



OUR LADY OF GRACE PRESTWICH

‘Stay with us, Lord, on our journey’

Phone/Fax: 0161 773 2324

Parish web page:
www.ourladyofgrace.co.uk

Diocesan web page:
www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

5th SUNDAY ‘OF THE YEAR’ 9 FEBRUARY 2020

HOLY MASS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	First Mass of Sunday is 7pm Saturday. Sunday morning 9.00 & 11.00 am	
MONDAY	9.15 am	St Scholastica
TUESDAY	12 noon	(Our Lady of Lourdes)
WEDNESDAY	12 noon	Funeral Mass for Marie Coleman
THURSDAY	12 noon	
FRIDAY	9.15 am	St Cyril & St Methodius, patrons of Europe
SATURDAY	3.00 pm	Queen of Peace Day 10.00 am-4.00 pm

CONFESSIONS this week

SATURDAY 11.30 am-12.30 pm 1.00-2.30 pm 6.00-6.45 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT this week

Saturday 11.30 am to 2.30 pm

DEANERY CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Guardian Angels, Bury

Collection last Sunday £1242.65.

Thanks to your generosity in the **Starving World box** in January we are able to send £392.34 to the St Francis Leprosy Guild. The contents of the box in February will go to Aid to the Church in Need.

NEWSLETTER

Parish

Children’s Liturgy

The Children’s Liturgy will take place a week earlier this month, during 11.00am Mass **next Sunday**. Children from Nursery to Year 2 (ages 3 -7) are welcome to come and join in with singing, prayers and activities linked to the Sunday readings.

The Piety Stall

People have been asking for the 2020 diocesan almanac. Copies are now available from the stall at the back of

church. The stall is there for your convenience. It has cards for many different occasions and useful little mementoes and gifts inscribed with the name of the parish – such as the writing pen in four colours for only £1.50. The Catholic newspapers are there too.

Budapest 2020

The International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Budapest 13-20 September this year. The number of people from this parish who have so far registered an interest in going has now

risen to fifteen. If you would like to join, or want more information, please see Fr Allen.

Deanery/Diocese

Living the Sunday Eucharist: Meeting Jesus in our Listening

After we have gathered for Sunday Mass, we sit and listen – actually more than that, we open our hearts to the living Word of God proclaimed in the Scriptures! We know the phrase “I’m all

ears!" which we use when about to hear some juicy gossip or important news. How much more should we be "all ears" for what God has to say to us.

In the Catholic Church we have a wonderful, rich selection of Scripture, Sunday by Sunday, Season by Season, which unfolds to us the amazing story of God's love, especially in the person of Jesus when he speaks to us in the Gospel. We might ask: how is this a living Word for us?

Our Lady of Lourdes

Tuesday next, 11 February, marks the first apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1858 to fourteen-year-old Marie Bernade (St. Bernadette) Soubirous. Between 11 February and 16 July 1858, the Blessed Virgin appeared eighteen times, and showed herself to St. Bernadette in the hollow of the rock at Lourdes.

On March 25 she said to the little shepherdess who was only fourteen years of age: "I am the Immaculate Conception." Since then Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and many cures and conversions have taken place. The message of Lourdes is a call to personal conversion, prayer, and charity.

The memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes is also kept as a day of prayer for those who are ill. We shall remember them especially at the daily Mass here at Our Lady of Grace, at 12 noon next Tuesday.

As part of his message for this year's Day of the Sick, Pope Francis asked us to think of the example of Saint Mother Teresa. Pope

Francis said: "Saint Mother Teresa helps us understand that our only criterion of action must be selfless love for every human being, without distinction of language, culture, ethnicity or religion. Her example continues to guide us by opening up horizons of joy and hope for all those in need of understanding and tender love, and especially for those who suffer."

Stonyhurst College

This Jesuit College in the north of our diocese regularly runs days to help us in our Catholic Faith. The next day will be on **Saturday 7 March**, beginning at 10.00 am and finishing at 6.00 pm. The title is **Our English History and Its Saints**. The day will be dedicated to learning about and celebrating our Christian story in England suitable for all ages, presented by author and broadcaster Joanna Bogle. There will be parallel activities for adults and children. For the adults: talks, workshops, and a history walk. For the children: treasure hunts, stories, fact-finding, and creative activities. For bookings and full details, please visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/english-history-saints>

On **Saturday 28 March** 3.30-6.30 pm the topic will be **The English Reformation & the European Renaissance**, an afternoon conference led with Professors Peter Davidson (Oxford) and Gerard Kilroy (U.C.L.), exploring the relationship between Reformation England and Renaissance Europe. For more information, please visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/reformation-renaissance-conference>

The Re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary

We are all invited to play a part in this important event.

King Richard II sought the protection of Our Lady in the face of great political turmoil in the year 1381. Then, in Westminster Abbey, he made the first dedication. England received the title 'Mary's Dowry', meaning that this country was set aside as a gift, a dowry, for Our Lady under her guidance and protection.

*On **Sunday 29 March** the Re-dedication will take place throughout England. As King Richard II once gave England as a gift to Our Lady for her guidance, so we too seek Mary's protection and prayers at this time in our country's story. We give ourselves through this act of dedication.*

We will respond to this invitation in two ways:

By a personal promise, to pray the Angelus: a prayer in which we say "yes" in union with Our Lady through the words of the Annunciation.

And by a community act, when as a parish we will renew the vows of dedication made to Mary by King Richard II, praying together the Act of Entrustment.

More information will be found on the website: - www.behold2020.com

And watch this space for further details.