

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**

March 15th 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A

**Mid-Lent Sunday, Laetare Sunday
The Sunday of Rejoicing and Rose Coloured Vestments**



Parish Priest Rev. Kevin Foulkes
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www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk

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/ourladyschurchurchaspull/ live from 9.30am.

The recording is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group from about 10.30am.

Response to the Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation:

**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever
follows me will have the light of life.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.**

CALENDAR - SAINTS OF THE WEEK

17th March - St Patrick: Born in around 385; as a youth he was taken captive to Ireland as a slave and worked as a herdsman. After making his escape he wished to become a priest and after being made Bishop of Ireland he was untiring in preaching the Gospel and he converted many to the faith. It is believed

he died in 461 and was buried at Downpatrick.

19th March - St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary: patron of the Universal Church and particular patron of Salford Diocese.

THOUGHTS

Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives in order to find renewal in our faith and

keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distraction of daily life

Leo XIV

PARISH NOTICES

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Up to 11th March include: Bill Houghton (anniversary), Terry Andrews (anniversary), Kieran O'Malley (anniversary), A Family Intention, A Birthday Mass.

A reminder that one Mass every Sunday is always offered in the Parish for parishioners

living and departed.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Short celebration of the Stations during Lent Thursday mornings after the 9.15am Mass in Holy Family and Friday mornings after the 9.15am Mass at Our Lady's.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL TALKS

Wednesdays at 10.30am in St Katharine's, Blackrod led by Fr Kevin and the Reverend Angela Wynne, Vicar of St Katharine's.

This week - Wednesday 18th March Rev Angela Wynne will be talking about Thomas Cranmer.

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

1. To the family of the late Sheila Peet of Aspull. Funeral Service in Our Lady's Church, Tuesday 24th March, 11.30am prior to committal at Wigan Crematorium.

2. To the family of the late Breda Bibby of Aspull. Her Funeral Mass in Holy Family Church to be arranged.

R.I.P.

RECONCILIATION

Confessions in Holy Family Church Saturday 21st March 10 to 10.30 am.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Celebration of Reconciliation (First Confessions) for children in Y3, Wednesday 18th March, 10.15am Our Lady's School and 1.15pm Holy Family School.

200 CLUB

The 200 Club will restart in March.

The annual subscription is £20. I am hopeful the prizes will remain the same as last year.

If you would like to continue your membership, or join for the first time, you will be most welcome.

Please enclose your subscription (cash or cheque) in an envelope with the following on the front:

How many numbers you need

Your name, address and mobile number (land line if you do not have a mobile).

I can send a text to all new members informing them of their numbers.

Cheques should be payable to Our Lady's Church.

You can pay myself, put your subscription in the box at the back of church or drop it off at the presbytery.

My contact details are:

Philip Holt, 10 Cherwell Close, Aspull

07764 584381

Many thanks

Phil Holt

Every good wish and blessing.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEKS

Volunteers are needed for the Ceremonies of Maundy Thursday (7.00pm April 2nd), Good Friday (3.00pm April 3rd) and the Easter Vigil (6.00pm April 4th). Please let Fr Kevin know your availability. The final list will be printed on the double Newsletter for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday 31st March. A clipboard is available at the back of church for volunteers. Please sign up.

St PATRICK'S WIGAN

The new archbishop of Liverpool, John Sherrington, will be the Chief Celebrant at a Mass to mark the completion of the first stage of the restoration work on the church, Wednesday 18th March, 7.00pm. Refreshments afterwards in the Primary School.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

If you are going into hospital Fr Kevin will be pleased to celebrate this great Sacrament of the Church with you before you go into hospital. There is 24 hour cover by priests of both the Wigan and Bolton Deaneries for the care of hospital patients. Do not hesitate to get in touch with the priest on duty through the ward staff, especially in case of emergencies (Fr Kevin is no longer on the team for Wigan, where he has served for well over twenty years, since his own stay in hospital in 2024).

Also, it is positively encouraged for members of the family to take Holy Communion from Mass to members of their own sick or housebound relatives, as several do so already in our parishes, and please let Fr Kevin know if a home call, by him, is required. Please do not assume that he will find out the need, especially when nobody lets him know!

MAKING A WILL

Everyone should make a will and update it from time to time. Always remember to state that you want a Requiem/Funeral Mass in a Catholic Church. This is especially important if members of your family no longer practise the faith and when we are bombarded on TV and in the media to opt for 'A direct cremation' or such like with no religious service at all.

THE BRICK

Please continue with your generous support of the Brick.

Fr Kevin