

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

Nov 23rd 2025

The Solemnity of Christ the King - Year C
(Thirty-fourth week of the Year)



Parish Priest Rev. Kevin Foulkes
Presbytery 48 Haigh Road
Aspull
Wigan WN2 1YA
Telephone 01942 516732

www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk
www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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
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:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Nov 24th – St Andrew Dũng-Lac & Companions: the 117 Vietnamese martyrs. Between 1820 and 1862 these 117 martyrs were killed in a brutal persecution. Andrew was a parish priest; the group includes eight bishops, fifty priests and fifty-nine lay men and women.

Nov 25th – St Catherine of Alexandria: Martyr and defender of the faith. Tradition tells us that she was a noble lady, learned in

science and oratory, who came to Christianity after receiving a vision. When she was 18 years old she offered to debate with the pagan philosophers, who were convinced by her arguments; the Emperor ordered her execution, and she was beheaded. We send our very best wishes to the clergy and people of St Katharine's Blackrod who will be celebrating their patronal feast.

THOUGHTS

For Christ the King from the Sourcebook for Sundays and Seasons 2019.

Today is the Thirty-fourth or last Sunday in Ordinary Time and the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe.

This Solemnity was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. An observance celebrating an aspect of Jesus' identity, rather than of his life. Conventional understandings of kingship and power are utterly transformed.

Rather than calling up images of Jesus Christ dressed in kingly robes, adorned with a

crown, the Gospel proclaims him as King by the sign over his head on the throne of a wooden cross (INRI - Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews). Paradoxically it is the thief alone who recognised in Christ the Lord and Messiah.

When he was crucified Jesus was mocked as "King of the Jews" by those who failed to recognise him as the promised Messiah, the Christ or the Anointed One.

One of the criminals crucified with Jesus recognised his innocence and begged to be remembered when he entered his kingdom.

His prayer was answered when Jesus assured him that he would be with him in

paradise that very day. Such an aspiration is our hope and our joy.

PARISH NOTICES

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Up to Wednesday 19th November include: Margaret Lowe (anniversary), Mary Cunliffe (anniversary), Eric Pilkington (birthday anniversary), Mary Josephine Unsworth & Fr John Unsworth (December anniversaries).

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

To the family of the late Maria Stella Hewitt (nee Atherton) formerly of Balcarres Road, Aspull, and of Our Lady's Parish. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated in Our Lady's Friday 12th December at 10.30am followed by committal at Wigan Crematorium at 12 noon.

R.I.P.

BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome Leandro Eric Jukes child of Laura and Lee (he was Baptised, confirmed and made his First Holy Communion in Our Lady's April 2022), sister of Azzurra who was baptised here December 2023. We wish them well.

ADVENT BEGINS

Next weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, Year A guided by the Gospel taken from Matthew's account of the Good News of Jesus Christ. 'The calling of Matthew the tax collector reminds us that when Christ makes us his disciples, he does not look to our past but to the future. We but respond to his call with a humble and sincere heart.' (from Pope Francis at a General Audience 13th April 2016.)

Some Walk With Me booklets and children's calendars are still available.

MANY THANKS

To the family of the late Margaret and Len Smith of Blackrod for their kind donation to church funds in their memory.

SOCIAL SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 30th November, immediately after 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's.

OUR LADY'S & HOLY FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Unfortunately, the Parish Christmas Dinner has had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

DECEMBER DATES FOR THE DIARIES

Blessing of the Outdoor Crib at Our Lady's with Carols followed by light refreshments and mulled wine, Monday 15th December, 6.00pm

Christmas Mass times as usual

Christmas Eve, Wednesday Dec 24th 6.00pm
Our Lady's

Christmas Day, Thursday Dec 25th 9.30am
Our Lady's and 11.15am Holy Family.

ALMANACS FOR THE SALFORD DIOCESE

Are on sale £5. Walk With Me, the popular Advent booklets are available for a small donation.

DATE FOR DIARIES

Saturday 13th December 7.30pm a performance of Handel's Messiah with trumpets and drums. St Michael's, Duke Street, Wigan WN1 2BJ. £15 payable at the door or www.wiganchoral.org.uk

THE BRICK

Many thanks for your continued and generous support of the Brick.

They are very appreciative of the support from our Parish.

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.

