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St Mary's RC Church Oswaldtwistle, BB5 3EZ
Monthly Newsletter **March 2018**



Hope in the Future

In this first stage of the vision of "Hope in the Future" we are directed to celebrate what we are as parish. We did something like this a few years ago and we have the possibility of doing something similar this coming month. On **Saturday 17th March at 11am the Deanery Lenten Station Mass** will take place here at St Mary's. This will be a great opportunity to share with other parishes in the Deanery how we have developed certain skills and projects, then maybe they could share with us some projects that they have been working on and developed their skills. We can then continue to celebrate this through the weekend Masses. Originally, we were to have the Mayor of Hyndburn present, but that is not now possible, but it would be good to show others in the parish where we are up to. By displaying our and thanking God for the gifts and blessings He has bestowed on us can help us celebrate our Hope in the Future, and this can be the theme for the weekend. So the Community Project Team, the Schools "Faith in Action" Teams, the Foodbank Project, the Lourdes Group, Eucharistic Ministers visiting the sick and housebound, our choirs and musicians, those who maintain the grounds and buildings, CAFOD/Fairtraid/Mary's Meals groups, Finance and Administration Teams, Catechesis and Sacramental Programme Teams, Ossy Mills Grp, Emmaus, Sacristans and Cleaners, Welcomers and hospitality (including the Parish Centre) and others, all make up our parish and portray the work of Christ in the area and beyond. Let us make this weekend a time to see it all in action. If you would like to display your Group activities then please let us know.

"ADOREMUS" is a **Eucharistic Congress** that is taking place in Liverpool this September. On the 7th/8th Sept there will be workshops, Keynote Speakers, group presentations and various activities. On Sunday 9th September there are two Solemn Masses and an "Outdoor Eucharistic Procession". This will be a large gathering of the Church and we are only allowed 3 reps per parish. On Friday the Presentations are as follows:

Preparing children for the Sacraments of Initiation/The Ministry of the Eucharist in hospitals & prisons/Eucharistic Liturgical Rites outside of Mass

The Eucharist as a sign of the Church's Unity "One Bread, One Body" revisited/"A kingdom of justice, love and peace": The Eucharist and Social Justice/Teaching children to pray.

John Henry Newman and Dominic Barberi: An historical moment in Eucharistic Adoration/Musical resources for Adoration/Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Ministry and Practice

The cost is £40 per day and we need to know by 18th March who wishes to go. If interested then please speak with Fr John asap.

The Community Project

At the "Bit of a Do" evening in Feb we raised £248. Thank you to all those who made this possible. For those who wish to make a small monthly donation for a fixed period by standing order, we hope to arrange this soon. Thank you for all who have expressed support and we will keep you informed. The refugee project continues to move forward as we plan our preparations to welcome a Syrian refugee family. So far we have raised approximately £1700 in a relatively short period, we need to raise a total of £9000 in order to receive match funding from the Salford Dioceses and Caritas, however £4000 will enable us to formally register our application with the Home Office. Our forthcoming fund-raising events include; a "Jumble sale" at the Parish Centre on March 24th, 'A Bigger Bit of a Do' music night plus a charity fundraiser at Franco's Restaurant (Dates to be confirmed). A cd 'Angel 35' by Dylan is also selling like hot cakes so order your copy soon! All the money goes to the charity. For further information or feel you can help in any capacity, please contact Fr John, Dylan, Michael Partington, Beverly Flanagan, Eve & Peter, or any members of the planning group. Watch this exciting space.

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.

Mount Carmel RC High School (*This article appeared in "The Tablet"*)

This is a Catholic school in the Diocese of Salford in which 40 percent of pupils are Muslim. It is an 11 to 16 co-educational secondary school with 800 pupils. In recent years, Mount Carmel has blossomed into a firmly Catholic School where Muslim pupils are fully integrated and encouraged to mature in their faith. "Mount Carmel is very much a family in which faith is central to all we do," said head teacher Xavier Bowers. "All the members of this family are welcomed and valued and because of this the religious diversity is something we really value."

The school has consciously sought to promote social cohesion and be a place in which faith, whether it be Catholic or Muslim, is used in learning.

Ofsted visited the school last November and found that pupils from different backgrounds, cultures and beliefs "work and learn together harmoniously" Inspectors said pupils debated controversial topics sensitively and sensibly. "In a religious education lesson, pupils discussed a recent provocative statement made at a public event. Pupils reacted strongly to the statement about how people who did not have a religious belief were "broken", said the report.

This part of Lancashire has a high number of Sunni, with deep roots in Pakistan. Mr Bowers and the school governors have met local imams and Muslim leaders to promote positive relationships. The school has made allowances such as ensuring that the timing of the school prom avoids Ramadan and allowing male students to grow a beard while they follow the Hadith programme.

Mount Carmel has embraced the Salford Diocese initiative of involving pupils in "Growing in Faith" teams (Gifts), which put the emphasis on faith development. Each year the school multifaith week to recognise and celebrate the different faiths and religious commitments at the school.

The Bishop of Salford, John Arnold, has given the school permission to teach Islam instead of Judaism as the second religion alongside Catholicism in the new GCSE RE course.

Parish income January 2018

Total Parish Income: £5748.97

Parish Current Account

Offertory: 6th/7th Jan £649.95 13th/14th Jan £831.30 20th/21st Jan £708.68 27th/28th Jan £707.49

Standing Orders: £370.00 Ministry Income £482.00 Votive Candles: £159.88

Other Income: Piety Stall £235.00 Donations £235.00

Charities: APF £341.48, Refugee Project £40.00, Marys Meals £10.00, Caritas £392.48

Parish Centre Insurance repayment £565.71, Newspaper sales £20

Parish Outgoings for January 2018

Total Parish Outgoings : £11130.41

Administration: Broadband, Telephone, Product Support, Postages, £78.33

Presbytery Expenses: Food & Drink £111.09,

Church Expenses: Water £242.88 Electricity £230.61, Cathedral Books £10.00, Annual Fire

Extinguishers service £147.60, Clear a Drain £432.00, Council Tax £206.00,

Charity pay outs: Marys Meals £155.50, APF £3246.77, Refugee Project £738.89, Shelter £5.00,

Diocese Levy: Emergency Fund payment £2904.00,

Wages: Secretary (Nov/Dec) £1171.74 Clergy Allowance £1250.00(Dec/Jan), Supply £200.00

Please make sure that you have collected your Offertory Envelopes. If you would like a set then please ask Sean Mullen or Fr John. If you pay income tax and would like to "Gift-aid" your donation then please speak to the same. If you had "Gift-aid" but no longer pay income tax then speak to us asap.

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

FEAST DAYS & PRAYER LIST FOR MARCH (THIS MONTH WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE ON THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME WHOSE NAMES ARE IN ITALICS)

4th Mar 3rd Sunday of Lent - For all those on the Sacramental Programme
5 Lent Weekday - <i>Isaac Baron</i>
6 Lent Weekday – <i>Colin Barrett</i>
7 Sts. Perpetua and Felicity – <i>Alexandra Bruce</i>
8 St John of God - for all the sick of the Parish
9 Lent Weekday - <i>Poppy Bury</i>
10 Lent Weekday - <i>Maciej Cisek</i>
11 4th Sunday of Lent – (Mothering Sunday) For all Mothers
12 Lent Weekday - <i>Heidi Cooper</i>
13 Lent Weekday - Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis
14 Lent Weekday - <i>Malaki Emmett</i>
15 Lent Weekday - <i>Sophie Goodliffe</i>
16 Lent Weekday - <i>Ethan Haworth</i>
17 St. Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland – <i>Hannah Haworth</i>
18 5th Sunday of Lent – <i>Aidan Herdman</i>
19 St. Joseph – Pray for all Church Leaders
20 Lent Weekday - <i>Michael Hitchen</i>
21 Lent Weekday - <i>Zuzanna Jarbeninska</i>
22 Lent Weekday - <i>Vanessa Krol</i>
23 Lent Weekday - For the Victims and Survivors of Abuse
24 Lent Weekday – <i>Marta Kucznska</i>
25 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - For all Statesmen and women
26 Monday of Holy Week – <i>Sandra Kulpinska</i>
27 Tuesday of Holy Week - For Father Bourke RiP – anniversary of death (2008)
28 Wednesday of Holy Week – <i>Lucas Leyland</i>
29 Maundy Thursday – For all Priests
30 Good Friday - – For all who have died in the past year
31 Holy Saturday – For all who are grieving a loved one

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

Ministries for March 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 April. 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 for April and will be printed the weekend of 31st Mar/1st April
If you wish anything to be included, please submit by the evening of Tuesday 27th March.

HOLY WEEK - Masses and Service Times

Palm Sunday – Sat Vigil Mass – 6.30pm Blessing of Palms, Procession and Mass – 10am

Wednesday – Mass of Chrism at Salford Cathedral

Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord’s Supper - 7pm followed by “Watching” until 10pm

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross - 2pm

Service of the Lord’s Passion – 3pm

Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil – 8.30pm

Easter Sunday – Mass of Easter - 10am

See Page 4 for more information on Interdenominational Services in Accrington

Parish Mass Times and Reconciliation

Sat 6:30pm Sunday Vigil Sunday 10am
Reconciliation Sat 5:45 – 6:15pm; and
9.15 -9.40am Sunday Morning.
Weekday Masses as announced each week.

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

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. Dates will be arranged for Reconciliation again before First Communion.

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

Accrington Interdenominational Easter Programme

Palm Sunday – Procession of Witness – 2.15pm

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross – 11.15am

Easter Sunday – Prayers at the Summit – 7.30am

See Poster for location of Assembly Places

St Mary's Ossy Mills Group. The next meeting Will take place on Monday 5th March at 11:30am Onwards at Ossy Mills Coffee Shop. Anyone is more than welcome.

109th Loyola Scouts 100 Club

The draw results are:

31st Jan 1st 56; 2nd 36; 3rd 34;

6th Feb 1st 52; 2nd 91; 3rd 10

13th Feb 1st 81; 2nd 36; 3rd 24

20th Feb 1st 48; 2nd 97; 3rd 45

27th Feb 1st 2; 2nd 64; 3rd 6

Thanks to all who support Loyola Scouts through partaking in the draw. If you would like tickets please speak to Michael Partington.

Parish Centre News

Opening Times are as follows:

Sun 12noon – 8pm

Fri & Sat 7.30pm – 11.30pm.

The Parish Centre will be closed on Good Friday

Should no one be in the bar after 9.30pm then the bar may close early if no one turns up then it will not open at all!

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 by calling in at the Centre. Remember it is run by volunteer staff who give of their free time for the good of everyone.

Membership Subscriptions

St Mary's Parish Centre is a Private Members Club and therefore all who use it must 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 £5 and can be taken out at the Parish Centre Bar. This Parish Centre is there for the use of all parishioners, so please support it by becoming a member.

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!

Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 7th March at the Parish Centre – 7.30pm

Please take home this Newsletter
Please note that Good Friday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence