



# 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)

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 8 JANUARY 2017

### HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	7.00 pm (Saturday)	9.00 am	11.00 am
MONDAY	9.15 am	The Baptism of the Lord	
TUESDAY	12 noon		
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	Funeral Mass for Edward McIntyre	
THURSDAY	12 noon	(St Aelred of Clairvaux)	
FRIDAY	9.15 am	(St Hilary)	
SATURDAY	11.30 am	(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 Michael & St Bernadette, Whitefield

Collection last Sunday £1036.89. Thank you also for donations of £10 and £50.

The **St Anthony's box** will be re-named for **Crib Offerings** for another week. The contents will go to **Friends of the Holy Land**.

Thanks to your generosity in the **Starving World box** in December we have been able to send £813.31 to Cornerstone. The contents of the Starving World box in January will go to the **St Francis Leprosy Guild**. During 2016 you gave the **magnificent total of £7312.42** in this box.

**Today** there will be a retiring collection for the **Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)**. See over page.

## NEWSLETTER

### Parish

#### Sacramental Programme

The next meeting for the children enrolled on the Sacramental Programme and their parents will be **next Sunday 15 January** at 9.50am in the Parish Hall. The title of the session is 'We are People who celebrate God's Word.'

The celebration Mass for

this session will be the following weekend: 7.00pm on 21 January or 9.00am or 11.00am on 22 January.

#### Traidcraft

*Our first monthly sale of fairly traded foods in 2017 will be held in the Parish Hall **today Sunday 8 January** after the 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses. Why not make it a New Year's resolution to buy Fairtrade wherever possible? You are invited to*

*come and stock up with Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate, rice, biscuits, pasta, muesli, honey, sweets and cleaning products - and much more.*

#### Vocations Mass

Members of the Catenian Association and family members will join us at the **7 o'clock Mass next Saturday 14 January** for the annual Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood.

## Pre-Marriage Course

This Course, run by the Servite parish and ourselves, **will begin on Monday 30 January**. It will be held in the Servite Priory, 500 Bury New Road, M7 4ND. The first session will begin at 7.30 pm and end at 9.00 pm. All couples who have booked a marriage at Our Lady of Grace have been informed. If there are others who have not yet booked a date but are planning to marry this year they should inform us straightaway.

## White Flower Appeal

**The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)** will hold its annual appeal **today**. This year will see the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act. Over 8.7 million unborn children have lost their lives due to abortion in the last 50 years.

Since 1967 SPUC has been working tirelessly to uphold the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. By being as generous as you can in today's retiring collection, please help make 2017 a landmark year in SPUC's historic campaign on behalf of us all to win legal protection for unborn children.

## 2017 Lourdes Pilgrimage

By air from Manchester Airport, Friday 28 July to Thursday 3 August. Prices from £699 full board. By coach, Thursday 27 July to Friday 4 August. Prices from £599 8 nights accommodation, full board in Lourdes. For details, visit the diocesan website or see poster inner porch.

## Year 6 Retreat

*Children in Year 6 in Our Lady of Grace Primary School will make a day retreat on Tuesday, using the parish hall and attending the 12 noon Mass.*

## Porch Boxes

Your support of our new parish venture of 'Porch Boxes' has been greatly appreciated by the people using the Caritas Food Bank in Bury. Over the past three months you have given the grand total of **1195 items**.

Sister Joan, the nun who oversees the Food Bank, speaks of the on-going need of families and individuals who are finding it very hard to make ends meet.

Taking the items to St Joseph's in Bury is proving a little difficult at times. It would be good to have a pool of people with transport and about one hour free time available who could then deliver the items on an occasional basis. If you think you would be able to help in this please phone 0161 773 6838 and speak to Philo.

By the way, the term 'Porch Boxes' is a little misleading. For convenience and security purposes the boxes are actually inside the church, at the back.

## A new venture – Karate!

*John Marsh, a 4<sup>th</sup> Dan Black Belt and Karate instructor, has hired the Cottage to give classes on Monday and Friday evenings. Beginner-Intermediate 6.30-7.30 pm, Intermediate-Advanced 7.30-8.30 pm. Contact him on mobile 07525 765885 or Twitter ense1\_John*

## Deanery/Diocese

### Mass for Engaged Couples

**Bishop John Arnold** invites couples who are planning to marry this year to a special Mass for Engaged Couples at St John's Cathedral, Salford M3 5LL on **Saturday 18 February** at 2.00 pm.

The Bishop asks that if couples are able to attend they inform their parish priest so that the organizers can make the appropriate preparations.

### Last word: Pope Francis

*"Herod is unable to worship because he could not or would not change his own way of looking at things. He did not want to stop worshipping himself, believing that everything revolved around him. He was unable to worship, because his aim was to make others worship him.*

*"Nor could the priests worship, because although they had great knowledge, and knew the prophecies, they were not ready to make the journey or to change their ways.*

*"The Magi experienced longing; they were tired of the usual fare. They were all too familiar with, and weary of, the Herods of their own day. But there, in Bethlehem, was a promise of newness ... There, something new was taking place. The Magi were able to worship, because they had the courage to set out. And as they fell to their knees before the small, poor and vulnerable Infant, the unexpected and unknown Child of Bethlehem, they discovered the glory of God." (6 January 2017)*