

Parish Priest: Rev Mgr John A Daly
Parish Secretary: Mrs Berni McGuinness
Telephone: 01254 232433

Parish Sec: stmoswsect@gmail.com

Web site: www.saintmarysoswaldtwistle.co.uk

Blog: <http://saintmarysoswaldtwistle.blogspot.com>

Office Hours: 10 – 1pm Tues, Wed & Fri

St Mary's RC Church Oswaldtwistle, BB5 3EZ

Monthly Newsletter

February 2018



Lent Starts 14th Feb with Ash Wednesday

Hope in the Future was launched in the diocese on 4th October at Salford Cathedral where we had representatives from the parish present. Since then various initiatives have been put in place across the diocese at each parish goes along at it's own pace. Here in St Mary's we do have quite a few initiatives in place already but it would be wrong to sit on our laurels. As Christians we must always be outward looking to see how God is calling us to serve Him as disciples in society today. Lent is a time when we are given an opportunity to pray and reflect, as Jesus did in the desert, on how we should live out our vocations. So, during Lent we will be reflecting on different aspects of how we can make Christ present in our area. As we say at the end of Mass, "Go and proclaim the Gospel by your lives".

Safeguarding Notice

The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is at the heart of the Church's mission. There is no place in the Church, or indeed society, for abuse, which can affect people for their entire lives. We recognise that with increased reporting and the ongoing national enquiry it has raised awareness of abuse and this may have led to individuals to reflect on their own experiences. The Diocese of Salford encourages all those who have any concerns of abuse past or present by any person connected to the Diocese to report such abuse to either Dawn Lundergan, Safeguarding Co-Ordinator or Cath Taylor Safeguarding Officer via the contact details below;

Phone : 0161 8172206.

E-Mail: dawn.lundergan@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or catherine.taylor@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Faith in Action Our three Primary Schools, Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Oswald's, along with Mount Carmel School are piloting a new scheme for the Salford Diocese called "Faith in Action". This scheme is modelled on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and invites young people to become active in the life of the parish through the guidance of the schools. The intention is that they may become more involved in parish life and deepen their faith through action in the community by helping those in need and experiencing the prayer life of the parish.

Sacramental Programme The meetings for children and parents on the Sacramental Programme are as follows:

Tuesday 6th February, Tuesday 6th March, Tuesday 17th April, Tuesday 8th May. All meetings will take place in church and will start at 6.30pm prompt.

Tuesday 5th June will be a practice for First Communion

Parents are also reminded of the importance of the children coming to Mass each week. A date will be arranged for Reconciliation during Lent and again before First Communion.

First Communions will be held on the weekends of 9th/10th and 16th/17th June

Women's World Day of Prayer

This year the Women's World Day of Prayer falls on **Friday 2nd March** and will be hosted at West End Methodist Church, starting 7.30pm. The theme is 'All God's Creation is Very Good' and the focus country is Surinam.

We need one reader from our parish as well as more people to attend. For more information please speak with Ursula Heyes.

CAFOD Family Fast Day This year the Lenten Family fast Day falls on Friday 23rd February. This is a day when we empathize with those who have little or nothing to eat around the world. With pictures on our screens of people in Sudan, Yemen and Syria we have a call to respond in some way. The aim is to just have a soup lunch, possibly to make it the main meal of the day. And give the money saved to CAFOD. Here in the parish we also try to have a Soup Lunch after the Midday Mass on the First Friday of the month. This is held in the Presbytery and all are invite to attend. People make a donation for CAFOD after the lunch. For any other information about CAFOD please speak with our parish rep Sean Mullen.

Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 27th July – 2nd August 2018

The 86th annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop John Arnold, will take place later this year and it is hoped that priests and people from all over the Salford Diocese will join Bishop John on this pilgrimage. This year will mark the 160th Anniversary of the Apparitions. Would you like to form part of a parish group? Travel details have yet to be finalised but information about the Pilgrimage can be accessed at 0161 8817 2209 or visit the diocesan website at

www.salfordlourdes.co.uk

If any sick pilgrims, lay helpers, nurses, doctors, health care assistants, children from years 8,9 or 10, or anyone who would like to be part of the choir, then please speak to Fr John. More information will appear soon.

Deputy Head Teacher Vacancy – Sacred Heart School

The governors, staff and children at Sacred Heart RC Primary School, Church near Accrington are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed professional to become their new Deputy Headteacher.

They are looking for a practicing Catholic who is an excellent classroom practitioner who can inspire both children and staff. Amongst many things that they can offer you are happy, well behaved children who are eager to learn in an atmosphere where they all feel valued and respected.

Please visit the school website www.sacredheartschoolchurch.co.uk for full details. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed and encouraged.

Syrian Refugee Project we are very proud to be able to say that our Parish is involved in the Community Sponsorship Project, which aims to provide a home and support for a refugee family from Syria. It's a big project but will be hugely rewarding! We are currently at the application process stage and need to raise £9000 for joint sponsorship from Salford Diocese. So far we have raised in excess of £700 and have a number of fund raising events planned, these include; Parish School activities such as non-uniform days, social events, 'A bit of a Do!' at the Parish Centre(Feb 16th) a Table-Top Sale, and we even have our own music cd to sell!!!

We also are going to offer the possibility of a standing order for those who wish to make a small monthly donation for a fixed period. This will be launched at a weekend, yet to be decided, in February. Thank you for all who have expressed support and we will keep you informed of any developments and activities as we move forward.

Further in formation can be sought from Dylan Owen, David Neville, Beverley Flanagan or Eve & Peter Gattei who can also point you in the direction of others who are directly involved.

Please keep this prayer list in view where you can pray for each intention daily.

FEAST DAYS & PRAYER LIST FOR FEBRUARY (THIS MONTH WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR PEACE ON EARTH; CHRISTIAN UNITY; THE SICK AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM; VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND THOSE WHO WORK TO COMBAT IT; THE UNEMPLOYED)

28 Jan 4 th Sunday of the Year - For the work of Caritas and for all who suffer racial abuse
29 Jan Feria – For Religious minorities in Asia
30 Feria – For the persecuted Church in Syria and the Middle East
31 St John Bosco – For all young people and the Salesian Community
1 Feb Feria - For all those living in cold conditions – especially the homeless
2 The Presentation of the Lord – For Bishop John Arnold (Anniv of Episcopal Ordination)
3 S Blaise – For those unable to speak or suffer from throat ailments
4 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – For those Preparing for Baptism
5 St Agatha – For Fr John
6 St Paul Mikki – For all those persecuted for their faith
7 Feria – For all those on the Sacramental Program
8 Feria – For the victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it
9 Feria – For all parishes in the Deanery
10 St Scholastica – For all priests of the Diocese – active and retired
11 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – For all the sick in our parish and those who care for them
12 Feria - For all who live and work in our Residential and Nursing Homes
13 Feria – For all who suffer from Dementia
14 Ash Wednesday – For a Lent that will help us become better Missionary Disciples
15 Lent Weekday - For all those working in medical research
16 Lent Weekday – For all those suffering from drug addiction
17 Lent Weekday – For all those who are suffering family break-up
18 First Sunday of Lent - For Maundy Relief and all who serve the poor
19 Lent Weekday – For those who are lonely
20 Lent Weekday - For people working in the NHS
21 Lent Weekday - For the priests of the Deanery
22 The Chair of St Peter - For Pope Francis
23 St Polycarp (CAFOD Family Fast Day) - For all who have little to eat around the world
24 Feria – For those struggling to make finances meet
25 2 nd Sunday of Lent – For the success of the Syrian Refugee Project
26 Lent Weekday – For the Vulnerable in our Society
27 Lent Weekday – For those suffering from mental health
28 Lent Weekday – For those who have become victims of storm damage
1 st March Feast of St David – For the People of Wales
2 nd March Lent Weekday (Women’s World Day of Prayer) – For the care of creation
3 rd March Lent Weekday - For all our schools

“Stay with us Lord on our journey” Prayer of Bishop John

Ministries for February 2018 can be collected from the sacristy. Please advise us if you are not going to be around for any particular weekends either this month or in March. Please could people let us know of their availability over the Lenten period? **We are always looking for new readers! Please see Fr John.**

The Next Monthly Newsletter will be for March and will be printed the weekend of 3rd/4th March 2018.

If you wish anything to be included, please submit by the evening of Tuesday 27th February

Parish Mass Times

Sat 6.30pm Sunday Vigil Sunday 10am
Reconciliation Sat 5.45 - 6.15pm and
9.15 - 9.45 am on Sunday morning
Weekday Masses as announced each week
on the back of the Mass sheet.

St Mary's Ossy Mills Group will meet on the
First Monday of the month at 11.30am
onwards at Ossy Mills Coffee Shop.
Anyone is more than welcome!
This Month February – Mon 6th
For March – Mon 6th

**Names of Deceased to be added to the
Memorial Area** If you would like the name of
any deceased to be added please speak with
Michael Flanagan.

*If you are new to the parish, please make
yourself known to Fr John so we can take
your details for our records. You are most
welcome to St Mary's and we hope you
settle in. There is so much to do and get
involved in, so if you want to find out more
just speak to Fr John or any parishioner.*

**Coffee/tea after Mass on the first weekend
of the month.** Due to the lack of people
staying behind for coffee and tea after Mass
on Saturday evening we have decided to stop
it. However, we will continue on Sunday
mornings. We need volunteers though to help
with the preparing and serving of
refreshments. Just to note that over £900 has
been raised since the project began a few
years ago. Thanks to all who help and have
helped.

109th Loyola Scouts 100 Club

The Draw results for Jan are as follows:

2nd Jan 1st 74; 2nd 99; 3rd 26
9th Jan: 1st 24; 2nd 44; 3rd 80
16th Jan: 1st 78; 2nd 74; 3rd 36
23rd Jan: 1st 32; 2nd 69; 3rd 26

Thank you for your support.

If you would like to help with the Scouts
please speak with Michael Partington.

The Food Bank would like to thank everyone
for your continued support. Bins are at the
back of Church for any food donations.

Parish Centre News

Opening Times are as follows:

Sun 12noon – 8pm
Fri & Sat 7.30pm – 11.30pm.

Should no one be in the bar after 9.30pm
then the bar may close early

The Bar or upper room can be hired or
opened on any other night for a booked
function or by pre-arrangement.

**Baptism receptions can be catered for and any
other private function.** The Parish Centre is
available for private bookings, Christening and
birthday parties as well as any other event such
as post funeral gatherings. Rooms can be booked
via Anne-Marie Taylor or by calling in at the
Centre. It is open Sunday 12 noon – 8pm and
Wednesday - Friday from 7.30 – 11pm, though if
no one turns up then it will close early or not
open at all! Remember it is run by volunteer staff
who give of their free time for the good of
everyone.

Membership Subscriptions are now due
*St Mary's Parish Centre is a Private Members
Club and therefore all who use it should be
members or signed in by a member. Private
functions can be booked by non-members at
the Committee's discretion.
Subscriptions for Membership are now due
and committee members will be collecting
and issuing membership after Masses from
this weekend. Or you can call in at the Parish
Centre when it is open to take out or renew
membership. **Remember that this Parish
Centre is there for the use of all
parishioners, so please support it with
your membership and use.***

Forthcoming Events:

Friday 16th Feb – 'A Bit of a Do'
We also hope to organise an event for St
Patrick's Night

If you would like to volunteer your services
behind the bar, please speak to Clive Yates,
Paul Millen or Eric Parr. Training can be
given. Good for anyone wanting to know
more about bar work!