

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

March 30th 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year C

Mid-Lent Sunday - 'Laetare Sunday'



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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



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: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Gospel Acclamation Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.
I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him,
'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

THOUGHTS

We are half way through our Lenten journey.

How have we experienced reconciliation so far with God and with others? What other areas in our lives are still in need of God's healing touch and redeeming embrace?

This weekend's Gospel of the prodigal son

illustrates the abundant mercy of God and shows us clearly that we only need to turn towards God for our merciful Father to run out to meet us and to usher us home.

From the Society of St Gregory

Fr Kevin.

PARISH NOTICES

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for the sick in hospital, the hospices and at home. We pray especially for Pope Francis and Charlie McElchare.

LATELY DEAD

Kevin Murphy and Shirley Hodson (in Accrington).

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

As of Wednesday 26th March include: John Dolan (birthday anniversary), Kevin McNamara (anniversary), Kevin Croston (anniversary), Special Intention, for Sheila Foulkes (in care).

ANNIVERSARIES

Joe Kinnane, Frances Ball, Hilda Breckell, John Daniels, Brian Cannon, Maria Perry, Cath Holden, Kevin McNamara, Agnes Mitchell, Bernard Raughter, Kevin Croston and priests of the Diocese Vincent Cavy, Frank Fitzpatrick, Peter Kitchen and Bernard Charnock.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Will be made after the Thursday 9.15am Mass in Holy Family and after the Friday 9.15am Mass in Our Lady's.

LENTEN TALKS

The fourth Lenten Talk will be led by Fr Kevin on "Forgiveness" on 2nd April. The fifth and final will be on "Love" with Rev. Peter. All at 10.30am in St Katharine's Blackrod, followed by light refreshments.

LENTEN BOOKLETS

The Lenten booklets "Walk with Me" and children's calendars are still available in both churches (we are only halfway through Lent!).

MOTHERS' DAY

Greetings to all mothers, grandmothers and mothers-to-be on your special day this weekend.

VOLUNTEERS

Will be needed in Holy Week for the Triduum, Maundy Thursday 17th April 7.00pm in Our Lady's, Good Friday 18th 3.00pm in Our Lady's, the Easter Vigil Mass 6.00pm Saturday 19th. A clipboard is available at the back of church. Please do sign-up and volunteer to be involved in the Liturgy of those important days of the calendar. The list of Readers will appear in the Newsletter on Palm Sunday.

SCHOOL MASSES

Masses with a Lenten theme at the end of the school term. Thursday 3rd April 9.30am in Holy Family School and 11.00am in Our Lady's School.

THE VISIT OF THE RELICS

We are privileged to host the relics of St Andrew the apostle and martyr, St Margaret Queen of Scotland and St Columba the missionary in Our Lady's Church this coming Friday. It will be a chance for veneration and to ask for their intercession. As the late, now Saint, John Paul II said, "Make friends with the saints".

The church will be open from 9.00am. Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am and the church will be open for private visits and prayer until 12 noon.

Do make the most of this opportunity .

WALKING DAY – MANY THANKS

To those who attended and/or donated to the Aspall Churches Together Quiz Night. £400 was raised to cover the costs of the bands and refreshments for Walking Day, which is on 1st June this year.

PLEASE

No Euro coins in the collection!!

MANY THANKS

For the £500 collected in total from both churches to support the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk last weekend.

THANKS

To the gardening group of Our Lady's School who worked to tidy up the raised beds in the garden behind Our Lady's Church.

THANKS

For a generous donation from the Aspall, Haigh and Blackrod Historical Society towards replacement of heaters in the Parish Meeting Room. Much appreciated.

ASSISTED DYING BILL

There are only four weeks before the Third Reading of "The Assisted Dying Bill", scheduled for debate Friday 25th April 2025. (Friday is not a good day as many MPs leave early for the weekend). Please ask your MP to attend and vote against this Bill. The Bill directly opposes **The Sanctity of Life**. (Life is not expendable.) This Bill is not compassionate, but convenient for those who will benefit financially. Through prayer, sacrifice and action, this Bill can be defeated.

Thank you. SPUC & Life, Eileen H.

200 CLUB

The 200 Club has restarted.

The subscription for this year will be £2 per month, so a £20 contribution will result in you being in the draw for the year. I am hopeful the prizes will remain the same as last year.

To join, rejoin or for more information contact: Philip Holt, 10 Cherwell Close, Aspall 07764 584381.

Thanks to Phil Holt for organising this for many years.

WIGAN CHORAL SOCIETY

Presents music for Passiontide, Saturday 5th April 2025, 7.30pm in St Michael's, Duke Street, Wigan, WN1 2BJ. Choir and soloists join in Pergolesi's famous and very poignant Stabat Mater.

THE BRICK

Please continue to support the Brick as we approach the Easter Season,

Every good wish and blessing.

Fr Kevin.