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

Sept 21st 2025

Twenty-Fifth Sunday - Year C



		MASS TIMES		
Parish Priest	Rev. Kevin Foulkes	Saturday	6.00 pm	Our Lady's
Presbytery	48 Haigh Road	Sunday	9.30 am	Our Lady's
	Aspull	-	11.15 am	Holy Family
	Wigan WN2 1YA	Monday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Telephone	01942 516732	Tuesday	9.15 am	Holy Family
-		Wednesday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk		Thursday	9.15 am	Holy Family
www.aspullholyfamily.co.uk		Friday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
-		Saturday	11 00 am	Our Lady's

Saturday 11.00 am Our Lady' Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 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: Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus Christ, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become

rich.

Alleluia!

<u>CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK</u>

23rd Sept – St Pius of Pietrelcina

24th Sept – Our Lady of Walsingham

26th Sept – Saints Cosmas and Damian

27th Sept – St Vincent de Paul: His work also inspired the foundation, in 1833, of the St Vincent de Paul Society by Frederick Ozanam.

THOUGHTS

On today's Gospel from Music and Liturgy

Today the Gospel Reading begins from the second part of the 'Travel Narrative' in the Gospel of St Luke: the obstacles facing those who follow Jesus. It might help to read this puzzling parable in that light.

First the manager is reported to his master for wasting materials, so he is called to account for his stewardship, probably to lose his post. So he does his own deals with his master's debtors so that he will find, maybe, another post with one of them.

The boss is the sort of person who thinks his behaviour is great and commends the manager! Grubby behaviour all round! Or is there another reading of this? Jesus draws out the meaning of the parable with his disciples.

As followers of Christ we should seek the riches of the kingdom of God rather than temporal advantage.

On the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham.

For nearly 500 years England had its own shrine to Our Lady, Walsingham, a village in Northern Norfolk. There, in the year 1061, a Lady of the Manor, Richeldis had visions. Our Lady told her to build a church which would include a room resembling Mary's house in Nazareth to be a perpetual reminder to Christians of the place where the Annunciation took place and the reality of the Incarnation. Eventually a large church and priory were built which helped to house the many pilgrims. Thousands of people walked or rode on pilgrimage to Walsingham each year from all over Christendom which became known as "England's Nazareth". every king and queen, for three hundred years, made at least one pilgrimage, including King Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon who walked the last mile barefoot.

In 1534 the Priory and Church and Pilgrims' Centre were closed and sold off by the king as part of what was known as "The Dissolution of the Monasteries". The king gained a great amount of money from the sale of the monasteries, priories and all their possessions.

In the 1920s people started to visit

Walsingham again to pray there. Since then new churches have been built and the ruins of the priory church are visited. On their pilgrimage many people find peace, inner healing and encouragement in difficult times.

The original statue of Our Lady of Walsingham had been taken to London and burnt on Henry VIII's orders. 450 years later a copy of that statue was on display in Wembley Stadium at the occasion of a Mass celebrated there by Pope John Paul II in 1982.

PARISH NOTICES

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Will be a double issue September 28th/ October 5th.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Up to Wednesday 17th September include: James Wright (anniversary), Donna Whiting (Cahill), Christopher Unsworth (anniversary), Harry Hart (anniversary), Jack Moore (anniversary) and Birthday Greetings Mass.

HOLY COMMUNION

For several decades before Covid, we were one of the many Parishes that distributed Holy Communion in both kinds, (offering the Chalice to consume the Precious Blood) to those who wished. The Church of England immediately resumed the practice as their churches reopened as indeed have so many of our own Catholic Churches too. This was brought home to me recently on my Walsingham Retreat when concelebrating Mass in the Parish Church in the village, communion there, and at the Catholic Shrine, was given in two kinds. It would be wonderful and appropriate to resume the practice in our parishes. Please consider the possibility of offering yourselves for the ministry which would include preparation, commissioning and a commitment to a rota of service such as we have for Readers at Mass at the weekend.

SCHOOL MASSES

Tuesday 23rd 9.30am. Staff and pupils will attend Mass in Holy Family Church.

Friday 26th 9.30am. Staff and pupils will attend Mass in Our Lady's Church.

These are the first of several visits to church this term.

CAFOD APPEAL

The Appeal will be made by Primary school pupils from the Parish 27th and 28th September. Cafod Harvest Fast Day, Friday 3rd October. Collection 4th/5th October. Gift Aid envelopes will be available. If you are unable to contribute on the weekend of October 4th/5th, there will be a basket labelled CAFOD at the back of both churches next weekend!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

To Brenda Hart, a parishioner of Holy Family and Chair of Governors of Holy Family Primary School who celebrated a special birthday on Tuesday last. We wish her well.

FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE

Kat Tatlow has taken on the challenge of walking 100 miles by the end of October to raise funds for the Charity Breast Cancer Now. Kat would appreciate your support. You can donate through JustGiving. It is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Breast Cancer Now, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

You can donate to their JustGiving page by going to https://www.justgiving.com/page/kathleen-tatlow-2?

utm medium=FR&utm source=EM

JustGiving sends your donation straight to Breast Cancer Now and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.

SOCIAL SUNDAY FUTURE DATES

2025 October 12th, November 30th 2026 February 15th, April 12th, June 7th

Every good wish and blessing.

