

# 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**

April 28th 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

**Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed!**



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[www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.aspullourladys.wigan.sch.uk)  
[www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk](http://www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk)

Sacrament of Reconciliation **Saturday** 11.30-12noon Our Lady's Church

## MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday</b>	6.00 pm	Our Lady's
<b>Sunday</b>	9.30 am	Our Lady's
	11.15 am	Holy Family
<b>Monday</b>	9.15 am	Our Lady's
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.15 am	Holy Family
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.15 am	Our Lady's
<b>Thursday</b>	9.15 am	Holy Family
<b>Friday</b>	9.15 am	Our Lady's
<b>Saturday</b>	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/ourladyschurchaspull/](https://www.facebook.com/ourladyschurchaspull/) live from 9.30am. It is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group.

**Response to the Psalm:** You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.**

**Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.**

**Alleluia!**

## CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

**29<sup>th</sup> April – St Catherine of Sienna:** Virgin and Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe. 1347-1380.

**30<sup>th</sup> April – Pope St Pius V 1504-1572:** was born in Piedmont and joined the Dominican Order; was elected Pope in 1565. He was canonised 1712.

**1<sup>st</sup> May – St Joseph the worker:** This feast day was instituted in 1955 by Pope Pius XII on a day when labour was celebrated in many countries. Jesus himself was the son of a carpenter and St Joseph presents a wonderful example that even the most seemingly menial work can be sanctified.

**2<sup>nd</sup> May – St Athanasius:** Fourth Century Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Bishop of Alexandria, exiled several times.

**3<sup>rd</sup> May – St Philip and St James:** Apostles and martyrs.

**4<sup>th</sup> May – The English Martyrs of the Reformation:** on this day in 1535 there died at Tyburn three Carthusian monks, 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

Today's Gospel Reading draws heavily on the imagery found in Chapter 5 of the Prophet Isaiah, (The Song of the Vineyard),

in which the beloved planted and tended the vineyard, prepared everything for the harvest only to find a harvest of sour grapes.

For John, Jesus himself is the vine, the rootstock on which the branches are his followers. Just as the vine branches are encouraged to fruit by being pruned, the disciples had been prepared for their mission by Jesus' teaching.

There is a strong suggestion that at the time this Gospel was written there were individuals

or groups who had fallen away from what was considered to be the true teaching, something which much earlier on in St Paul's Letters had already been revealed.

From the publication - Music and Liturgy

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## PARISH NOTICES

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### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please pray for the sick in hospital, the hospices and at home, Ralph Sherrington.

### **MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**

As of Wednesday 24th April include: Mary Crompton (anniversary), Donor's Intentions, Sheila Jowett (lately dead in Cyprus).

### **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

First Confessions (Reconciliation) have been rearranged and will take place in the schools.

Holy Family School, 1.00pm Monday 29th April.

Our Lady's School, 11.00am Tuesday 30th April.

### **MANY THANKS**

For the tremendous response to the Annual Collection for the Ecclesiastical Education Fund (the Priests' Training Fund). Total £595 (from both parishes).

### **CAFOD EMERGENCY SUDAN APPEAL**

Millions of families in war-torn Sudan have been forced to flee their homes and now face extreme hunger. If you can help, donations can be made at [cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal). Funds will provide food packages and rebuild pipelines so communities have clean water. You can also text CAFODSUDAN to 70450 to donate £10. Thank you.

### **H.C.P.T**

We are looking for a couple of helpers to travel to Lourdes on the Jumbulance leaving on 30th May and returning on 8th June, either male or female. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested, please contact Marie Wallace on 07583249184 for a chat about it and she will put you in touch with Tony Murphy, the group leader, he's a lovely fella. Thank you.

### **ASPULL EVERGREENS**

Arboretum Trip on 8th May. For those who have signed up, meet at Our Lady's at 9.45am. You are welcome to make a donation to the coach driver.

### **SVP OBITUARY – MARIAN JOHNSON**

From Vincentian Concern, the SVP National Magazine.

**Marian Johnson** died after a long illness on 8th December, the feast of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, after whom our parish in Haigh and Blackrod and our Conference is named. Marian was a retired teacher and a faithful SVP member. She was a deeply compassionate person, a dear friend to all and a great example of dedication to others. She supported disadvantaged communities around the world for the SVP and inspired the Conference with her regular spiritual readings. Through all her difficulties, she never complained and remained positive and full of hope.

### **CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE BRICK**

As a result of the cost of living crisis, The Brick continues to experience unprecedented levels of demand and has made a special request for the following food items: Breakfast Cereals, Pasta, Rice and Pasta Sauces.

In addition, the Brick are now taking 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.

Many thanks from The Brick.

Every good wish and blessing.

Fr Kenia