The Catholic Parish of St. John Henry Newman

"Heart Speaks to Heart!"

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The Parish Office is staffed Wednesday - Friday only

Safeguarding Rep: Amanda Craven/Geraldine Sherliker
Parish Centre: (0611) 747 9173 (bookings -bar -via SDC) sjhnpc@sdc-trading.co.uk
SVP : 07495251598

St John Henry Newman, Urmston

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish please scan the above QR code.

5th Sunday of Lent - Passiontide Begins

Dear Parishioners,

The picture in this weeks newsletter is connected (unless he has changed it to Deacon John's homily!) But, I would like to remind you that as the Church moves towards Holy Week, everything begins to be stripped back to the bare bones. Statues are covered and from Palm Sunday holy water and votive candles are removed - the church itself becomes stark and barren and distractions are removed, as all our senses are directed to focus on Jesus, only Jesus.

The Church is literally setting the stage for the greatest story ever told. A story that we are asked not to observe but rather participate in as we enter into the story via the living liturgy of our faith (that is why the Triduum is so important)

In the Gospel, Jesus says to His friends "Let us go ..." As our Lenten journey continues we are invited to join the "us" to be ever closer to the Lord and to walk with Him to Jerusalem and inevitably Calvary as we with Jesus become part of this divine passionate love story, a story told by God's Word and heard by those who are loved by Him.

May Lent continue to bring you many blessings.

Fr. Kieren

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Times may change

Psalter 4

MARCH - Month of St Joseph

Tue	24	
9.30am	EM	Mass
Wed	25	**THE ANNUNCIATION**
		Nine months until Christmas!!
9.30am	SM	Mass with Primary School
Thu	26	
10.00am	EM	Requiem Mass
		Maureen Whalley
6.30pm	PC	Confirmation Catechesis
Fri	27	
7.30am	EM	Mass
9.30am	SM	Mass
3.00pm	EM	Stations
Sat	28	
10.00am	EM	Confession & Adoration
11.00am	EM	Mass
1.00pm	SM	Baptism
5.00pm	SM	Confession
5.30pm	SM	Vigil Mass
		Clocks go forward at 2.00am
Sun	29	**PALM SUNDAY**
		HOLY WEEK BEGINS
9.30am	EM	Mass
11.30am	SM	Mass

EASTER CARDS & GIFTS FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION are available from the Parish Piety stalls ... come and have a look.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2025 - 2026

Catechesis/Celebrations
Parent meetings are marked in **GREEN**

16th April 6.30pm	**Parish Centre**
18th April 9.30am	Parish Centre
19th April 9.45am	Jubilee Room

HOLY COMMUNION MASSES 2026

All First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated at St Monica's Church at 12 Noon.

OLOR	**First HC Mass 25th April**
SM	**First HC Mass 9th May**
EM	**First HC Mass 16th May**

For children in non-Parochial Schools please choose any of the above dates for the celebration of Holy Communion and let Fr. K know.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026 - 2027

After Easter the Parish will begin preparation for next years Sacramental Programme. The Programme is open to all baptised Catholics living within the Parish who will be entering Yr 3 (or above) in September 2026.

Information regrading registration will be published in the Newsletter, if possible please locate your child's Baptism certificate and candle.

If you are not currently attending Mass regularly, please do so, as you children will learn more through your example than through my wonderful words of wisdom!

HOLY WEEK & THE TRIDUUM

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (29th March) and so begins the important time of the year for every Catholic. Of this week the Triduum - the 3 days - is the most important, a singular liturgy incorporating 3 days through which we are drawn into the Paschal mystery.

The first part of this celebration is the Mass of the Lord's Supper where we celebrate the beginning of the sacraments of Eucharist and Holy Orders. The second part is the Passion of Good Friday where we reflect in silence on the reality of divine love. Finally we come to the Easter Vigil where we rejoice in the Resurrection and welcome new members into the Church, celebrating that through our Baptism we have been made coheirs to eternal life.

THE SOLEMN TRIDUUM

2nd April **THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** (EM) 7.00pm
Maundy Thursday With watching until 10.00pm (concluding with Compline)

3rd April
Good Friday
Stations of the Cross (SM) 10.00am

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD
(SM) 3.00pm
"Behold the wood of the Cross,
on which the salvation of the world"

4th April **EASTER VIGIL** (English Martyrs' Church) 7.00pm
Holy Saturday Please take a candle and gather around the Easter Fire.

As Catholics we are encouraged to participate as fully as possible in the Triduum. The Church does not make this liturgy an obligation, but as Catholic we should feel privileged and eager to attend every aspect of this celebration, as through this liturgy, not only do we mark the holiest period of the Church's year but we participate in the story of our salvation and share in the love that God has for us.

Mass Intentions

LATELY DEAD
Requiescat in pace

Esther Regan, Larry Smith, Anthony O'Connor

GENERAL INTENTION

A special intention, in thanksgiving, a successful operation, speedy recovery, for prayers answered, Tony Dixon, Pauline McNassor, Bevan Rigby, Norah & Harry Howard

ANNIVERSARY

Michael and Anne Hanlon, Bill Lee, Kathleen Cremin, Patrick Boylan, Patrick O'Shea, Nigel Boylan

Mass Intentions are published in the newsletter as they are received and not when they are said.

Please clearly mark your Mass intentions
(LD - Lately Dead, A - Anniversary etc ...)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Margaret Barker, Paul Hales, Josie Fitton, Leo Turnbull, Anne Turnbull, John Piercy, Tom Parry, John Gibbons, Emma Coulson, Gerry Smyth, Kystyna Bzdega, Bron Bzdega, Kath & Peter Hughes, Emma Coulson, Kathleen and Peter Hughes, Richard Barry

Names can only be added to the sick list with permission of the **individual**

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK & THE TRIDUUM can all readers of the rota please check in with Lizz and Ann - Marie to confirm their availability during this holy time. Many thanks.

THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER at the beginning of the Triduum we gather to celebrate the origin of the Eucharist and the Priesthood. If you would like to have your feet washed during this Mass please speak to Fr. K .

Caritas Salford - Pray, Fast, Give This Lent, visit Caritas Salford's website for a range of free resources and information for your parish community as you pray, fast and give this Lent: www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lent

New Tax Year, Offertory Envelopes The new Offertory Envelopes are available from both churches, (the left -hand side of St Monica's Church, and the entrance porch at English Martyrs Church). Please look for your name and address. If you are unable to find your envelopes, please contact the Parish office. These new envelopes start from 12th April 2025. Do not start using them before this date, as your current number may have changed. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office, during office hours. Thank You Amanda.

The Thursday Club. The next meeting will be on Thursday 26th March at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre. Come along, have fun and perhaps meet new friends.

EASTER SUNDAY - EASTER EGG HUNT we have a wonderful Easter Egg Tradition on Easter Sunday following the 11.30am Mass at St Monica's (Eggs are available after all Masses at Easter). If you would like to make a donation of small eggs (crème Egg size). Please could you leave that at the back of both churches.

EASTER FLOWERS If you would like to make a donation towards the flowers at Easter please place it in an envelope (marked flowers) and place it in the collection basket or hand to Fr. K.

Youth pilgrimage to Lindisfarne the Diocese are offering young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 another opportunity to go to Lindisfarne from Friday 22 May – Sunday 24 May 2026. The cost is £120 which includes travel by coach and full board accommodation. We will be staying on the island at the SVP Camp. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Young Adults Hub The diocesan Youth Team are delighted to share news of the Young Adults Hub, @vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk and Edward hub.chair@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Thank You from Caritas The demand for their services has continued to increase and all of your prayers, kindness and generosity make a huge difference to the lives of people in our parish communities. Find out how your support has helped, and see some special thank you messages at: www.caritassalford.org/thankyou

RETIRING COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY as is traditional there will be a retiring collection after the Passion to support the Christian community in the Holy Land

ALTAR SERVERS ARE YOU READY? Can you check in with Fr. K for you availability over the Sacred Triduum**.** Please note below the dates for practises:
Holy Thursday: practice Wednesday 01 April 7.30pm English Martyrs Church
Good Friday: practice Friday 03 April 9.00am St Monica's Church
Holy Saturday: practice Saturday 04 April 9.00am English Martyrs Church.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE : 5 day (4 nights) Half Board (£775 sharing/£915 single) with visits to Czestochowa, Auschwitz and Lagiewniki, price includes English speaking guide. Dates 12th October - 16th October. If you are interested (it will depend on numbers - min 20), I now need to finalise numbers to see if the pilgrimage is feasible. If you would like to go please email me your full name.

FOR THOSE NOT IN IMPACT - Lourdes - Diocesan Youth Group Are you a young person looking to take part in a pilgrimage this year? Do you want to make new friends, build community and grow in your faith? Why not join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. It's simple to sign up and you can join a new "group" led by the Diocesan Youth Department. The pilgrimage and travel dates are 29th July to 6th August. The cost is £695 and this includes coach travel and full board hotel accommodation (Astoria Hotel). Young people can join in 3 age groups 13-15 (aspiring volunteers), 16-17 and 18+. If you are interested, email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk for details of how to register.

Called to Love A retreat for singles, dating and engaged young adults who want to think more deeply about relationships and the call to marriage. Runs from Saturday 2nd to Sunday 3rd May, with the option of staying Friday night.
www.christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/

The SVP would like to thank everyone who supported the appeal for hats and gloves for the homeless. The response was tremendous. Could you please keep in your prayers all of the volunteers who through a charity call Two Brews take out 80 hot meals every night into Central Manchester for the homeless.

Stations of the Cross A moving, ecological journey through the Stations of the Cross at the Laudato Si' Centre Woodland. This event takes place on Friday 27 March from 10AM to 11AM. For more information please contact laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

RECEIVING & PREPARING FOR THE FULLNESS OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

EUCHARIST (1st HOLY COMMUNION)

The Eucharist is the source and summit of all Christian life, the Eucharist is not a thing or a holy object, the Eucharist is the gift of God Himself given and shared with us.

All parent's of children who will be entering Yr 3 (in September 2026) will be invited to enrol their child on the Sacramental Programme - letters and newsletter invitations will be sent out before Easter 2026. The programme is open to all baptised children resident in the Parish including those outside the Parochial schools.

All children must be baptised in the Catholic Church and families **WILL** be expected, to do what all Catholic families should already be doing, that is attend Sunday Mass.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Parishioners from Year 8 (upwards) are invited to join this programme. All details will be published in the newsletter and a notice will be sent to our local Diocesan Catholic Secondary School (St. Antony's) and those schools that are in the Diocese of Shrewsbury (BTH, St. Ambrose & Loreto).

TRAFFORD NORTH FOOD BANK Please place any of the above items in the grey bin at the back of church (English Martyrs). To donate directly Co-op Bank a/c 65855834 Sort code: 089299.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

"Parents are obliged to see to it that infants are baptised within the first weeks after birth" (867)

In order for your baby/child to be baptised, if you are not already practising your Catholic faith, then you must begin to **attend Sunday Mass for a minimum of at least 6 weeks** before a baptism date can be discussed.

- If you live outside the Parish, but this Parish is your place of *regular* worship, no permission is needed.
- If you live outside the Parish and don't regularly attend Mass, permission from your Parish Priest is needed.
- After a date for baptism has been set, a meeting with Fr. Kieren or Deacon John must be arranged (by you).
- If your child is aged 7 or over they are treated as an adult and must follow an adapted RCIA programme.

To read the full diocesan policy: https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/

A	M	A	R	T	A	H	R	A	M
S	I	T	E	E	F	A	L	B	A
R	S	E	Y	A	H	A	E	L	B
E	Y	U	A	T	Z	T	N	M	Y
T	R	O	R	A	H	E	O	S	T
S	A	A	P	A	R	T	T	R	E
I	M	A	N	Y	Z	U	S	U	B
S	U	Y	R	A	E	A	D	U	J
R	A	Z	A	L	A	Z	L	O	T
T	N	E	M	T	N	I	O	E	R

LAZARUS
BETHANY
SISTERS
MARTHA
MARY
OINTMENT
FEET
BROTHER
JUDAEA
TOMB
STONE
PRAYER

VOCATIONS - DIOCESE OF SALFORD

If you feel called to the Diocesan Priesthood please contact Fr. Kieren or contact the Diocesan Vocation Director directly Fr. Mark Paver: mark.paver@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

GETTING MARRIED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

In order to get married in the Catholic Church 6 months notice must be given, please contact Fr. Kieren for further information. If you are a Catholic and have attempted marriage outside the Church and would like to consider a convalidation please speak to Fr. Kieren or Deacon John.

"***And that is what marriage is! Hand in hand, always and for the rest of your lives***". Pope Francis

Please keep in your prayers those who will soon begin preparation to celebrate the sacrament in 2026.

OUR CATHOLIC PARISH AND DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

English Martyrs
Wycliffe Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs J Dunn (acting)
(0161) 748 7257

Our Lady of the Rosary
Davyhulme Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs Hannah Groves
(0161)748 4626

St. Monica's
Woodsend Road South, Flixton
Head teacher: Mr. Mark Doherty
(0161) 748 3353

SECONDARY SCHOOL

St. Antony's Catholic High School
Bradfield Road, Urmston
Head teacher: Mr. A. Campbell
(0161) 911 8001

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY CARE If you have a relative or friend who is an inpatient and would like a Catholic Chaplain to visit them for pastoral support please contact the Chaplaincy Office on 0161 276 8792. The Chaplains no longer have access to patient details - a chaplain must be requested by a member of the family to minister to a sick relative.