

# Parish Newsletter

**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,  
HAIGH, ASPULL & BLACKROD  
WITH THE PARISH OF HOLY FAMILY, NEW SPRINGS  
S.R.C.D.T. REG. CHARITY No. 250037**

March 9th 2025

First Sunday of Lent - Year C



**Parish Priest** Rev. Kevin Foulkes  
**Presbytery** 48 Haigh Road  
Aspull  
Wigan WN2 1YA  
**Telephone** 01942 516732

[www.aspullourlady.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.aspullourlady.wigan.sch.uk)  
[www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk](http://www.aspullhollyfamily.co.uk)

Sacrament of Reconciliation **Saturday** 11.30-12noon Our Lady's Church

## MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday</b>	6.00 pm	Our Lady's
<b>Sunday</b>	9.30 am	Our Lady's
	11.15 am	Holy Family
<b>Monday</b>	9.15 am	Our Lady's
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.15 am	Holy Family
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.15 am	Our Lady's
<b>Thursday</b>	9.15 am	Holy Family
<b>Friday</b>	9.15 am	Our Lady's
<b>Saturday</b>	11.00 am	Our Lady's



## **SERVICES LIVE-STREAM & ONLINE**

Sunday Masses from Our Lady's via the Parish Facebook page using this link [www.facebook.com/ourladychurchaspull/](https://www.facebook.com/ourladychurchaspull/) live from 9.30am. The recording is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group from about 10.30am.

**Response to the Psalm:** Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

**Gospel Acclamation** Glory and praise to you, O Christ.  
One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

## **THOUGHTS**

Following his Baptism by John, Jesus is led out into the desert for forty days. Although he was without human company and food, he is not lacking comfort and nourishment as he is led by and filled with the Holy Spirit.

We too are called into the desert of Lent. For forty days we embrace fasting, prayer and alms-giving so as to empty ourselves in order to be filled anew with the abundance of God.

The practice of giving up a favourite thing or activity is a way to prove to ourselves that nothing is as important as God in our lives and a period of conversion and change of heart to make that a reality.

Society of St Gregory

Fr Kevin.

## PARISH NOTICES

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please pray for the sick in hospital, the hospices and at home. We pray especially for Pope Francis.

### **LATELY DEAD**

For all those who have died recently including Janet Forster and Sue Wright.

### **PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY**

To Chris Forster and family of Haigh on the death of his mother, Janet. R.I.P.

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

John Bone, Ralph and Jane Sherrington, John Sumner, John Almond, Thomas Eccles,

Ena Stewart, Alan Perry, Yadviga Zaleska, Mary Gwinnett and priests of the Diocese Patrick Quinlan, Peter Kirkland, James Brennan.

### **MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**

As of Wednesday 5th March include: Irene Unsworth (anniversary), Terry Andrews (anniversary), John Bone (anniversary), Ralph and Jane Sherrington (anniversary) and Mass for the Holy Souls.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT**

Will be made after the Thursday 9.15am Mass in Holy Family and after the Friday 9.15am Mass in Our Lady's.

### **LENTEN TALKS**

In St Katharine's Blackrod will begin again on Wednesday 12th March at 10.30am followed by light refreshments. Topics covered include: Hope, Holiness, Forgiveness and Love, led by the Blackrod clergy.

### **ADVANCE NOTICE**

There will be a National Collection to support the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk. The National Shrine honours an apparition of Our Blessed Lady in the eleventh century. It has now become a site of Ecumenical Pilgrimage. Weekend March 22nd/23rd.

### **ASPULL CHURCHES TOGETHER QUIZ**

#### **NIGHT**

7.30pm March 14th in Aspull British Legion. Cost £5 per person including pasty and peas. Last year the quiz night helped pay for the nativity scene at the Fingerpost and the three white wooden crosses again erected at the Fingerpost. It's a fun quiz and there is a vegetarian and vegan option. Contact Phil Livesey for more information or to buy tickets.

#### **CAFOD**

A Cafod Appeal will be this weekend 8th/9th March in preparation for the Cafod Family Fast Day Friday 14th March, with a collection being taken the weekend 15th/16th March. Gift Aid envelopes will be available.

### **MANY HAPPY RETURNS**

To Mary Unsworth, mother of Cecilia Kitts, on her 98th birthday. Best wishes from everyone.

#### **Fr KEVIN**

Will be away Friday pm to Sunday pm 14th to 16th March celebrating a wedding in St Catherine's in Carnforth. Some years ago he celebrated the wedding of the bride's parents and baptised her and her brothers.

### **BANK DETAILS**

For anyone wishing to set up a Standing Order.

Sort Code 20 55 34  
Acc. No 60847704  
Acc. name The Salford Diocesan Trust Our Lady Haigh

Sort Code 20 55 34  
Acc. No 40429821  
Acc. name The Salford Diocesan Trust The Holy Family New Springs

Standing Order forms on Salford Diocese website and then click on Donate.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To George and Anna Band (née Charnley) on the birth of their daughter Freya Jane. They were married in Our Lady's Church May 2022.

### **THANKS**

To Mary Bone and family for their donation to Holy Family Parish Funds in memory of her late husband John. R.I.P.

### **KNIGHTS OF St COLUMBA**

We have the great news that the relics of St Andrew the apostle, St Mary of Scotland and St Columba will come to Our Lady's Church, Friday 4th April. Mass will be celebrated that day at 10.00am and the church will be open until 12 noon for devotions.

### **200 CLUB**

The 200 Club will restart in March.

The subscription for this year will be £2 per month, so a £20 contribution will result in you being in the draw for the year. I am hopeful the prizes will remain the same as last year.

If you would like to continue your membership, or join for the first time, you will be most welcome.

Please enclose your subscription (cash or cheque) in an envelope with the following on the front:

How many numbers you need

Your name, address and mobile number (land line if you do not have a mobile)

Cheques should be payable to Our Lady's Church.

You can pay myself, put your subscription in the box at the back of church or drop it off at the presbytery.

My contact details are:

Philip Holt, 10 Cherwell Close, Aspull  
07764 584381

Many thanks

Phil Holt

### **THE BRICK**

Please remember those who need our support through the Brick, which continues to experience very high levels of demand, especially in the challenging economic times.

Every good wish and blessing.

*Fr Kevin*