

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**

Jan. 25th 2026

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
(End of the Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)**



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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:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom and healed every affliction among the people.

Alleluia!

CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

27th January - St Angela Merici: born in Brescia, Italy, around 1470, Angela entered the Third Order of St Francis and gathered girls around her to share the work of charity. She founded the Ursulines (who were devoted to education of poor girls) in Brescia in 1535 and died in 1540.

28th January - St Thomas Aquinas: Famous theologian, born in Aquino, Italy, around 1225; entered the Dominican Order and studied under St Albert the Great in Cologne;

outstanding writer and teacher of Philosophy; he died, aged forty-nine, in 1274. He had a great influence on the Western Latin Church.

31st January - St John Bosco: born near Turin in 1815, John was ordained priest and laboured to improve the education of young people, founding in 1859 a religious congregation, called the Salesians, for this purpose. We remember the Salesian community at Thornleigh College, Bolton.

THOUGHTS

From the Society of St Gregory

In this Sunday's First Reading there is another prophecy from Isaiah which will be fulfilled in the life and ministry of Jesus. We are familiar with this Reading from the First Mass of Christmas but today, rather than leading up to the birth of a child, the focus is on lands and people for whom things are changing from darkness to light, namely Zebulun and Naphtali beyond i.e. north of the Sea of Galilee and neighbouring regions. We

will hear these places named again in today's Gospel in relation to Jesus.

God has previously disdained them but in 'this latter time' it seems they are once again in favour.

Matthew's Gospel shows Jesus preparing for Ministry: he leaves town and settles in Capernaum on the shore of the Sea of Galilee in the region we heard of in the First

Reading today. Matthew says this in order to fulfil the words of the prophet.

The point is not so much the tying up of loose ends but to emphasise that, just as God was

active in the prophets long ago, he is still working in Jesus and it is now that Jesus begins to proclaim the Kingdom of God.

PARISH NOTICES

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Up to 21st January include: Arthur Solloway (sick), Teresa Ryding (anniversary), Bob Dittman (anniversary and birthday anniversary).

FUNERAL SERVICE

For the late Rita Conroy of Wigan Road, Aspull will be Monday 26th at 12 noon in Holy Family Church. Committal at Wigan Crematorium 1.00pm. Our condolences to her daughters Karen and Lorraine and their families. R.I.P.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

And best wishes to the Reverend Andrew Turton (non-stipendiary Anglican Priest of the Wigan Deanery in the Church of England, Diocese of Liverpool) and his fiancée Sue Childs who will marry in St David's Church, Haigh this coming Saturday 31st January 1.30pm. We wish them well.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Presentation of the candidates at Masses in both Parishes the weekend of Jan 31st/Feb 1st.

MANY THANKS

To the Social Sunday team for their lovely refreshments after the 9.30am Mass last Sunday. And also, thanks to those who made the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Family School possible this last Tuesday.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday 27th January is commemorated as Holocaust Memorial Day when in 1945 the Concentration Camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, in Poland, was liberated. Despite all the suffering that we cannot even begin to imagine, a prayer was discovered on a piece of wrapping paper beside the body of a dead child in another Concentration Camp, Ravensbruck, where many thousands of women and children were murdered.

O Lord, remember not only the men and women of goodwill but also those of ill-will. But do not remember all the suffering they

have inflicted on us, remember instead the good things that have come to us thanks to this suffering - our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, our courage, our generosity, and the greatness of heart which have all grown out of this. And when they come to judgement let all the good things that have come out of this be their forgiveness.

Amen

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 continues to need the following food items: breakfast cereals, pasta, rice, pasta sauces, tea, biscuits and tinned meats.

In addition, the Brick do take items of fresh produce, but any donations of fresh produce should be taken directly to the food donation centre at St. George's Church, Water Street, Wigan WN1 1DN and **NOT** be left in church please.

As always, many thanks for your generous donations.

Every good wish and blessing.

