

## THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

WORSHIPPING AT

### SACRED HEART CHURCH.

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Saturday 21st	6.00pm Vigil Mass	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
Sunday 22nd	9.30am Mass	
	4.00pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer, Benediction.	
Monday 23rd	10.00am Mass	St. Polycarp. B M
Tuesday 24th	10.00am Mass	
Thursday 26th	5.45pm Exposition	6.15pm Benediction 6.30pm Mass
Friday 27th	10.00am Mass	St Gregory of Narek Ab D
Saturday 28th	11.00am - 11.30am	Confessions during Exposition
Saturday 28th	6.00pm Vigil Mass	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>
Sunday 22nd	9.30am Mass	
	4.00pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer, Benediction.	

Key:	Ap.	Apostle
	Ab	Abbott
	Bp	Bishop
	D	Doctor
	M	Martyr
	P	Priest
	R	Religious
	V	Virgin

### Parish Community Support Group

We are helping the homeless. If anyone has either one or two person tents, tent pegs or any sleeping bags, please consider donating them

**We now have a bright pink box at the back of church for these appeals. Thank you.**

### CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 27th February

As we begin Lent, the great season of repentance and renewal, please join in fasting next Friday and give the money you save to the Family Fast Day. By donating you are being the good neighbour Jesus calls us to be - loving others as we love ourselves. Envelopes are available this weekend and the bucket will be in church for a couple of weeks. Thank you.

### Lenten Station Mass for St. John Vianney Deanery.

(The deanery of St. John Vianney includes the parishes and churches of Accrington, Burnley, Clayton-le Moors, Colne, Great Harwood, Haslingden, Nelson, Oswaldtwistle, Padiham, Rawtenstall, Rishton, Todmorden, Whitworth and Bacup.)

This year's Lenten Station Mass will be at 7pm at St. John's Padiham on Thursday the 5th March and Bishop John will preside and concelebrate with priests from the deanery. All invited to come together as a deanery.

### Financial Report for 2025

Last year our outgoings were **£72,270.42** and our total income was **£68,988.93** - a loss of **£3,281.49**. That is better than the previous year. Thank you for your generosity, but we need to keep on top.

In addition, you gave, and we passed on for you, £2,671.37 for Cafod, £1,826.91 for the Parish Community Support Group, £632.81 for the Foreign Missions, £247.39 for Caritas, £193.33 for Apostleship of the Sea and £68.10 for Prisoners' Aid Trust. In addition there was a carry over from 2024 of £3,210.46 which was also paid to the Parish Community Support Group. Many thanks for your generosity for these collections. The bad news is that we have discovered a hole in the church roof and this has brought our attention to other weak areas of the roof. We can expect a big bill for scaffolding and repairs. I'll keep you informed. Fr. Peter.

## The Stations of the Cross

### At each Station

V/. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

R/. Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

*At each Station, pause for a moment to enter into the event that the Station recalls of Jesus' journey for you and each of us.*

1. Jesus is condemned to death.
2. Jesus receives his Cross.
3. Jesus falls the first time.
4. Jesus meets his Blessed Mother.
5. Simon helps Jesus carry the Cross.
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time.
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.
9. Jesus falls the third time.
10. Jesus is stripped of his clothes.
11. Jesus is nailed to the Cross.
12. Jesus dies on the Cross.
13. Jesus is taken down from the Cross.
14. Jesus is placed in the tomb.

### Prayer at each Station

I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.

## Castlerigg Manor

Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic retreat Centre in the Lake District run by the Diocese of Lancaster Youth Service. Here are two offers:-

**Catholic Family Retreat // March 27-29th // £160-230 per family-** For the first time since Covid, Castlerigg Manor are bringing back their popular family retreats. There will be streams for different ages and fun activities for everybody including Mass in the evening and time to explore Keswick. For more info >> [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com) >> events

**May Half Term B&B Stays at Castlerigg Manor** - In May half-term, Castlerigg Manor (Catholic retreat centre in Keswick, Cumbria) will once again be opening their doors for B&B stays. A great way for families, groups of friends, and individuals to get an affordable stay in Keswick. Mass will be provided on site. For more info >> [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com) >> stay with us.

The local Provincial Catenian Association are having a weekend full of fun and activities in a sumptuous Hotel in Briggs near Lincoln during w/e 27 -29 March 2026. The weekend includes 2 nights, bed and breakfast with evening meals, spa, golf and entertainment etc at a price of £400 for double bed and £300 for single. If you are interested, see full details on the notice board at the back of church or speak with Pius. Highly recommended.

St Marys RC Church, Oswaldtwistle

## Parish Lenten Retreat 2026

We are delighted to announce that  
**Angela McMorrow,**  
Facilitator of the Irish National Women's  
Conference "Abide in His Love,"  
will lead our Parish  
Lenten Retreat 2026.

Join us for three evenings of  
Reflection, Prayer & Renewal

**Monday 23rd February**

- 5.00pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 6.00pm - Mass
- 7.00-7.45pm - Talk: Faith - Angela's Faith Journey
- 8.00-8.15pm - Refreshments
- 8.15pm - Adoration & Prayer with Individuals

**Tuesday 24th February**

- 5.00pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 6.00pm - Mass
- 7.00-7.45pm - Talk: Our Lady & the Holy Spirit
- 8.00-8.15pm - Refreshments
- 8.15pm - Adoration & The Rosary

**Wednesday 25th February**

- 5.00pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 6.00pm - Mass
- 7.00-7.45pm - Talk: Our Lady & the Holy Eucharist
- 8.00-8.15pm - Refreshments
- 8.15pm - Adoration & Healing Service

All Are Welcome

St Marys RC Church, Oswaldtwistle  
[www.stmarysoswaldtwistle.co.uk](http://www.stmarysoswaldtwistle.co.uk)

# DIOCESE OF SALFORD

## *Pastoral Letter of the Right Reverend John Arnold Bishop of Salford*

Dear Sisters and Brothers, dear friends in Christ,

With the celebration of Ash Wednesday, we have begun our observance of the Season of Lent and this year we do so as we mark the first anniversary of our diocesan synodal voting day and as we commemorate the eighth centenary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, one of the most celebrated saints of our Church. I believe we can merge these themes together, including the impact of the recent visit of the relic of St Carlo Acutis, as a fitting focus for our Season of Lent.

Lent invites us to a time of reflection, when we are asked to consider the life of Christ and his journey and the response in our own lives to his teaching and ministry.

The definitive voting of the Diocesan Synod took place just one year ago next weekend. That time of prayerful discernment presented us with priorities for action in the life and work of our Diocese. We are acting on the decisions and the priorities that were established that day and we will have a Pastoral Plan to share with you later this year. By adopting this synodal way, we are committed to continuing that sense of openness and discernment and it continues to be a reminder to us that our life as Christians is not a matter of just keeping some rules and maintaining some religious routine, but an on-going journey of discovering how we can be like Christ, bringing love and hope and encouragement into our world and into the lives of the people that God places in our lives each day, be they family members, friends, work colleagues or even strangers. St Paul calls us “ambassadors for Christ” which is both a privilege and an enormous challenge. To be ambassadors, we are called to continue the work of Christ, imitating his actions and ministry in all we do. By the synodal way, we are invited to continue that prayerful listening so that we are constantly considering, and reviewing, how best we may live the Gospel values in our Diocese today.

What encouragement might we find in the life of St Francis, as we celebrate this anniversary? Here was a man who lived his convictions, radically. As a young man, he enjoyed wealth and willingly armed himself for conflict against the neighbouring city of Perugia. But when he saw conflict as incompatible with his faith, he worked for peace and for the relief of poverty, witnessed in his own personal poverty and in his providing for the poor. He understood the need for a time of silence in his life, for prayer in the presence of God. Pope Leo urges us to see that conflict does not provide any lasting solutions and that we can all be peacemakers. He also speaks often of the need to find some silence for prayer in our busy and noisy lives. Once St Francis had come to believe something, he dedicated himself to pursuing it, best seen perhaps in his understanding of the union of our lives and activities with the environment and the need to care for creation and our common home.

It is that same sense of conviction and dedication which we see in the short life of St Carlo Acutis. What a privilege it was to receive the relic in this Diocese, for five days. Thousands of people came to pray, and to hear of St Carlo’s dedication to attending daily Mass, his desire for frequent confession, the praying of the rosary and spending time before the Blessed Sacrament. He found real joy and peace in celebrating his faith in prayer and sacrament, which in turn prompted his generosity to those around him and his simplicity of life. All this was done in the context of our times and the positive and creative use of the internet.

As the family of the Church in the Diocese of Salford, we are people who are so diverse in terms of our experience and gifts. That diversity is our strength so that, working together, with all those gifts and talents and skills, we make present the body of Christ. In these days of the Season of Lent, let us all be courageous in asking ourselves, how might we imitate the energy and enthusiasm and conviction of St Carlo Acutis and St Francis of Assisi and make Christ present through the daily actions of our lives.

And, in these days, let us offer our prayers for Archbishop Richard Moth, as he begins his ministry

as Archbishop of Westminster and his shepherding of the Church in England and Wales, guiding us all in our role as “ambassadors for Christ”. And, as the family of the Diocese of Salford, we continue to pray “Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey”.

With my best wishes, prayer and blessing,

+John Arnold

Bishop of Salford

to be distributed on the weekend of 21/22 February 2025