

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 2nd 2025

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C



Parish Priest Rev. Kevin Foulkes
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Aspull
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Telephone 01942 516732

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

MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00 pm	Our Lady's
Sunday	9.30 am	Our Lady's
	11.15 am	Holy Family
Monday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Tuesday	9.15 am	Holy Family
Wednesday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Thursday	9.15 am	Holy Family
Friday	9.15 am	Our Lady's
Saturday	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/ourladyschurchaspull/ live from 9.30am. The recording is also available via the Parish WhatsApp group from about 10.30am.

Response to the Psalm: It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life.
Alleluia!

THOUGHTS

Jesus lived in a culture and society where people worked the soil to provide food for themselves and their families. In this Sunday's Gospel he uses a metaphor that his audience would have immediately understood, 'For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit'.

We might reflect then and ask ourselves what 'fruit do we bear that marks us as Christians'.

Society of St Gregory

Fr Kevin.

PARISH NOTICES

LENT

Begins Ash Wednesday March 5th. A day of fasting and abstinence.

Masses with Distribution of Ashes

9.15am at Our Lady's

7.00pm at Holy Family

There will be services in both schools for the Distribution of Ashes.

10.15am in Our Lady's. For the school community only.

11.00am in Holy Family School.

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

LATELY DEAD

For all those who have died recently including John Gwinnett, Roisin Brennan (Barrowford, Burnley), Keith Edmond (in Norfolk), Terry Southworth.

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

1. To Maria Gray and family of Ramsbottom, formerly of Our Lady's Parish on the death of Mike.
2. To Clare Edmond (nee Ward) and family on the death of her husband Keith, the son-in-law of Liz and Paul Ward of Aspull.
3. To the family of the late Sue Wright of New Springs.

ANNIVERSARIES

Fred Heinke, Bill Charnley, Mary Dowling, Irene Unsworth, Terry Andrews, Ann Critchley, Ralph and Anne Sherrington and priests of the Diocese Geoff Hilton, Eugene O'Connell.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

As of Wednesday 26th February include: Roisin Brennan (lately dead), Terry Southworth (lately dead), Alf and Anne Sherrington (anniversaries) and Fred Heinke (anniversary).

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.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

The Third Reading of this Bill (where now essential safeguarding clauses have been removed) is scheduled for debate on Wednesday 25th March (the Feast of The Annunciation). Cards will be given out at all Masses this weekend 1st/2nd March. Please sign and post, or hand in on the weekend March 8th/9th.

Please be aware of what personal details you put on these cards and the possible use of them.

CAFOD

A Cafod appeal will be made 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.

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

With the continuing challenging economic conditions, let us not forget those who need our support through the Brick, which continues to experience very high levels of demand, especially in the winter conditions. The Brick has requested the following food items: Breakfast Cereals, Pasta, Rice and Pasta Sauces.

In addition, the Brick are taking items of fresh produce, but any donations of fresh produce should be taken directly to the food donation centre at St. George's Church, Water Street, Wigan WN1 1DN and **NOT** be left in church please.

As always, many thanks for your generous donations.

Every good wish and blessing.

