



**Diocese of
Salford**

SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

26th January 2025
The Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time (C)



"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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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.

Parking: please try to give priority to places nearest Church for people with restricted mobility. Thank you.

In our prayers ...

Requests for Masses & Prayers:
Recently Deceased: Stuart Norton, Paul Mark Wallace, Teresa Brophy.

Anniversaries: Tony Manock, Tom Cowin, Alban White.

National Cycle of Prayer: During Ordinary Time (Winter) we are asked to pray for these intentions: 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.

The Holy Father's Intention (January) For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the people of the parishes of English Martyrs, Whalley, Saint Mary's, Langho, Saint Mary's, Osbaldeston, and their parish priest, Father David Yates. We pray also for their primary schools, Saint Augustine's High School, and Kemple View Hospital.

At Saint Vincent's This Week ...

The Third Week of Ordinary Time

PSALTER WEEK 3

Monday 27th January Saint Angela Merici, Virgin [Optional Memorial]	📖 Hebrews 9:15-24-28; Psalm 98; Mark 3:22-30 9.30 a.m. Word & Communion
Tuesday 28th January Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church [Memorial]	📖 Hebrews 10:1-10; Psalm 40; Mark 3:31-35 9.30 a.m. MASS 1.00 p.m. "Getting Together"
Wednesday 29th January Weekday	📖 Hebrews 10:11-18; Psalm 110; Mark 4:1-20 9.30 a.m. MASS
Thursday 30th January Weekday	📖 Hebrews 10:19-25; Psalm 24; Mark 4:21-25 9.30 a.m. MASS
Friday 31st January Saint John Bosco, Priest [Memorial]	📖 Hebrews 10:32-39; Psalm 37; Mark 4:26-34 9.30 a.m. MASS <i>Day of Abstinence</i>
Saturday 1st February Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary	📖 Hebrews 11:1-2.8-19; Luke 1; Mark 4:35-41 11.00 a.m. MASS for Peace 6.00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) 6.30 p.m. First MASS of Sunday
Sunday 2nd February THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (Candlemas) <i>World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life</i>	📖 Malachi 3:1-4; Ps 24; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 9.00 a.m. MASS <i>Refreshments after Mass in the Parish Centre</i> 11.00 a.m. MASS <i>Refreshments after Mass in the Parish Centre</i>

THE WORD THIS WEEK

After our brief excursion last week into Saint John's Gospel, we are back on track this week with Saint Luke - whom we will follow for the rest of the year. Today is about beginnings: the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. It begins with the Word of God, in the synagogue. Jesus reads from the Old Testament, as we do every Sunday, and tells the people that it is fulfilled in him. Everything that God has said to his people, through his prophets, comes together in Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God. Today is an ideal Sunday to think about the ministry of reader - about how our readers we make present' the same fulfilment, Jesus, when they read the word of God in our Churches.

NEWS AND NOTES

Sunday of the Word of God

The Sunday of the Word of God is a profoundly pastoral initiative with which Pope Francis wants to make it clear how important it is in the daily life of the Church and our communities to refer to the Word of God, a Word that is not confined to a book, but which remains ever alive and becomes a concrete and tangible sign. The motto chosen by the Holy Father for 2025, within the Jubilee Year, is a verse from Psalm 119, "I hope in your Word". Pope Francis suggests, "[M]ay you have the habit of always carrying a small Gospel in your pocket, in your bag, to be able to read it during the day". There are several editions of the New Testament or the Gospel, in handy little volumes, pocket versions, that easily fit in our bags or backpacks and that we can carry with us at all times. Or one can easily have the Bible in their cell phone to consult it at any time: there are different apps and websites in different languages, not only with the Bible but also with the Holy Mass readings for each day, pages to read or listen to the Word of God, or commentaries and reflections of the same. One can also use notifications as a reminder to have a moment a day to encounter God's Word, so that it accompanies us wherever we go!

Today is Caritas Sunday

Caritas - putting love into action - is more than an act; it is the very heart of our faith in action, the living embodiment of our call to love God and our neighbour, not just in words but through real, meaningful actions. When we offer our love through practical and financial support, we bring to life the teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who came "not to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). In doing so, we don't just serve those in need; we also enrich our spiritual lives and strengthen the bonds within our community. As a charity, Caritas Salford is only able to operate because of people like you who choose to support their work. Without you - their day centres at Caritas Cornerstone, Lalley Centre, Red Door, the supported accommo-

dation projects at Caritas Maryvale, Morning Star and Caritas House - would close, and they would not be able to carry out their work in schools, and through the Bishop's Fund. So, however you choose to help, through your prayers or by pledging to leave a gift in your Will; by making a one-off donation, or by setting up a monthly direct debit, please understand what a difference you are making to local people.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

We will be joining with fellow Christians from all the Churches for a United Service taking place at Bamford Chapel **this Sunday afternoon** 26th January at 3.00 p.m. The guest preacher will be ... Fr James! Refreshments will be served afterwards, and everyone is very warmly encouraged to attend, and to show our commitment to the journey of Christian Unity.

Candlemas

Next Sunday we will be celebrating the last feast of Christmas, the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, also known as Candlemas. There is a tradition of blessing candles on this day, so please bring next weekend any candles that you will use at home, so that they can be blessed!

Getting Together

The next meeting is this coming **Tuesday 28th January**, from 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre, with the usual hospitality, refreshment and raffle. On this occasion we welcome Mike Howarth with his "light entertainment" - music and songs. Everyone very welcome!

Pope Francis on the Jubilee

From the Bull of Indiction of the Holy Year: "Hope, together with faith and charity, makes up the triptych of the "theological virtues" that express the heart of the Christian life (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:3). In their inseparable unity, hope is the virtue that, so to speak, gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers. For this reason, the Apostle Paul encourages us to "rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer" (Romans 12:12). Surely we need to "abound in hope" (cf. Romans 15:13), so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become, for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope. Yet what is the basis of our hope? To understand this, let us stop and reflect on "the reasons for our hope" (cf. 1 Peter 3:15)."

"Harvesters" Men's Mornings at Saint Vincents

Our vision is to empower and equip men to be the best fathers, sons, and brothers we can be, follow-

ing the example of Jesus and our heavenly Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Meeting monthly in a small group, men support and encourage each other by building relationships in a relaxed, informal and supportive atmosphere. Fellowship is so crucial for our spiritual journeys. The ability to be supported, challenged and share at a deeper level allows us to grow as men and as Christians. We share, listen and pray by means of: Refreshments - sharing and social time; Prayer and song; *Lectio Divina* (a quiet, reflective reading of a scripture passage); Time for sharing (not teaching or bible study) just sharing and listening; prayer, intercessory or for each other, with a song to end. We meet on Saturday mornings from 8.30 – 10.00 a.m. (leaving us with a “free day!”). Please join us at our next gathering on **Saturday 15th February**. If you have any questions or require more information please email on cm.power58@gmail.com

What's In A Name?

By special request this is a new series, exploring some of the names and titles used in the Catholic Church. Have you ever wondered what is the difference between a Dean and a Canon? Or what a Papal Nuncio or Vicar General do? Follow this series to find out!

2: “Lector”, “Acolyte” and “Catechist”

These three are grouped together because they are the three “commissioned” lay ministries in the church. While in the past these were among the so-called “minor orders” that candidates for the priesthood received on their journey to ordination, nowadays they are full lay ministries. Lectors are readers specially commissioned by the Bishop, whose special ministry is the proclamation of the Word of God; acolytes (from a Greek word meaning “attendant”) are ministers of the altar - not just altar servers (as the title was once used), but also ministers of holy communion, again specially commissioned by a Bishop. And finally catechists are lay people commissioned to teach and guide people preparing for the Sacraments. These commissioned lay ministries are very common in Mission territories, but are not so common here in England, though following Pope Francis’ direction we may be seeing these special ministries in our Diocese soon!

Next week: “Deacon”

Bank Donations

The account details for direct banking, for either one-off or regular giving are: Account Name: **The Salford Diocesan Trust** St Vincent de Paul Norden Account Number: 80492523 Sort Code: 20.55.34.

DIOCESAN NOTES

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bookings are now being taken for the 2025 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. This year's pilgrimage will take place between 31st July and 6th August. For more information on how to book as a pilgrim or register as a volunteer, please visit <https://www.salfordlourdes.co.uk>

Accessible Prayer Walk

The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is teaming up with diocesan charity Caritas Salford to host an accessible prayer walk. The session offers an opportunity to explore the beautiful, accessible grounds of the Laudato Si' Centre along with a peaceful prayer reflection, taking place between 10.00 and 11.30 a.m. on **Friday 31st January**. Find out more and register by emailing laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Mercy Brothers

Join us for a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with clergy band, The Mercy Brothers. The concert will raise funds for our Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund, which supports our sick pilgrims and medical team. The concert will take place on **Friday 21st February** at Hough End Centre, Chorlton. Doors open at 7.30 p.m. Tickets cost £20.00 (free for under 16s) and includes a hot supper. Book now: www.salfordlourdes.co.uk/fundraising or phone the pilgrimage office on **0161 817 2209**.

Jubilee for Communications

In celebration of the Holy Year, we are having a Jubilee of Jubilees to shine a light on a number of different themes represented in our diocese. We begin with our Jubilee for Communications, in which we explore this month's Gospels to reflect on how we can share the Good News in our world today. Access the resources now at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/calendar/>

Laudato Si' Centre Gardening Club

The Diocese of Salford's environment hub, The Laudato Si' Centre, is delighted to announce a regular gardening club, taking place on Fridays. Parish groups and volunteers are invited to join the team at the Centre to explore sustainable gardening techniques, top tips, and to come together in shared faith to care for our common home. Email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more.

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

Luke 2:22-32

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, 'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.'

THE SACRAMENTS

Home Communions

Brenda Robinson is our 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 communion at home, please let Brenda know on **0785 559 8016**.

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

Registration for First Communion next year is closed, as the program has begun. Children baptised in the Catholic Church in **Year 8** but NOT at Catholic High School, please ask Father James for registration forms for Confirmation.

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 rochdale-foodbank.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!

Gospel Wordsearch

D	N	I	L	B	P	A	C	Y	R
E	I	N	N	E	W	S	A	E	T
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REPUTATION
SYNAGOGUE
CAPTIVES
PROPHET
STORY
WORD
SCROLL
POOR
BLIND
GOOD
TEXT
NEWS



✠ STAY WITH US, LORD, ON OUR JOURNEY ✠