

## PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK

Ann Berry, Christine Rogers, David Noble, Patrick Hullinson, Florence Ward, Peggy Sugrue, Barbara Murphy, Della McKernan, Dale Broom, Jackie Berry, Bernard Holt, Patricia Greene, Bernadette Greene, Eileen Butt, Carol Doherty, Frank Colgan, Marian Whyte, Stephen King, William Lyons, Beth Anistead-Cargan, Sue Zimny, Tom Cutler, Rosemary Keyes,

## PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD

**Recently Deceased:** Ann O'Brien,

**Anniversaries:** John Flannigan, Connie Farrugia, Bill Ruscoe, Bridget Murphy.

## WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS

"Be constantly committed to prayer or to reading Scripture; by praying, you speak to God, in reading, God speaks to you."  
"Think not that you are thus maintaining the Gospel of Christ when you separate yourselves from the flock of Christ."

St Cyprian

"We have received baptism, entrance to the Church and the honour of being called Christians. Yet what good will this do us, if we are Christians in name only and not in fact."

St Andrew Kim Taegon, Martyr

*Pride makes us artificial and humility makes us real*



Last Week's collection was:  
£1025.55 Thank you

£££

The monthly figure for  
Standing Orders: £1380.00

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER — 14TH SEPTEMBER



## OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH, PRESTWICH

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## TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>Sunday 14th September</b> <b>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>	<b>Holy Masses 9am &amp; 11am</b>
<b>Monday 15th September</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 Noon</b> <b>Our Lady of Sorrows</b>
<b>Tuesday 16th September</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b> <b>Sts Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian</b>
<b>Wednesday 17th September</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Thursday 18th September</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b>
<b>Friday 19th September</b>	<b>Holy Mass 12 noon</b> <b>Saint Januarius</b>
<b>Saturday 20th September</b> <b>St Andrew Kim Taegon, &amp; Companions</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Confessions 11.40am-12.50pm, 4-4.40pm</b> <b>Holy Mass 11am Vigil 5pm</b>

## Social Events

A huge thank you to those who came to the latest quiz and bingo night. A tremendous turnout resulted in a good night being had by all. We raised £810 in total for the Church redecoration fund. Thank you for those who came along and also those who kindly donated. It is all very much appreciated.

### Tea and Turf—Save the Date

The Parish Social Committee are pleased to announce an exciting new event for the Autumn. A group of parishioners—former members of OLOG PTA and old hands at arranging memorable parish events—are organizing a social in aid of the Redecoration Fund. This will take place on **Sunday 12th October** from 3pm onwards. It will comprise a ‘Slattery’s’ Afternoon Tea and an Afternoon at the Races: Our very own Ascott to lift your spirits as the nights draw in. Tickets available now at £12.50 each. Entry is by ticket only.

### Baptism Meetings

For those who wish to have their child / children baptised here at Our Lady of Grace, we are going to slightly change the format of arranging Baptisms. Currently there is a meeting on the first Wednesday of the month where the necessary forms are completed and dates are agreed.

As of October this will change. The meetings will now be held in-between the 9am Mass and the 11am Mass on the **first Sunday of the month**. So, between 10am and 10:30am approximately, in the Parish Hall. The first meeting will be on **Sunday 5th October**.

### Cathedral Family Day

Cathedral Parish Family Day  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10am-1.15pm

An invitation for families: Join us at Salford Cathedral (250 Chapel Street) for a joyful, vibrant celebration of our parish families, beginning with Holy Mass and ending with Adoration, including a fun-filled morning of activities and community time for all ages. There's something for the whole family. Mark your calendars and bring the whole family. **Please book to help with our planning:** – [enquiries@salfordcathedral.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@salfordcathedral.co.uk) or **0161 817 2210**. Parking available at Cathedral Centre (3 Ford Street).

## Exaltation of the Holy Cross

It's a real blessing that today we are celebrating this special Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on a Sunday. The 14th of September only falls on a Sunday every now and again—the last time was in 2014 and the next time will be in 2031—so the chance of us doing the double like this is very unusual:- We must make the most of celebrating the Cross on the Day of Resurrection—of looking at the Cross not from the point of view of suffering but as the means of new life. This feast always makes me think of our unanswered prayers; because even though Moses and the people cry out to be saved, the snakes don't go away, do they? Even though Jesus cries out alone and in silent tears at Gethsemane, that the cup of suffering may pass him by, he still has to go to the Cross. For me, this feast - especially on the rare days it falls on a Sunday—holds a beautiful message about the triumph of unanswered prayers: the Triumph of the Cross. Don't we all wonder—and more often than now and again—if our prayers are ever answered or specifically why this or that intention hasn't been granted? Today's feast reminds us that all our prayers only triumph through the Cross - and that, through it, we are exalted with a greater grace - the Exaltation of the Cross. The Scriptures tell us that Jesus prayed all night before he chose the twelve Apostles: Before he chose the weak men he had to put up with, the men who betrayed and deserted him. Was his prayer not answered? At table with these men, on the night before he died, he prayed earnestly that they would all be one—he prayed for a unity that we're still waiting for. Was his prayer heard? And while these men were sleeping he prayed in Gethsemane that the cup of suffering would pass him by—only to be dragged from that garden to Calvary and to the Cross. Was that prayer not answered either? Today we have our answer - and the response to all our unanswered prayers too - in the triumph of the Cross. Today, on a Sunday, we should be exalted to know that if we look up to the Cross and humbly co-operate with its work, no petition goes unanswered. No prayer is in vain. Yes, the serpents stay and their bite is deadly—yes, the same names can remain on our sick list week after week. We can be humbled by our asking over and over but, in fact, all the time, the standard of the Cross is being raised in every place - and in every human heart God is working his purpose out, is answering the cries of his people. The victory of the Cross may sometimes be slow but on this day of Resurrection we know it is absolutely sure. That's the Triumph of today. Learning to work for peace, to be unselfish, to be humble. Trying to love with a pure heart, to be free from our addictions and fantasies about ourselves, is all the work of the Cross - not a magic release or instant solution but an ongoing privilege through which we must trust and remain faithful like Jesus did: Faithful until that day when we will look back on every unanswered prayer as a blessing and be exalted in our knowing them as the Triumph of the Cross.