

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: Martin O'Flaharty, Stella Gore, Robert O'Rourke, Wendy Clark, Hannah Doherty.

Anniversaries: Dorothy Callaghan, Thomas Allen, Danian Allen.

MORE NEWS

Book Club

The Book Club will meet on Monday 10th November at 2pm in the Cottage. The theme is poetry about "Mourning". If you can please bring 12 copies of your chosen poem about the pain of grieving. Also please come with ideas for the 2026 Programme. New Members welcome: text 07305727900

Baptism Meetings

These take place on the first Sunday of the month, between the 9am and 11am Masses. If you'd like to have your child baptised you must attend this meeting. We do not arrange Baptisms by telephone.

Please Place your November Remembrance Envelopes in the Basket in the sanctuary or through the Presbytery door. Thank you.



Last Week's collection was:
£1188.22 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 the work of the SVP.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 9TH NOVEMBER 2025



OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH, PRESTWICH

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DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Sunday 9th November

Holy Masses 9am & 11am

Monday 10th November

St Leo the Great

Holy Mass 12 noon & 7pm

Tuesday 11th November

St Martin of Tours

Holy Mass 12 noon

Wednesday 12th November

St Josophat

Holy Mass 12 noon

Thursday 13th November

Holy Mass 12 noon

Friday 14th November

Holy Mass 12 noon

Saturday 15th November

Saturday Memorial of the BVM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Confessions 11.40am-12.50pm, 4-4.40pm
Holy Mass 11am Vigil 5pm

Church Foundations

Our consulting engineer has now finished with ground investigations and completed a full geotechnical report which is to be shared with our insurers. A summary of this report indicates that foundation settlement is the cause of movement to the church—this because of layers of peat beneath the sanctuary, Lady Chapel, and side door. Consolidation of the peat has caused this area to drop and resulted in cracks on the opposite—Sacred-Heart-side of the Church. The conclusion of the report is that while the church is stable at the moment, work will need to be done in the future to give adequate support to the building. At the moment, the building is being carefully monitored and we are in conversation with our insurers.

Service of Remembrance

Paul Williams Funeral Directors has organised a Service of Remembrance to take place here on Monday 10th November at 7pm. Principally, for those who have lost a loved one in the past year, the service is open to all — whenever you experienced your loss and which ever firm conducted the funeral. Anyone is welcome to attend this Service.

Car Park Restriction

Currently, our car park is being used as access for Vinci Construction to pour concrete into the foundations of their site. It is inconvenient but the company is giving financial recompense to the parish which is going to our redecoration. After this week the process will be complete, only the area near the dividing wall will be cordoned and new bays will be marked out.

Parish Christmas Fair

This year, the Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 29th November from 12noon until 4pm. There will be a meeting for those who wish to be involved on Wednesday evening, the 12th Nov at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring any donations for the Fair to the presbytery.

Emergency Lighting

Over the last week or so, Energy Electrical have been fitting emergency lighting to the church. You will see some of their work on the front steps and in the porch. This is for safety reasons and is a legal requirement. They will improve lighting to the carpark and should finish soon!

Turning the Tables in Hope

Our Jubilee Year of Hope is coming to its end shortly, but it's surely a special grace that before it finishes in January, we get to celebrate the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica together on a Sunday. The Lateran Basilica is the mother church in the West, the oldest church in Rome from which the Gospel spread throughout the world. That gives us great hope, doesn't it—that from this place in the city of Rome, churches were in time established throughout the world? Around three hundred years after the Church of the Most Holy Saviour and Ss John the Baptist and John the Evangelist was dedicated in the Eternal City, the Gospel came here and a church with the same name was built at Canterbury. They say hope springs eternal. The growth of the Church throughout the world is testament to that. Yet there's further cause for hope to be on our mind particularly today.

While the church is still spreading rapidly in other parts of the world, it seems to be declining here in the West: It isn't growing in our diocese, amid our families and amongst our friends. So what hope does this Feast offer us? Is there something more for us than looking back over a rich heritage and a prosperous past? I think so – this feast-day and these readings lend us hope for two reasons.

St Augustine of Hippo, known as the Father of the West, imagines Hope as a woman with two beautiful daughters: Anger and Courage. Surely, then we must take the anger of Jesus in the Temple and his courage in challenging the business going on there as an act of hope: a deep conviction that things could be different and new. What is it we would like to upturn, like Jesus did those tables? What would we challenge in the culture of this church – in the things we've made our business and behaviour over the years? Have we any zeal at all for the holiness of God's House – or are we willing to let things slide until this place becomes no different to anywhere else? Have we hope that a place of quiet and spiritual encounter, a place of welcome and mutual respect might be attractive to others?

And that's not our only hope – the Gospel offers something even richer too: the hope that from the mess and disarray that's in this and every place comes order and new life. From the prophetic, hopeful act of Jesus cleansing the Temple, grows the life and ministry of the Twelve: Out of the chaos comes the Catholic and Apostolic Church. We can see the signs already in what Jesus does today. Weren't James and John, sons of thunder and known for their anger? Wasn't Simon full of zeal, Peter an immovable rock? Wasn't Bartholomew suspicious of the good and Thomas doubtful things could change? Individually they don't amount to much but united and together in Christ, their scattered gifts and limitations have the power not only to turn tables but the whole world upside down.