites. Since those attending will be regarded as parish delegates, places will be paid for by the parish. It is planned that transport will be arranged from this area.*

*Some inspirational speakers will lead sessions at the Congress, including **Bishop Robert Barron** from Los Angeles, one of the leading Catholic evangelists of our time. **Why not come?** Five people from this parish have signed up so far.*

The San Damiano Cross

Last week's Newsletter contained an explanation of the San Damiano Cross now in the church. What follows is a more detailed description.

Above Jesus' head is a portrayal of the Resurrection. It shows the triumphant Christ emerging from a red circle, holding a golden cross. A host of angels welcomes Him into heaven.

Around the crossbar of the cross, we see a company of holy angels looking in awe upon the Divine Sacrifice.

Beneath the cross stand His Mother, St John and the other holy women.

Our Lord is shown as standing on the cross in His full stature, with His hands spread out serenely in an attitude both of supplication and blessing.

Nazareth House

The Sisters and Friends of Nazareth House, Prestwich, have written to thank us for the contribution made to their appeal last year for help in upgrading the grotto of Our Lady near the entrance to the Home. Work has now started and the grotto should be ready within the next few weeks. This will bring much joy to the residents as they sit in the garden.

May - Month of Mary and the Holy Rosary

On last Thursday, 1 May, Pope Francis made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Divine Love to launch the Marian Month and pray the Rosary - in particular for peace in Syria.

'Dear brothers and sisters, the day after tomorrow, 1 May, in the afternoon, I will initiate the Marian Month with a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Divine Love', the Holy Father said after praying the Regina Coeli with the crowds gathered in St Peter's Square.

'We will pray the Rosary, praying in particular for peace in Syria and in the whole world. I invite you to unite yourselves spiritually and to prolong throughout the month of May the prayer of the Rosary for peace.'

The Holy Father has been a strong proponent of the Rosary as a source of comfort and spiritual strength. At his general audience in St Peter's Square in May last year he urged young people: 'learn to pray with the simple and effective prayer of the rosary'.