

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**

September 4th 2022

Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year (Year C)



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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



There will be no on-line Sunday Mass this week.

You can access an on-line Mass from St Vincent's, Over Hulton. On-Line Live streaming of Mass can be accessed via their website: <http://stvincentbolton.org/>

Response to the Psalm:

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

CALENDAR & SAINTS OF THE WEEK

8th Sept - We celebrate the birthday of Our Lady. One of only three birthdays kept in the Church's Liturgical Calendar; John the Baptist 24th June, and, of course, Jesus December 25th.

10th Sept - St Ambrose Barlow: our local saint 1585-1641. A convert to the Catholic Faith, born in Barlow Hall, South Manchester

on the banks of the Mersey, now a Golf Clubhouse. He was baptised into the Anglican faith in Didsbury Parish Church, then studied abroad for the English Mission, joining the Benedictine Order. He was arrested several times and after his final arrest near Leigh, at Morley's Farm, now at the side of the East Lancs Road, he was tried and executed in Lancaster. His skull is preserved in our Bishop's house in Wardley Hall.

THOUGHTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

In the Gospel for today Luke refers briefly to the crowds travelling with Jesus reminding us that he is on his way to Jerusalem. He tells them about the cost of discipleship, the Cross: they should include it in their plans as a builder includes materials in plans for construction.

In the First Reading from the Book of Wisdom we are reminded that wisdom is something we lack. It is hard to know what God is thinking or why things unfold the way they do. Still we trust in God's benevolent intentions for us, and the Psalm for today asks God to help us to gain this wisdom of heart.

On one of his travels Paul apparently made

friends with a believer named Philemon. After leaving the area Paul was arrested. About that time Philemon's slave, Onesimus, escaped and located Paul asking him to help obtain his freedom. Onesimus also became a believer. So Paul writes a letter to the slave owner Philemon, a copy of which eventually becomes the shortest Book in the Bible. He hands it through the bars of jail into the safe keeping of a runaway slave. We can only hope that the request was granted.

This unusual letter truly is the shortest Book in the Bible and it makes its only Sunday appearance today.

Fr Kevin

PARISH NOTICES

NEXT WEEKEND

Unfortunately we will not be able to provide an On-line Mass next Sunday but we are hoping to put the Saturday evening Mass live on-line and on Facebook.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for the sick, especially those in hospital with Covid-19, and we also remember Ann Harper, Jean Coyne, Marjorie Westmorland, Dorothy Cottam, John Brewder and Ken Aspinall.

ANNIVERSARIES

Arthur Daniels, Jim Mullaney, Chris Willetts, Joe Marcroft, Doreen Ainscough, Patrick Fox and priests of the Diocese Tony Gallagher and Terence McCann.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

As of Wednesday 31st August:

Andy Brown (lately dead - from the Chair and Governors of Our Lady's Primary School), Joseph Fegan, 62nd Wedding Anniversary for David (and the late Anne) Critchley, Patrick Fox (anniversary), James Greenwood (anniversary), Dan Hutton, Jean Key (lately dead) and Winfred Frost (lately dead).

LATELY DEAD

Jean Key and Winifred Frost.

ROSARY

Jean Ingham will kindly lead the praying of the Rosary this Sunday after the 11.15am Mass at Holy Family for the repose of the soul of the late Gordon Henry whose Funeral was celebrated on Thursday 1st September. R.I.P.

MANY THANKS

To Mrs Wendy Burke for her kind donation to church funds in memory of her late husband George whose Funeral Service Fr Kevin celebrated on Thursday 25th August at Overdale Crematorium. R.I.P.

SILVER WEDDING

Our congratulations and best wishes to Michael and Ann-Marie Dittman who were married in Our Lady's Church 6th September 1997 (The second wedding Fr Kevin celebrated in Our Lady's Church. Since then he has celebrated 155 more!) We wish them and their family well. Ad multos annos.

RELICS OF St BERNADETTE

There will be a Diocesan Mass of Welcome in St John's Cathedral, Salford on Tuesday 20th September at 12.10pm. Each Parish has been allocated two tickets. If you are free and would like to attend and represent our Parish on this occasion, please see Fr. Kevin.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

To all parish volunteers:

If you have an enhanced DBS check, we need your help as a steward during the upcoming visit of the relics of St Bernadette. This is a fantastic opportunity to ensure that everyone who visits, enters feeling welcomed and leaves feeling renewed.

There will be a training session at Salford Cathedral for volunteers on Saturday 17th September at 1.00pm

Please email:

lourdes.pilgrimage@salforddiocese.org.uk by Thursday 8th September to get involved.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2022/23

Sadly, at present, there are very few children in either Parish who attend Mass from the future Y3 in our Primary Schools.

Experience has shown that only those who attend Mass regularly before their First Holy Communion will be those who attend afterwards. So many parents over the years have clearly had no intention of ever bringing their children back to church again once they have made their First Holy Communion.

Starting in the New Year, Fr Kevin will invite the parents of the Year 3 children in both schools to make an individual appointment with him, in person at Mass, not by telephone or email, so that they will meet with him and explain to him why they think their child is ready for First Holy Communion in the summer of 2023.

WIGAN DIGGERS FESTIVAL

Saturday 10th September 2022, Wigan Town Centre, 11.15am to 9.30pm. Free event, live music, poetry, fringe events and much more! Website <https://wiganiggersfestival.org>

Every good wish and blessing.

Fr Kevin