

Parish Newsletter

**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
HAIGH, ASPULL & BLACKROD
WITH THE PARISH OF HOLY FAMILY, NEW SPRINGS
S.R.C.D.T. REG. CHARITY No. 250037**

Feb 1st 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



Parish Priest Rev. Kevin Foulkes
Presbytery 48 Haigh Road
Aspull
Wigan WN2 1YA
Telephone 01942 516732

www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk
www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk

Sacrament of Reconciliation **Saturday** 11.30-12noon Our Lady's Church

MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00 pm	Our Lady's
Sunday	9.30 am	Our Lady's
	11.15 am	Holy Family
Monday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Tuesday	9.15 am	Holy Family
Wednesday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Thursday	9.15 am	Holy Family
Friday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Saturday	11.00 am	Our Lady's
	11.30-12noon	Our Lady's Church



SERVICES LIVE-STREAM & ONLINE

Sunday Masses from Our Lady's via the Parish Facebook page using this link

www.facebook.com/ourladyschurchaspull/ live from 9.30am.

The recording is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group from about 10.30am.

Response to the Psalm:

Blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!**

CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

2nd February – The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – Candlemas Day: Forty days after Christmas. In some Christian traditions this Feast Day marks the end of the Christmas Season.

3rd February - St Blaise: Very little is known about Blaise, except that he was the bishop of Sivas (Armenia) in the fourth century; he is associated with care for those in need and especially with the healing of afflictions of the throat.

5th February – St Agatha: was martyred in Sicily in the persecution under Emperor Decius (240-251). Devotion to her was

strong from the earliest times: a homily written about her says: "*Good' is the force and meaning of her name, Agatha in Greek, for she has been granted us, given as a gift, by God himself, the very fount of goodness.*"

6th February – St Paul Miki and Companions: the Japanese martyrs. Towards the end of the sixteenth century, the Emperor Hideyoshi began a persecution of the Catholic Church in Japan; among those arrested were Paul Miki, a young Jesuit, and twenty-five others, some as young as 13; they were taken to Nagasaki where they were crucified in 1597.

THOUGHTS

From the Society of St Gregory

This weekend, and for the next two Sundays, our Gospel passages will come from the Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew's Gospel Chapter 5.

The Beatitudes which we hear today are a very familiar text which Matthew places near the start of Jesus' public ministry. Each Beatitude describes an action or a life

situation that is rewarded by God.

When those who follow the Lord act in accordance with the subject of the Beatitudes then they will know God's blessing.

Psalm 146 (this weekend's Psalm)

You might say that all the scriptures this weekend are about ordinary people - there are no miracles, no great deeds, not even any

great wickedness! The greatness is in how people who are downtrodden, hungry, blind or cast to the margins of life are to be brought into the fulness of life.

In the Psalm for our Mass this weekend, it is the Lord who does the work, restoring sight, protecting the ones nobody cares for.

In the Gospel Reading it is the poor who are blessed, but also the ones who take up the call to care. This weekend, the Psalm aligns with the Readings so that this mystery may be broken open by Jesus by his preaching on the mountain what we know as the Sermon on the Mount.

PARISH NOTICES

PLEASE EXERCISE PATIENCE THIS SUNDAY MORNING

Due to the roadworks on Haigh Road outside Our Lady's Church for urgent resurfacing. There will be **NO ACCESS** to Our Lady's Car Park this Sunday morning.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Up to 28th January include: Anita Teresa Ecclestone (anniversary), Ann Yarwood (lately dead), Jane Oakes (lately dead), Steve Palmer (lately dead), Mary Schofield (lately dead), Mary Storey (anniversary), John Murphy (anniversary), Jim Cleare (lately dead), Steven Lyon (lately dead) and Agatha Brown (birthday anniversary).

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

For both Parishes.

Presentation of the candidates at the weekend Masses this weekend.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesday 18th March in school 10.15am Our Lady's and 1.15pm Holy Family.

Walking Day for the Churches of Aspull Sunday June 7th

Celebration of First Holy Communion Saturday 13th June 12noon Holy Family Church and Sunday 14th 3.00pm Our Lady's Church.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

To Bernard and Elsie Hartley of Blackrod who celebrated their 66th Wedding anniversary Friday 30th January.

GOOD WISHES

To Bishop John Arnold of Salford celebrating the 20th anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination on February 2nd. Born in Sheffield in 1953, ordained priest in London 1983 he was ordained as an Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Westminster in 2006 and translated to Salford in 2014. Ad multos annos!

SCHOOL MASSES

Tuesday 9.30am in Holy Family Church

Friday 9.30am in Our Lady's Church (weather permitting).

PHIL LIVESEY ON RADIO

Many parishioners enjoyed listening to Phil's interview on WWL Radio (hospital radio), via the internet, about his adventures on his two month motorbike adventure through France, Andorra, Portugal and Spain last summer. An enjoyable hour of story and songs - well spent and listened to from as far away as Madeira!

MISSIO

All are welcome to an evening with Cardinal Giorgio Marengo, a Missionary, he is the apostolic Prefect of Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia, who is the Church's second youngest Cardinal, Wednesday 4th February, 7 to 9pm in St Peter's Church, Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 4EA. Mass followed by a short talk and refreshments. An opportunity to find out about missionary work in Mongolia, home to the youngest Catholic Community and Church in the World.

redbox@missio.org.uk

Tel 020278219755.

More details at mission.org.uk/cardinal-marengo

THE BRICK

Please continue with your generous support of the Brick.

The Brick always needs the following food items: breakfast cereals, pasta, rice, pasta sauces, tea, biscuits and tinned meats.

Every good wish and blessing.

