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Salford Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Registered Charity No 2500374

5th March 2017 THE NEWSLETTER for the First Sunday in Lent (A)

Parish Masses for the First Week of Lent

Date	Time	Intention	Feast
Sa 4 th	5.30pm St P's	Priest's Intention	Vigil of the 1 st Sunday of Lent
Su 5 th	8.30am St P's	For the parish	1 st Sunday of Lent
Su 5 th	10.00am St J's	Priest's Intention	1 st Sunday of Lent
M 6 th	7.55am	Deceased Members – Molloy family	Lent Weekday
T 7 th	8.00am	Deceased Members – Kloszek family	Lent Weekday
W 8 th	8.00am	Priest's Intention	Lent Weekday
Th 9 th	7.55am	Priest's Intention	Lent Weekday
F 10 th	8.00am	Priest's Intention	St John Ogilvie SJ M

L = Lately Dead, A = Anniversary of Death, R = Remembrance M = Martyr, V = Virgin, B = Bishop, Pp = Pope
 P = Personal Intention, S = Sick, B = Birthday D = Doctor, P = Priest, R = Religious

Please pray for the following, the anniversaries of whose deaths occur at this time:

Lawrence Edwards, Henry Holden,
 Margaret Mary Thistlethwaite, Hannah Bretherton,
 Ann Holden, Peter O'Toole

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Collections: Very many thanks for your weekly donations for 25th/26th February

Vigil	8.30am	10.00 am	TOTAL
£94.39	£79.06	£42.70	£216.15

Readings at Mass

	1 st Sunday of Lent	2 nd Sunday of Lent
1 st Reading	Genesis 2:7-9;3:1-7	Genesis 12:1-4
2 nd Reading	Romans 5:12-19	2 Timothy 1:8-10
Gospel	Matthew 6:24-34	Matthew 17:1-9

Lenten Practices – Almsgiving

One of the three recommended practices of Lent is almsgiving. We try to think more during Lent of those in greater material need than ourselves. There are already structures in place in our church by which we do this – the weekly Food Bank and the CAFOD Lenten Fast Day, - but if you have some spare change, you might think of giving a little more during this Lenten season. The Jesuits in Britain are holding a special Lenten Appeal to enable the work of spreading Ignatian Spirituality to parishes in our country. They need funds to do so.

Details of how to donate are on a poster in the church and in St Joseph's Chapel.

You may, of-course, have your own personal charity to which you donate. Whatever you choose to do and however little you can afford to give, in giving, you are helping so many others in ways you will not realise, at least, in this world.

Events in Lent.

Sunday, April 2nd at 3.00pm - **A Mass with Anointing of the Sick** followed by refreshments in St Joseph's Chapel and School. More news and information later.

Wednesday's of Lent at 7.00pm

Stations of the Cross in St Joseph's Chapel.

Saturday, 25th March.

2.00 – 4.00pm **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** with **confessions** available.

Also, '**A Prophet for our Day**'. A series of four talks and discussions during Lent.

First Session Tuesday, March 7th at 7.30pm in St Joseph's School.

St Joseph's School – Fair Trade Fortnight.

St Joseph's School are holding a Fair Trade event after school on 9th March as part of their commitment to Fair Trade Fortnight. Fair Trade Tea and Coffee and cakes will be available after school and all are welcome to join us from 3.30pm onwards.

Today, the first Sunday of Lent, three people in our community who wish to become Catholics will present themselves to our Bishop in Salford Cathedral. They have been preparing for some time and the next few weeks will be ones of special prayer for them and for us, the community, who will welcome them into full communion with the Church on Holy Saturday night. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Jesuit Pastoral Conference

8th – 10th June 2017

In 2017, a meeting is planned in the Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire.

The dates and times are from **5.00pm on Thursday, June 8th** until after **lunch on Saturday, June 10th.**

The theme of the meeting is a study of the three encyclicals issued by Pope Francis since he became Pope. They are:

Evangelii Gaudium - The Joy of the Gospel

Laudato Si – Care of Planet Earth

Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Married Love.

I recommend this opportunity very highly. Pope Francis has taken his responsibilities very seriously indeed and we need as a parish to take on board his wishes for the Church of today.

If you would like to attend, please see Fr Griffiths.

'A Prophet for our Day'

Lenten Talks and Discussions

7th, 14th, 21st & 28th March 2017

in St Joseph's School at 7.30pm

From Fr Griffiths:

Four sessions on the theme of **prophecy**. Immediately after our baptism, our heads were anointed with Chrism, a special oil, and we were anointed into the Kingly, (and Queenly), Priestly and Prophetic roles of Christ. The authority role and priestly role of our calling is often accepted and understood, but perhaps we lack clarity as to how we can be prophets in our day.

The four sessions will help us to consider this role. The need for the prophetic voice is acute at this moment of our history!

Praying with the Pope in March, 2017

That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church. Look at www.ThePopeVideo.org for more information.

Knowing the Faith.

'Classes' on various aspects of Catholic teaching. Venue: The Parish Priest's office. Enter by the stepped entrance at the side of the church.

Time: 7.30pm.

Next Meeting: March 6th 2017

Topic: Baptism & Confirmation

Deanery Mass for Vocations in St Joseph's Church, Blackburn at 7.30pm on Wednesday, March 8th.

I do hope many members of our congregation will be able to attend the mass and pray for this urgent need. Something else to do in Lent?

Fr Griffiths

..... and continuing the prayer theme, don't forget **Stations of the Cross** on the Wednesdays of Lent at 7.00pm in St Joseph's School Chapel.

