

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
NORDEN



DIocese OF
SALFORD

SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

5th May 2024

The Sixth Sunday of Easter (B)



*“I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in
you and your joy be complete.”*

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WELCOME TO SAINT VINCENT'S

If you are a visitor to Saint Vincent's this weekend, please feel welcome! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Here is some information to help you feel at home:

HARD OF HEARING? There is an Induction Loop System installed in this Church: if you wear a hearing aid, please turn it to the 'T' setting.

Refreshments after Mass: Everyone is very welcome to stay behind after Sunday morning Masses and share a cuppa! Tea and Coffee are served in the Parish Centre on the opposite side of the carpark after 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. Sunday Masses.

Toilets: The toilet is located near the side entrance: **children should not go out of Church unaccompanied.** Please use the disinfectant wipes to clean all surfaces after every use—dispose of them in the bin but do not flush them down the toilet. Thank you.

Saint Vincent's Parish Centre: The Parish Centre is available for parish use and outside bookings. Please contact Robert Allen on **0758 320 7810** for all enquiries.

IN OUR PRAYERS ...

Requests for Masses & Prayers:

Recently Deceased: Edna McIndoe; Pat Harrison; Tom Lynch; James Campbell; Austin O'Malley; Adrian Fitzpatrick.

Anniversary: Helena Guzik; David Fairhurst; John Berry; Jim, Padraic & Noreen Carney; Members of the Murray, Holland & Mullen Families; John Rogerson; Anastasia Tarnowski; Graham Dugdale.

Infirm: Joe Thompson; Joe Thorpe; Roy Cooper; Eileen Lunn; Mrs Sheeja.

National Cycle of Prayer: During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions: New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.

Holy Father's Intention (May)

For the formation of religious and seminarians: We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

We pray this week for the people of the parish of Our Lady and Saint Joseph, Heywood, with Father Augustine Frankin and Father John Okeme, of the Missionaries of Saint Paul. We pray for their parish primary schools and Holy Family RC/CE College.

AT SAINT VINCENT'S THIS WEEK ...

THE SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER

Monday 6th May

Easter Weekday

Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26—16:4

9.30 a.m. Word & Communion

Tuesday 7th May

Easter Weekday

Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11

9.30 a.m. MASS

1.00 p.m. "Getting Together"

7.00 p.m. Celebration of Confirmation

Wednesday 8th May

Easter Weekday

Acts 17:15.22-18:3; John 16:12-15

9.30 a.m. MASS for Peace

Coffee Morning after Mass

Thursday 9th May

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
[Solemnity—Holy Day of Obligation]

Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Mark 16:15-20

9.30 a.m. MASS

11.00 a.m. School MASS

12.45 p.m. Funeral MASS of Edna McIndoe

6.30 p.m. MASS

Friday 10th May

Saint John of Avila, Priest and
Doctor of the Church [Memorial]

Acts 18:9-18; John 18:20-23

9.30 a.m. MASS

Day of Abstinence

Saturday 11th May

Easter Weekday

Acts 18:23-28; John 16:23-28

12.00 noon First Holy Communion MASS 2

6.00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

6.30 p.m. First MASS of Sunday

Sunday 5th May

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF
EASTER (B)

Acts 1:15-17.20-26; 1 John 4:11-16; John 17:11-19

9.00 a.m. MASS *Refreshments after Mass in the Parish Centre*

11.00 a.m. MASS *Refreshments after Mass in the Parish Centre*

THE WORD THIS WEEK

There are two obvious themes to today's readings: Saint Peter summarises many of the ideas of Easter - baptism, the name of Jesus, the pouring out of the Holy Spirit; the other readings talk simply of love, both God's love for us and our love for each other. Our Gospel is taken from the great discourse at the Last Supper, and has at its centre the New Commandment that Jesus gives his disciples - the commandment of love. This love has its origins in the love of the Father, manifested in the love shown by the Son (willing to die for his friends); we, like the disciples, are called to imitate the love we see in Jesus's life and death - not because we are servants, but because we are friends.

NEWS AND NOTES

First Holy Communions

Please pray for Matthew ALLEN, Oliver ATHERTON, Albert ATKINS, Oscar COOPER, Dexter DEMPSEY, Gracie DUNN, Remigiusz GARSTECKI, Jessica GOLDING, James HENSTOCK, Mia Louise LUCAS, Isabella SANTI, Alfie STONE, Tommy WARD, Skye WICKSTEAD and Leo WILKINSON, who received Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday: pray also for their parents and families, that they may continue to "let the children come" to Jesus in Holy Communion week after week! Next Saturday our final group of children will make their First Communion—please pray for them too!

Holy Day of Obligation

This coming Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension, a holy day of obligation. Masses here at Saint Vincent's are at 9.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. on Thursday (no Vigil Mass). There will also be a Mass for KS2 children at school at 11.00 a.m. on Thursday.

Getting Together

The next meeting is this coming Tuesday 7th May, from 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre, with the usual hospitality, refreshments and raffle. This week we have a special guest Chris Verey, who will be talking about a brief history of Norden, with pictures of a walk along Edenfield Road. Everyone very welcome!

Confirmations 2024

Bishop John Arnold will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation for our young people this year in a joint ceremony with Saint Joseph's, Heywood. This year our confirmations will take place here at Saint Vincent's on **Tuesday 7th May** at 7.00 p.m. Please keep our young people and their families in your prayers at this time.

CAFOD Emergency Appeal

The people of Sudan need our help urgently. CAFOD is launching an emergency appeal for donations to get aid to them on the biggest scale they can muster. When violence broke out last year in Sudan between government and paramilitaries, most aid agencies evacuated. Now, humanitarian workers are struggling to get back into Sudan to help, meaning severe delays in getting aid to the people, and the challenges of getting into areas where fighting is still going on remain. Many borders are shut as the government say they need to keep weapons out. **How your donations can help in Sudan:** CAFOD's local partners are already responding. But they need urgent support to drastically increase their emergency response. **Food:** Millions of families who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict and are now facing yet another urgent crisis – hunger. Donations now will help provide emergency food packages, as well as other essentials like medicine. **Water:** Water pipelines have been damaged, meaning that families are having to fetch water from unsafe locations. With your support, CAFOD can work to repair damage to pipelines and build new ones so that clean water can reach the communities who need it. **Sanitation:** CAFOD is providing emergency sanitation in several of Sudan's largest refugee camps. This is a desperate need especially for the sick, the elderly, those with young children.



There will be a retiring collection after Masses this weekend for this emergency appeal. Please also consider donating online to CAFOD at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal or using this QR code.

Norden Anglican Ladies...

... have extended their usual invitation to the ladies of Saint Vincent's to an afternoon tea with entertainment on **Thursday 20th June** at 2.00 p.m. at Saint Paul's Parish Hall, Blackpits Road, Norden. *Numbers are needed for catering purposes, so please sign up on the list in the porch as soon as possible.*

BIBLE BITZ II

19: The Letter to the Hebrews

Sometimes people instinctively refer to this as "Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews," but we are quite certain that Saint Paul did not write it. It does reflect his style and understanding, and it's thought it was written in Rome around the year 66, possibly by someone called Apollos, who is mentioned in the book of Acts (18:24-28). The "Hebrews" in the title are Christian converts from Judaism living in Palestine—possibly including many former priests and leaders of the Jewish faith (remember that reference

in Acts 6:7). This is possibly why the main themes of this letter are sacrifice and priesthood—but all in reference to Christ, the new High Priest and the perfect sacrifice. This letter is full of references to the Old Testament, and frequent quotes, especially from the book of Psalms, but makes it clear that in Jesus something new has overtaken the former law—as it says in the very first verses: “*In the past God spoke in many different ways, but in our time he has spoken **definitively** to us through his Son.*” (1:1-2) This verse sums up the whole letter! Jesus is the new Moses, who leads his people to the place of eternal rest (chapters 3-4); he is the new High Priest, who offers the perfect sacrifice to take sins away—of his own body (4:14—5:10, 7:1-28); he is even the new Temple—the place of meeting between God and humanity (chapter 9). All of this is summed up in Jesus Christ establishing a New and Eternal Covenant—prefigured and promised in the Old Testament—which opens for us the hope of eternal life. As the letter comes to a close, the author looks back on the “heroes and heroines of faith” in the Old Testament, many of whom faced martyrdom, just as persecuted Christians were facing when this letter was written: it ends with words of encouragement, to stay close to the teachings received, to stay firm in faith and hope, and to let love inspire good works, praise of God and lasting peace.

Next Week: Telling it Like it Is: the Letter of Saint James.

A Patron Saint for Everything ...

4: The Patron Saint of Floods: Saint Gregory the Wonderworker



Given the exceptional amount of rain we have had this Winter, and all the stories of floods throughout the world, it's suitable that we focus on the Patron Saint of

Floods, Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus—a saint you have probably never heard of! Gregory lived in what is now Turkey, having been born in the year 213. After studying under the great theologian Origen, he converted to Christianity and eventually became bishop of Caesarea. In his Diocese was the River Lycus, which frequently overflowed its banks and caused floods in the rainy season. It is said that Bishop Gregory walked to the river one day, and planted his bishop's staff in the ground, praying that the floodwaters would never go beyond that point! It was because of this, and many other miracles that he worked, that he got the nickname “Thaumaturgus”, which means “wonder-worker”! He died in 270 and his feast day is 17th November.

(Other saints invoked in floods are Saint Christopher, who would carry travellers across rivers, and Saint John Nepomucene, who was drowned in the River Moldau for defending the seal of the confessional.)

Next week—the Patron Saints of Gardeners

DIOCESAN NOTES

Young Adults Mass

The Diocese of Salford's Mass for Young Adults returns to Saint Augustine's in Manchester on **Sunday, 12th May**. Mass begins at 5.30 p.m., with opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4.45 p.m. Guest celebrant will be Father Gerard Fieldhouse Byrne, Director of Saint Luke's Centre, who will also join us after Mass for an insightful talk on mental health in this month of mental health awareness. All are welcome to attend!

Rosary around the Campfire

Please join us for a peaceful hour of prayer and reflection as we host a special praying of The Rosary at our Laudato Si' Centre on **Monday 20th May** at 1.00 p.m. All are welcome to join as we settle on our tree trunks around the campfire to share in an ecological reflection on the Sorrowful Mysteries. Please register your interest at <https://tinyurl.com/rosaryLSC> and feel free to bring your own chair or blanket for additional comfort.

Laudato Si' Awards

The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is pleased to announce that nominations are now open for its inaugural Laudato Si' awards aimed at recognising and rewarding school children who have demonstrated exceptional care for the environment. Schools are invited to send in nominations of any student who has gone above and beyond for the Laudato Si' message. Find out more and send in your nominations at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lsc-awards-2024/>. Deadline for submissions is 24th May.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has supported our diocesan charity Caritas Salford in recent months. The demand for their services has continued to increase as the cost-of-living crisis deepens and all of your prayers, kindness and generosity make a huge difference to the lives of people in our community. Visit www.caritassalford.org.uk to find out more about their work in our community.

SALFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD PRAYER

Loving Father, be with us as we seek new ways of being your people in our Diocese. May each new day bring us closer to your son, Jesus, as we follow his teaching and become disciples of love. As we continue our Synodal journey draw us closer to each other. May the truth of your Spirit enlighten us. Open our hearts, as we listen to each other and reach out in love to your people. Stay with us, Lord, on our journey. Amen.

NEXT SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

John 17:11-19

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'



THE SACRAMENTS

Home Communions

Brenda Robinson is our Parish Coordinator for Home Communions: if you or a relative find yourself housebound for a period of time, or know of a Catholic moving into one of our Care homes, and would like to receive holy communion at home, please let Brenda know by phoning **0793 222 6981**.

Baptisms

are by appointment: please collect, fill in and return one of the Information forms from the porch. They provide details of what is required and the next steps in the process.

Marriage

is also by appointment. Please take an information leaflet from the porch and return the tear-off portion to arrange an interview. Please do not make bookings before this interview and note that six months' notice is required.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Presbytery to ask for this Sacrament. It should not be left until the last minute, but the sick should celebrate this sacrament to receive God's healing and comfort.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion is celebrated in **Year 3**, and registrations occur in September. Confirmation is celebrated in **Year 8**, and registration also occurs in September.

CARE AND CONCERN

Our Parish S.V.P.

The S.V.P. Conference at Saint Vincent's support people in need in a variety of ways; visiting people at home or in care homes, responding to calls for practical help, providing home cooked meals for around twenty four residents of Leopold Court, a local homeless unit, one day every fortnight, providing food bags for local families. If you or anyone you know would like any kind of help please contact Joan Hamilton on **0773 990 8561** or send an email to **PresidentD111410@svp.org.uk**.

Please also remember that donations to the SVP can made at any time through the donations slot on the back wall of Church, or by bank transfer online: Account Name **D111410 SVP ST VINCENT—ROCHDALE**; Account Number **4608 2506**; Sort Code **60-60-04**. Thank you for your support!

Rochdale Food Bank

Please place your donations in the boxes at the back of the Church. The Food Bank is currently short of everything, but in urgent need of **Coffee, Tinned Rice/Custard, Sugar, Tinned Potatoes, Fruit Juice and Jam**. More details at **rochdalefoodbank.org.uk** and a full "shopping list" is available by the donations box.

Donations

Please be aware that there are permanent donation boxes on the back wall of Church for **CAFOD, Caritas Diocese of Salford, Caritas Ukraine** and the **Parish S.V.P.** Thank you for your constant generosity!

SUNDAY WORDSEARCH

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N	N	T	S	A	L	R	A	E	B
A	R	D	N	A	M	M	O	C	S
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R	E	V	M	F	A	M	E	A	N
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REMAIN JOY COMPLETE FRIENDS
 COMMAND LIFE SERVANTS BUSINESS
 CHOOSE BEAR LAST NAME



✠ **STAY WITH US, LORD, ON OUR JOURNEY** ✠