

THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH WORSHIPPING AT

SACRED HEART CHURCH.

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Key: Ap.

Ab

Вр

Apostle

Abbott

Bishop Doctor

Martyr Priest

Virgin

Religious

Saturday 14th October 6.00pm. Vigil Mass Sunday 15th 9.30am. 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tuesday 17th 9.30am Mass St. Ignatius of Antioch Bp. M

note change of time (training day!)

Wednesday 18th 10.00am Mass St Luke Evangelist

Day of Prayer for Peace

Church will be open from Mass till Evening Prayer
Please find time to drop in for a quiet moment to pray for
the many areas of our world which so urgently need Peace.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day.

7.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction

Thursday 19th 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction

6.30pm Mass St. John de Brebeuf and companions P. Ms

Friday 20th 10.00am Mass

Saturday 21st 11.00am - 11.30am. Confessions during Exposition

Saturday 21st 6.00pm. Vigil Mass (Mission Priest introducing himself)

Sunday 22nd 9.30am. 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacramental Programme 2023 - 2024

The meeting for parents to register their child on the programme will be on Wednesday 29th November at 7.00pm in church.

The children will start their journey through the programme at the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 3rd December. It is important for parents to be at the Wednesday meeting and for the children to be at the Sunday Mass.

Please see the Sacramental Programme page on this website, or click here .

All Souls Cemetery Our cemetery Mass went well last Saturday and from talking to people afterwards it was obviously very much appreciated. Thank you to Fr. Gerard and Deacon Damian for leading it and to all of you who came.

The cemetery Mass also marks the end of the season, more or less, for those who give so much time, effort, energy and care to the cemetery during the year. Our cemetery is a place to be proud of. It is a spot where many people go just to be quiet, reflect, pray and sit. That would not be the case if it was untidy and uncared for. We owe a great debt of gratitude to the volunteers who give so much time to caring for the paths, the graves and especially the mowing and strimming of the grass. Many of these people have been giving of their time so generously for many years. We are very grateful to them and thank them sincerely.

This is also an opportunity to invite others who might fancy a bit of fresh air, companionship and exercise to volunteer to meet with them and share the jobs. Please get in touch with the parish office if you are interested.

Finally, a reminder that there will be the Blessing of Graves on All Souls Day, Thursday 2nd November at 12 noon, whatever the weather!

Once again this week we have the buckets at the back of the church to give you the opportunity to donate to

Cafod's Harvest Fast Day or to **PACT**, the charity that supports prisoners and prisoners' families or indeed you may wish to donate to both.

We appreciate that there are many calls on your charity and that money can be very scarce. Please see these collection buckets as an opportunity to choose which charities you wish to support and to give if you decide to give. They are not there as moral blackmail to pressure you into giving.

You can donate to Cafod by going online to https://cafod.org.uk or to PACT by going to www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Welcomers. There will be a meeting for all WELCOMERS after the weekend masses on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th of October. If you are not able to attend please contact David Colvin-Burbridge.

Remembrance Book in Church.

If anyone has an entry they would like to be included in the Parish Book of Remembrance, please bring a note of the name and date of death to church or email enquiries@goodshepherd.org.uk

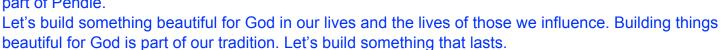
SVP. There will be a meeting of the SVP in the St. Peter and Paul meeting room on

PARISH MISSION 2023.

We all need a bit of a shot in the arm every now and then and a Parish Mission is an opportunity to reflect, restore, regroup and launch into the future.

I have asked the Redemptorist Fathers to lead a Mission for the parish at the beginning of Advent. Advent is always a good time to make a new start. Two priests will be with us from Saturday 2nd December for a week of Masses and Mission Services. To introduce the Mission, one of the Missioners, Fr. Peter Morris CSsR will be with us on the weekend of 21st-22nd October and will be celebrating the Masses and speaking about the Mission.

Please pray that we might be open to the Will of God for us here in this part of Pendle.



Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. There will be envelopes and a bucket at the back of church ext weekend. You can set up a Direct Debit



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Pastoral Letter of the Right Reverend John Arnold Bishop of Salford

To be read and distributed in all Parishes on the weekend of 14th/15th October 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

What is God asking of us, as the community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Salford? How should we be living the Gospel values in our present times? These are important questions that we need to address.

It is all too easy to think that the Church provides us with familiar routines and objectives. That sense of reliable consistency can be very appealing, when so many other things are changing. Some may see their religious faith as something which is private to themselves, giving them a direction and a self-discipline. But Pope Francis is insistent in declaring that we are "missionary disciples". Our Faith is not something that we can celebrate in private. We need to be living our Faith in all our actions and decisions, as nothing less than "ambassadors for Christ", as St Paul calls us. Nor do we live our Faith on our own – it is best lived and expressed in community, whether in school, family or parish. It is by working together that we can achieve more.

As we live in a fast-changing world, we must be prepared to question our priorities and our aspirations. There are global issues that are so distressing: the war in Ukraine, conflicts in other parts of the world, the plight of refugees and migrants, religious persecution, poverty, and the increasing impact of climate change. While we must look to the Universal Synod to prioritise global actions as the Catholic Church, we must recognise that we have a particular responsibility for our local Church, here in the Northwest of England and its own particular needs and opportunities.

Pope Francis' announcement of a Universal Synod took many by surprise. We had probably known of Synod meetings in the past, usually comprised of bishops, but the practice of "synodality" and the way a synod is carried out, was unfamiliar to many. As we now engage with our local Diocesan Synod, we are better equipped to play our part in prayer, listening and discernment. Everyone – priests, religious, laity - is invited to participate. From this weekend, we are beginning what is called "The Big Listen", in our synod process. This will continue until mid-January 2024. This is a time when we are asked to respond to some specific questions and see what thoughts occur. We are not being asked to form firm opinions or to discuss or argue a point of view. This is not a debate, to be won or lost.

Whether you feel moved to submit answers to the synod questions or not, there is an invitation to pray for the Synod, using the Synod Prayer or simply in your own words. A determination to pray for the Synod will ensure that we are moving in the right direction and hearing the guidance of the Holy

Spirit. We have a grace-filled opportunity to shape the priorities of our Diocese for the coming years. There will no doubt be challenges ahead but together we can listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and be guided by the Spirit's grace.

It is also important in this process that we engage other Catholics who are not closely associated with their parishes or who might feel distanced from their faith. What would they like the Church to be for them? How might it have failed them in some way? It will be important that young people feel welcome to participate. During this listening time, all the commissioned Synod Members are encouraged to facilitate one or more local listening sessions in their parishes, schools, or organisations. It is my hope that many people will feel able to contribute thoughts and ideas. Contributions can also be made independently on-line, through the website.

One matter that I think will be included in our synodal discernment is the matter of caring for the environment and our common home. In his recent exhortation, Laudate Deum, Pope Francis has rehearsed the challenges that we face and the global failure to meet those challenges through the various COP meetings. He is insistent that we all have our part to play in repairing the damage of climate change, but he also speaks strongly of the need of a global response to this global problem. He asks for a new form of "multilateral" action by governments working together. He believes that the growing awareness and actions from people can encourage and demand such a new form of global action.

Therefore, I am asking that all our parishes and schools make a priority of having environmental groups who can promote the good use of facilities and grounds, dispensing information about how we might adjust our lives in what Pope Francis calls an "ecological conversion". By growing in our awareness of climate change, by our learning and helping to educate others, we will be speaking loudly and clearly to our politicians about the priorities that need to be expressed in radical policies and how industrial practices need to change.

We certainly live in challenging times. Jesus said, "I am with you always...." He said that he would send the Holy Spirit to "remind you of all I have said to you and to lead you in all truth". Through our Diocesan Synod, let us be determined to be listening to all that the Spirit is saying to us and responding so that we are truly caring for our brothers and sisters and our common home, as well as determining priorities for the future work of our Diocese.

I happily remind you of the importance and relevance of our Diocesan Prayer "Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey".

May God bless you for all you achieve through your Faith and actions. Yours devotedly,

Bishop of Salford

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