



OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

‘Stay with us, Lord, on our journey’

Phone/Fax: 0161 773 2324

Parish web page:
www.ourladyofgrace.co.uk

Parish Email:
john.allen@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Diocesan web page:
www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

24th SUNDAY ‘OF THE YEAR’ 12 SEPTEMBER 2021

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00	
MONDAY	12 noon	St John Chrysostom
TUESDAY	12 noon	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	Our Lady of Sorrows
THURSDAY	12 noon	Sts Cornelius and Cyprian
FRIDAY	12 noon	(St Robert Bellarmine)
SATURDAY	11.00 am	

The church is open every day

Monday to Friday from 11.45 am to 6.00 pm

Saturdays from 10.45 am to 8.00 pm

Sundays from 8.45 am to 12 noon (or later if Baptisms)

Confessional times: Saturday 11.45 am-1.00 pm, 6.00-6.45 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Saturday after 11.00 am Mass until 1.00 pm.

Fittingly, at the close of the International Eucharistic Congress, we begin a series of Fr Dearman’s **Reflections on Eucharistic Hymns**

1 - O SALUTARIS

I remember singing **O Salutaris** and **Tantum Ergo** at Benediction long before I could understand the words. We still use these hymns sometimes at Benediction, and they make a very good introduction to that service and also to a period of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

O salutaris hostia. O saving host. Three words, each carrying a profound meaning for us.

The word **O** is used when formally addressing somebody

important. We, though tiny in comparison with our Lord Jesus, have been invited by him to treat him as our brother, yet we remind ourselves that it is an immense privilege even to be in his company.

Salutaris: he is our Saviour from the evils of the world in which we live. He saved us by suffering agony and death by crucifixion. We thank him for doing this for us and ask him to support us when we have pains and difficulties.

Hostia: this reminds us of the host at Mass. Jesus gives himself to us in the form of bread, to be our daily spiritual food. The host is consecrated every time Holy Mass is celebrated, and his sacrifice is made present for us to join in.

We thank him for this and ask for the grace to offer ourselves with him and receive him faithfully whenever we have the opportunity.

Quae caeli pandis ostium. You open the gate of heaven. This reminds us of the terrible banishment which our first parents suffered as a result of their insult to the generous God who had given them the ecstatic happiness of the garden of Eden. The gate of happiness was closed to them and to us, but Jesus by his sacrifice has reopened it for us.

Bella premunt hostilia. Hostile wars press in on us. The power of Satan is as strong as ever. So we ask: **Da robur, fer auxilium.** Give strength, bring help. We reflect on how much we need the strong help that Jesus gives us.

