



# 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)

## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER 7 MAY 2017

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

### HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday 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	12 noon	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
FRIDAY	9.15 am	Easter Weekday/St Pancras/Sts Nereus & Achilleus
SATURDAY	11.30 am	Easter Weekday/Our Lady of Fatima (Novena 11.15)

### CONFESSIONS

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

YOUR PRAYERS are asked for Mr Peter Copple of Oak Lodge, Prestwich. May he rest in peace.

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich

Collection last Sunday £1275.15.

**Today** 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."

Fancy, there are reports in the media of shops refusing to take the old £5 notes! To save you any embarrassment we will be happy to take them.

## NEWSLETTER

### Parish

#### Welcome!

We give a warm welcome today to **Rev Gavin Landers**, a deacon in training for the priesthood in Salford Diocese. He will speak at all Masses.

The Prayer Group will meet on **Monday 8 May** 7.00-8.00 pm at 1B St

Margaret's Close, Prestwich.  
All are welcome.

Traidcraft goods are in the parish hall **today** after the 9am and 11am Masses. Wide range of premium chocolate and many other goodies, as well as "Clean and Fair" cleaning products, made with the world's first Fairtrade palm oil. Every purchase helps poor

communities in the developing world.

**Next Sunday** the **May Procession and Crowning** will be here at 3.00 pm.

#### Rome 2018

Fr Allen will DV lead this **5-day parish pilgrimage to Rome, 5-9 March next year**. Nearly full! Booking

forms are available from the table by the CTS rack.

### Line Dancing

**Next Thursday 11 May** Bishop John Arnold is meeting with priests in our parish hall in the morning and over lunchtime so 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.

### Deanery/Diocese

#### 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>*

#### Community Carers Café

A message from Six Town Housing reads: *Are you a carer supporting a friend or family member living with dementia? Come and join us for a cake, coffee and a natter with like minded people. We are a friendly community café offering you access to support, specialist advice or just someone to talk to and have a cuppa with.*

Where? At Clarks Hill Retirement Living, off Rectory Lane, Prestwich (opposite St Mary's CoE Primary School).

When? Thursday 11 May and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month, 2.00-4.00 pm.

#### Pope Francis on Vocations Sunday

This is how Pope Francis ends his message for Vocations Sunday: "With confidence born of the Gospel, we become open to the silent working of the Spirit, which is the basis of mission. There can be no promotion of vocations or Christian mission apart from constant contemplative prayer. The Christian life needs to be nourished by attentive listening to God's word and, above all, by the

cultivation of a personal relationship with the Lord in Eucharistic adoration, the privileged "place" for our encounter with God.

"I wish heartily to encourage this kind of profound friendship with the Lord, above all for the sake of imploring from on high new vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life. The People of God need to be guided by pastors whose lives are spent in service to the Gospel. I ask parish communities, associations and the many prayer groups present in the Church, not to yield to discouragement but to continue praying that the Lord will send workers to his harvest. May he give us priests enamoured of the Gospel, close to all their brothers and sisters, living signs of God's merciful love.

"Dear brothers and sisters, today too, we can regain fervour in preaching the Gospel and we can encourage young people in particular to take up the path of Christian discipleship ... our young people desire to discover the perennial attraction of Jesus, to be challenged by his words and actions, and to cherish the ideal that he holds out of a life that is fully human, happy to spend itself in love.

"Mary Most Holy, the Mother of our Saviour, had the courage to embrace this ideal, placing her youth and her enthusiasm in God's hands. Through her intercession, may we be granted that same openness of heart, that same readiness to respond, "Here I am", to the Lord's call, and that same joy in setting out (cf. Luke 1:39), like her, to proclaim him to the whole world."