

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, Anne Holland, Caroline Hoad, Kevin McCormick, Ellen Sumaya

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased: Annie Davis.

Anniversaries: Kevin Gibson, Mary Hughes, Maureen Gilbert.

THE ANCHOR OF HOPE

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
when the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
will your anchor drift, or firm remain?
It is safely moored; 'twill the storm withstand,
for 'tis well-secured by the Savior's hand.
Though the tempest rage and the wild winds blow,
not an angry wave shall our boat o'erflow.
When our eyes behold through the gath'ring night
the city of gold, our harbour bright,
we shall anchor fast by the heav'nly shore,
with the storms all past forevermore.
**We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Savior's love.**



Last Week's collection was:
£1093.24 Thank you

£££

The monthly figure for
Standing Orders: £1380.00



The Sacred Heart Lamp
will burn for the Holy
Souls.



This week, Our Lady's Lamp
burns for a Special Intention.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 16TH NOVEMBER



OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH, PRESTWICH

PARISH PRIEST Fr. PHILIP CALDWELL
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THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 16th November	Holy Masses 9am & 11am
Monday 17th November	Holy Mass 12 noon & 7pm
Tuesday 18th November	Holy Mass 12 noon
Wednesday 19th November	Holy Mass 12 noon
Thursday 20th November	Holy Mass 12 noon
Friday 21st November Presentation of the Virgin Mary	Holy Mass 12 noon
Saturday 22nd November St Cecilia	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions 11.40am-12.50pm, 4-4.40pm Holy Mass 11am Vigil 5pm

Mark McGeehan

Mark's parish placement with us has come to an end. During this time, Mark was in conversation with the Bishop and the decision has been made that he will no longer pursue priestly ordination in the Salford Diocese. The reasons for this are personal to Mark. We are sorry to see him go and I am very grateful to him for all his help and friendship. We will miss him and I hope you will keep him in your prayers.

Parish Christmas Raffle & Fair

Please do your best to sell as many Christmas Raffle tickets as you can. There are plenty available in the white envelopes near the doors. Return the stubs and monies, in the envelope, to the Presbytery. The Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 29th November and starts at 12 noon. If you have any items for the Fair these will be gratefully received at the house—bottles, tins, bric-à-brac, toys, books etc. Thanks for your support.

Christmas Concert

On Friday 5th December Besses O'Th' Barn Brass Band will perform a short seasonal concert in church from 7pm. Tickets are £5 and are available after the Masses or from the Presbytery. After the concert there will be a Social in the Hall, refreshments will be available and the Grand Draw for the Christmas Raffle will take place—as well as the 200 Club draws for November, December and the £400 Christmas Bonus. Big Money!

Safeguarding Sunday

This Sunday, 16 November, thousands of churches from diverse backgrounds and traditions will be thinking about safeguarding and protecting vulnerable people. Let us all pray for the victims of abuse and renew our commitment to keep everyone safe.

Salford Diocese is currently undertaking a safeguarding audit of parishes. In our own parish we have many volunteers in roles that require a DBS check. This is up to date and we will soon be undertaking DBS checks for new SVP members. We will then have to register with the Diocese other volunteers who do not require a DBS check. Once again, the Safeguarding team are grateful for your cooperation and support.

Prayer Group

The Prayer Group will meet in the Cottage on Monday 17th Nov at 7pm.

We Have An Anchor

Let's continue thinking about Hope: It's the Last Week of the Church's year, in a month of remembrance, when the season changes to real winter: dark and cold. We need hope: Especially in the context of our readings and our world. As we're reminded of everything that menaces us, of what threatens the earth, our life, our families, and society - we must have hope. And this desire to be rooted in what is right and true, to hold on to what is lasting and good, has marked Christianity from the beginning.

Have you ever wondered who Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius Cyprian, Lawrence and Chrysogonus are? We hear their names so often - don't we - listed in the Canon of the Mass? They're the first popes and bishops - listed in the Eucharistic Prayer to recall our unity with past generations: That we stand in expectation with a line of believers, who have waited in blessed hope for the day that is coming: the day of the Lord.

On this Last Sunday, then, let's think of one from the list of those we name: St Clement. He was the fourth Bishop of Rome after Peter, his feast is on the 23rd November and he's remembered particularly for his hope. In the first century, while Clement was Pope, the Emperor Trajan put the Church under great persecution. Feeling threatened by those who followed the Way of forgiveness and love, Trajan banished Clement to hard labour at a quarry in the Crimea, on the shore of the Black Sea. Clement went but remained faithful to the Way there and soon the men who he worked with began to follow this Way too. So his captors took him, tied him to an anchor, and dropped him to the bottom of the sea off the shores of Inkerman. His little band of followers were devastated but they also remembered the words of Scripture: "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary, behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone."

As a result, the early Christians invented the Clementine Cross - it was a way of hiding their beloved symbol from the Romans but also allowed them to visualise the Cross like a grappling iron: an anchor that had been landed on another shore, like their beloved leader, Clement: A secure hope which they were attached to and from which they could pull through any trial or difficulty. Inkerman is in the Ukrainian Crimea and it was from there that the Eastern bishops Ss Cyril and Methodius took Clement's body and brought it back to Rome.

This is the hope to which Jesus would have us anchor ourselves in the midst of all that threatens us, our church, our families and our world. The knowledge that when we are attached to his Cross and Resurrection we are grounded in a different land, on another shore that is not threatened by any passing problem - and where not a hair of our head will perish.