



OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

‘Stay with us, Lord, on our journey’

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7th SUNDAY OF EASTER 29 MAY 2022

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am
MONDAY	9.15 am Anniversary Mass for consecration of Our Lady's church 1956
TUESDAY	7.00 pm The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
WEDNESDAY	12 noon Funeral Mass for Brian Lefley
THURSDAY	12 noon Easter Weekday/Sts Marcellinus & Peter
FRIDAY	9.15 am St Charles Lwanga & Companions, Ugandan Martyrs
SATURDAY	11.00 am Easter Weekday

The church is open every day this week

Monday and Friday from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm

Tuesday 11.45 am to 8.00 pm

Wednesday and Thursday 11.45 am to 6.00 pm

Saturday from 10.30 am to 8.00 pm

Sundays from 8.30 am to 12 noon (or later if baptisms)

Confessional times: Saturday 11.40 am to 12.50 pm, 6.00 pm to 6.40 pm

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

My dear Parishioners and Friends,

On **Tuesday evening** we will welcome a number of visitors to the **evening Mass at 7 o'clock**. The Mass will mark the 40th anniversary of the visit of **Pope St John Paul II** to Manchester and to our parish.

On 31 May 1982 the Holy Father celebrated Mass in Heaton Park and ordained twelve priests. One of them was a young man from Liverpool. He is now **Bishop Tom Neylon**, auxiliary bishop in Liverpool. He will be the principal celebrant at Tuesday's Mass, joined by our own bishop, John Arnold, and by Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury who

served at the papal Mass that day.

Some of the others ordained that day will also join us, including Fr Kevin Foulkes, parish priest of Our Lady's, Haigh, and Holy Family, New Springs, near Wigan; Fr Robert Morland SMA, parish priest of St Joseph & St Edward, Manchester; and Fr John McGowan OCD from St Joseph's, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. Canon Michael Cooke, vicar general of Salford, will also be here; he too served the papal Mass prior to his own ordination. We will be joined by a number of other priests from around the diocese.

Be sure to join us on this historic occasion.

The **Exhibition** recalling Pope St John Paul's visit is mounted on panels around the church. It has been enhanced by a photo/painting by Harold Riley which is in the Lady Chapel. You might like to call in outside of Mass times to view the Exhibition at leisure. You might even recognise yourselves on some of the photographs!



Women have always played a very important role in the story of the Church. We can think of Our Lady herself and very many of the Saints, as well as countless wives and mothers, religious sisters, teachers and foundresses of religious orders.



It was a French laywoman, **Emilie Tamisier**, who in 1881 inspired the beginning of the International Eucharistic Congresses.

Another French laywoman, **Pauline Jaricot**, while still in her early twenties, in 1822 founded the Association of the Propagation of the Faith. She is therefore one of the founders of Missio. Last Sunday Pauline Jaricot was beatified. Pope Francis said that Pauline was 'a courageous woman, attentive to the changes taking place at the time, and had a universal vision regarding the Church's mission. May her example enkindle in everyone the desire to participate through prayer and charity in the spread of the Gospel throughout the world.'

How good it is to be part of this movement, ensuring that the Gospel is brought to new parts of the world! Through the **Red Boxes**, our parish raised £2,769.00 for APF-Mill Hill Missions in 2021. Thank you to all who have given so generously of your time and money – box holders, collectors and contributors alike. The total raised in the Salford diocese was £175,000 and the total from all parishes in England and Wales was £2.5 million.

If you would like to help the APF-Mill Hill Missions by emptying Red Boxes in the parish please contact our local secretary, Richard Cavey, on 0161 773 7684 or 07971 260330.

Thank you also for your generous support of the **Priests Training Fund**. The total raised was £887.02.



Our parish celebration of the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** will be in the parish hall **next**

Friday 3 June. Tickets are available at the back of church and from the presbytery. Admission is only £1 for adults, 50p for children. Come along and enjoy the fun: disco, games, raffle, etc. Bring your own food if you wish. The bar will be open.



Children in Year 3 preparing for their **First Holy Communion** will meet in the parish hall today, together with their parents, at 9.50 am.

Children's Liturgy is also today at the 11 o'clock Mass. Children from Year 2 and below, come along!



Piety Stall helpers are invited to a 'catch-up' meeting in the hall between the morning Masses on **Sunday 5 June**. If you feel you would like to help with the stall please come to this meeting. You will be very welcome.



Booking forms for the parish trip to the Manchester Opera House on Thursday 21 July for the musical '**South Pacific**' are at the back of church. We will need to have final numbers for this trip in the near future to make sure of our tickets, so if you would like to come please sign up as soon as you can.



Today, the Sunday after Our Lord's Ascension, the Church celebrates World Communications Day. We take up the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world, beginning of course at home. May your Sunday be richly blessed.

Fr Allen

Fr Dearman's Reflections on hymns to the Holy Spirit

3 – VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come! These words express our longing for the Holy Spirit to come into our lives again. We ask him to *take possession of our souls* and to fill the hearts of all the faithful with his divine love.

The second verse of the hymn refers to the Spirit as *Paraclete*, or Comforter, as a *spring* of refreshing water and yet at the same time a *living fire* of love, and as a *sweet unction*, reminding us of the strength-giving anointing of our Confirmation.

There are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and the third verse describes him as *sevenfold in grace*. It also tells of the way the Spirit teaches us to *speak* and to *understand* the mysteries of our faith.

Verse 4 asks for *guidance* with his light, for *love* setting our hearts on fire, and for his unfailing *strength* which in our human weakness we need so badly.

The next verse reminds us that our life is not all plain sailing as we have a *deadly foe*, and so we ask the Spirit to bring us his *peace*, leading us safely through all the devil's perils, and sheltering us in the shadow of his wing.

The last two verses take us into the intimate life of the Trinity. The Spirit can help us to know the Father and the Son, and in gratitude we give glory to the eternal majesty of the one God in three Persons.