



OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

'Stay with us, Lord, on our journey'

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15th SUNDAY 'OF THE YEAR' 11 JULY 2021

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am	
MONDAY	12 noon	
TUESDAY	12 noon	(St Henry)
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	(St Camillus of Lellis)
THURSDAY	12 noon	St Bonaventure
FRIDAY	12 noon	Our Lady of Mt Carmel, principal patron of Salford diocese
SATURDAY	12 noon	(Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

The church is open every day

Monday to Friday from 11.45 am to 4.00 pm

Saturdays from 11.45 am to 4.00 pm, 6.45 pm to 8.00 pm Sundays from 8.45 am to 12 noon

My dear Parishioners and Friends,

Mount Carmel has been famed from Old Testament times for its beauty. It is one of the most attractive places in the Holy Land. The Carmel range stretches for a distance of about fifteen miles, majestically overlooking the sea at its northwestern extremity.

It was here that the prophet Elijah defended the faith of the people of Israel in the living God. In 1156 a group of hermits settled there and later set up the Carmelite Order to lead a contemplative life under the patronage of the Mother of God.

We are the only diocese in England dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The

dedication goes right back to the start of our diocese when the hierarchy was restored in 1850. The first bishop of Salford, **William Turner**, petitioned the Holy See to place the diocese under the patronage of **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**. The petition was granted, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel was established as principal patron of our diocese.

We will keep her feast day **next Friday, 16 July**.



We thought that our lovely primary school had escaped **Covid troubles**. But now, just when we thought we were coming through relatively unscathed, a number of classes have had to be sent home.

The head teacher and staff have acted on mandatory

advice from Public Health England. They have a difficult situation to manage and it is hard on the children and on families who have to make new arrangements at short notice. Let's hope we will all be able to enjoy the school holiday time. It is getting nearer. The school breaks up on 21 July.

The **school website** gives a lot of useful information about the school. It also has some very beautiful photos of the first Communion children. Go to the school website, click on *Religious Education*, then click on *Holy Communion*.



Following his colon operation **Pope Francis** continues to make satisfactory progress on the way to recovery. We must keep him in our prayers.



Thank you to all who contacted our local MP to tell him your concerns about the amendment to the Police Bill which was to have been debated in Parliament last Monday. The amendment if passed would have allowed abortions in England for any reason whatever right up to the birth of the child.

In the event, no vote was needed as Diane Johnson MP withdrew her proposed amendment. So too did Rupa Huq MP, whose proposed amendment would have introduced a jail sentence of up to two years for offering support to women outside abortion clinics nationwide.

It appears that the abortion lobby realised that it was very likely that both amendments were going to be defeated and so they encouraged the MPs not to take these amendments to a vote.

Thousands of people rallied last weekend to get friends and family to email their MPs. MPs received more emails ahead of this vote than they have ever received ahead of an abortion vote, and in some cases, MPs received more emails on this issue than they had received on any other issue while in office. Well done! You have struck a blow for a more civilized country.

The European Parliament on the other hand seems to be going worse. They voted last week, by 378 votes against 255 with 42 abstentions, to adopt a report which defined abortion as a fundamental human right. The report also called conscientious objection to abortion a 'denial of medical care'.



We will know tonight if it's England or Italy who are the European football champions. What a contest it has been, with the two best contestants now in the final!

Two old men, very keen on their football, were in the pub discussing the Euros. Tommy said to Bill, 'Will there be football in heaven?' Bill thought hard: 'I don't know. Tell you what, let's make a deal. If I die first, I'll come back and tell you if there's football in heaven. If you die first, you do the same for me.'

So they agreed. A short time later Bill died. Not long after, Tommy was on his own in the pub, moodily drinking his pint, when he heard Bill's voice. 'Tommy', said Bill's ghost, 'I've come to tell you about what we agreed. I've got good news and bad news. Which do you want first?'

'The good news please, Bill.'
'Right, Tommy. Well, the good news is that there is football in heaven – plenty of it.' 'That's great,' replied Tommy. 'So what's the bad news?' Bill lowered his voice: 'You're on the team next Saturday!'

Everywhere we see the flag of **St George**, patron of England. But today, 11 July, is the feast day of **St Benedict**, a patron of Italy. Whose patronage is the more powerful? Let's recall the hymn to St George:
Great St George, our patron help us/ In the conflict be thou nigh/ Help us in that daily battle/ Where each one must win or die.

Somehow, I don't think the writer had football in mind.

Fr Dearman's Reflections on the Rosary:

JESUS IS SCOURGED

Pilate wanted Jesus to be beaten mercilessly, so that the crowd could see him and perhaps have pity on him. Pilate knew that Jesus was innocent, but he was afraid that there would be a riot and he could be dismissed from office in disgrace. We pray to Our Lady for the grace to offer our sufferings in union with her Son, who was punished for our sins.

Our Father

Before each Hail Mary:

- 1 They had Jesus bound and handed him over to Pilate
- 2 Are you the king of the Jews?
- 3 My kingdom is not of this world
- 4 I find no case against him
- 5 Pilate had Jesus taken away and scourged
- 6 He was despised and rejected, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief
- 7 Yet ours were the sufferings he bore
- 8 He was pierced for our faults, crushed for our sins
- 9 He bore it humbly and never opened his mouth
- 10 Through his wounds we are healed

Glory be