

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**

May 12th 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed!



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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
	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. It is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group.

Response to the Psalm: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

**I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!**

CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

14th May – St Matthias: chosen by the apostles, by lot, to take the place of Judas Iscariot, so that the number of apostles might

remain at twelve. Tradition has it that Matthias went on to preach in Ethiopia.

THOUGHTS

We have many ways of saying goodbye, "so long, see you later, take care."

Goodbyes are softened with the promise of another meeting, "Till we meet again."

The time between the goodbye and reunion is filled with joyful hope and anxious waiting.

Surely, the disciples wondered if they had the tools they needed to survive that time. Jesus had been their leader, visionary, Messiah and friend. Without him life would lose its meaning.

Jesus' goodbye came with two promises: he promised the Holy Spirit would guide his disciples in his absence and he promised that he would come again. That left them in an in-between kind of time.

After the goodbye they waited for his coming again. In fact, that is where we are too, all these years later.

We are in between the visits of Jesus, a time of hope and anxiety. We often wonder if we have the tools we need to survive and thrive.

We need vision and companionship on life's long road. We have at our disposal the first promise of Jesus, the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

That Spirit will guide us through the times of loneliness into good decisions amid the challenges and sorrows of sad goodbyes.

The Spirit ought to be at the centre of our lives.

From Sourcebook for Sundays and Seasons.

PARISH NOTICES

NEXT SUNDAY

We celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and the end of the Easter Season.

MONDAY 13th MAY

No 9.15am Mass in Our Lady's. Fr Kevin is away overnight for the annual reunion of his class from Seminary, the class of '82.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for the sick in hospital, the hospices and at home, Patrick Jennings and Jimmy Fisher.

LATELY DEAD

Margaret Heyes, Brother Gerald Fogarty and Mary Edwardson.

ANNIVERSARIES

Irene Parker, Ron Tudor, Margaret Dickie, Ralph Hammond, Michael Woodworth, Thomas Duffy, Cath Hellewell, Ray Meadows, Melanie Cochrane, Jim Prior and priests of the Diocese Peter Gooden and Frank Occlesdon.

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

To Karen Haslem and family of Blackrod on the death of her mother Mary Edwardson. Her husband, John, died in May 2023. R.I.P. Funeral to be arranged.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

As of Tuesday 7th May include: Ralph Hammond (anniversary), Patrick Jennings (sick), Melanie Cochrane (anniversary), Michael Woodworth (anniversary), Margaret Heyes (lately dead), Thomas Duffy (anniversary) and Brother Gerald Fogarty (lately dead).

OUR LADY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL G.I.F.T. TEAM

Parishioners of Our Lady's Parish are invited to join Our Lady's Primary School for a Pentecost Day coffee afternoon, Friday 17th May 1.30pm. There will be tea, coffee, cakes and a performance by the choir and worship with the G.I.F.T. Team.

If you would like to attend please contact school on 01942 832229 or email enquiries@admin.aspullourlady's.wigan.sch.uk to reserve your place.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CORRECTION

Mass in Holy Family Church will be on Saturday 22nd June at 12 noon not Sunday 23rd as appeared in last week's Newsletter.

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. 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.

CAFOD/SVP - OUR PARISHES & THE GENERAL ELECTION

CAFOD and the SVP are calling on the Catholic electorate to make sure election candidates are aware of the pressing issues highlighted by Pope Francis, such as poverty, climate change, housing, etc. There is a meeting in Our Lady's Meeting Room on Thursday 16th May at 7pm to plan the next steps. Everyone is invited. If you can't get to the meeting, there will be further details over the coming weeks. Thank you.

BLUE SUNDAY

Sunday 19th May in Holy Family Parish Hall 12.30pm to 2.30pm. A charity afternoon tea event to raise funds for ME and CFS research. Tickets available £10 per person from Pat McKay, contact number 07804 138243.

MAYORAL INAUGURATION

Our good wishes to Councillor Derek Snowden who will become the next Mayor of Blackrod, Monday 13th May at 7.00pm. Fr Kevin hopes to attend. The Civic Sunday Service will be at 11.00am Sunday 19th May in St Katharine's, Blackrod.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Monday 20th May Mass in Our Lady's Church will be celebrated at 1.30pm. It is a Mass to celebrate the contribution that the Headteacher, Mr Chris Horridge, has made to Our Lady's Primary School community as he leaves to take up a new appointment. We wish him well. All are welcome to attend. There will be no 9.15am Mass that morning. Our good wishes go also to Mr Anthony Creagan, former Deputy Head of Our Lady's who will become Headteacher shortly.

Every good wish and blessing.

