

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

May 3rd 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A



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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/ourladyschurhaspull/ live from 9.30am.

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

Response to the Psalm:

**May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you,
O Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

**I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No
one comes to the Father except through me.
Alleluia.**

CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

4th May – The English Martyrs of the Reformation: on this day in 1535 three Carthusian monks died at Tyburn, the first of many martyrs. Of these, forty-two have been canonised and a further two hundred and forty-two declared Blessed, but the number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in

prison or suffered harsh persecution for their faith over a century and a half cannot be accurately reckoned. They came from every walk of life, among them rich and poor, married and single, men and women. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith and courage.

THOUGHTS

Nicholas Hutchinson - Praying Each Day of the Year.

Jack Trainor from Liverpool was called up to be a soldier during the First World War. He was injured in the head by a piece of shrapnel which damaged part of his brain, causing him to start to have epileptic fits. He was posted to the battle area of Gallipoli in the Middle East where in May 1915 he was seriously wounded by three bullets from a Turkish machine gun. Because of his injuries he was given a full pension and was discharged from the army in 1917.

Six years later Jack travelled to Lourdes to the Shrine of Our Lady in southern France. Three doctors who accompanied the pilgrims

signed a statement that he was epileptic and had lost the use of his legs and was paralysed in one arm.

As is the custom in Lourdes, Jack bathed in the waters that flowed from the spring. Shortly afterwards he felt that he could walk and he began to experience feelings in the arm that had been paralysed.

The same three doctors examined him and confirmed that he could now walk and that he had regained the use of his arm. The doctors also acknowledged that the shrapnel wound in his head, through which his brain could be seen, had completely closed.

Jack returned to Liverpool. Because he was now fit and able he rejoined the family's coal

business. The next time his Invalidity War Pension arrived he wrote to let them know that he would no longer need the pension because he was now cured of the serious disabilities. The Government Department wasn't able to acknowledge miracles and continued to send the Disability Pension until he died aged 64.

In the 1943 film, *The Song of Bernadette*, that describes Mary's appearance to Bernadette at Lourdes and the cures that began to take place there, at the end of the film the following words appear on screen, "For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe in God, no explanation is possible."

PARISH NOTICES

ONLINE/LIVE STREAM MASS

Many apologies, there will be no online/live stream Mass next weekend.

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

Mass 10.00am in Our Lady's.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Up to 29th April include: Les Hurst (anniversary), Bernard Vose and Joan Vose (birthday anniversaries).

FUNERAL SERVICE

For the late Terry Sharrock of Aspull. His Funeral Service will be celebrated in Our Lady's Church Friday 8th May at 12 noon followed by interment in St Elizabeth's Churchyard.

R.I.P.

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

To the family of the late Maureen Morris who for about three years has been a resident in Blackrod House Care Home in Blackrod. Fr Kevin has visited her regularly with Holy Communion in that time. Her Funeral will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, Westhoughton. R.I.P.

SCHOOL MASSES

With staff and pupils in both our churches this week - Tuesday 9.30am in Holy Family Church and Friday 9.30am in Our Lady's Church.

MANY THANKS

For the generous response to last week's Priests' Training Fund Collection in both our parishes, a total of £700 was raised.

HOLY FAMILY BLUE SUNDAY

Join us for afternoon tea raising funds for M.E./CFS awareness and research in Holy Family Parish Centre May 17th 12.30pm to 2.30pm. Tickets £15 per head includes a glass of Bucks Fizz on arrival. To book please see Pat McKay or call 07804 138243.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME MEETING

Wednesday evening 6.00pm.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Annual White Flower Collection for the SPUC Charity next weekend 9th/10th May, the Sixth Sunday of Easter. (Last year's collection raised, including individual donations, £895.)

200 CLUB - APRIL 2026 WINNERS

1st prize	£50	No 63	Marie Johnson
2nd prize	£30	No 75	Gwen Unsworth
3rd prize	£20	No 17	Taylor

Many thanks to all our supporters

A QUESTION

Did you attend a Notre Dame School in the Archdiocese of Liverpool? There will be a reunion on 17th May for all ex-pupils and teachers consisting of Mass at 11.00am followed by a complimentary light lunch and a social, finishing at 3.00pm at the Irenaeus Centre, Waterloo.

A donation for our current charity and a raffle prize would be appreciated. Please try to attend and all are welcome. Reply by 3rd May to Bernie Shaw 0161 483 0173.

ANNIVERSARY

Friday 8th May is the first anniversary of the election of our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. We wish him well. Ad multos annos.

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.

Fr Kevin