

Reflection *Hard to believe*

There are only few things more upsetting than news of a child with a chronic illness. We hear of parents travelling thousands of miles across oceans or continents in search of specialist medical help. Caring for a loved one may prove personally as well as financially costly. It can place huge strains on a marriage, even on one's faith.



Many parents must have set out with seriously ill children in search of the famous healer from Nazareth, only to find the disciples involved in religious argument with other faith leaders. We may find our faith tested by the lack of unity between Christians, or the churches involvement in scandalous situations.

Faith, like health, is often tested by our life experiences. Some may feel that the Church has let them down, others may sense that they have let God down: both struggle to believe that God still loves them. We, too, perhaps, have been disappointed by an apparent lack of answer to prayer.



We need to be reminded that Jesus is by no means remote from us in such times of doubt. Our saviour comes to meet us where we are. He urges us to have faith and to pray for what we need. Jesus reaches out his hand to each of us. "Everything is possible", he says.

The LPA day of recollection will take place on Saturday 23rd March at Christ Church, starting at 9.30am. Lunch will be provided.

Please bring your Rosary Beads if possible.

~~~~~

**LENT COURSE**

The theme this year is **LIVING FRUITFULLY.**

The launch is 10th March 6.30pm Life Church Outwood Road

The course will run here from **TUESDAY 12th March 2pm** in the parish hall



*First*  
SUNDAY  
**IN**  
LENT

**CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH, HEALD GREEN**  
**Saturday 9th March 2019**  
**(Vigil Mass) 5.30pm**  
**Sunday 10th March 2019**  
**Mass 9am & 11am**  
 (Children's Liturgy at 11am)

|     |          |                      |                                            | <i>Intentions</i>                        |
|-----|----------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sat | 9th Mar  | First Sunday of Lent | Vigil Mass 5.30pm                          | John Kelly RIP                           |
| Sun | 10th Mar |                      | Mass 9am<br>Sung Mass 11am                 | Olga Ann Clucas RIP<br>Austin Fergus RIP |
| Mon | 11th Mar | Ferial               | Celebration of the Word and Communion 10am |                                          |
| Tue | 12th Mar | Ferial               | Mass 10 am                                 | Josie Jepson RIP                         |
| Wed | 13th Mar | Ferial               | Mass 10 am                                 | Paul Marciniak RIP                       |
| Thu | 14th Mar | Ferial               | Mass 10 am                                 | John Shaw RIP                            |
| Fri | 15th Mar | Ferial               | Mass 10 am<br>Stations of the Cross 7 pm   | Nick Almond Rip                          |
| Sat | 16th Mar | Ferial               | Mass 10 am<br>Vigil mass 5.30pm            | Souls in Purgatory<br>Josie Jepson RIP   |

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Fr. Paul will be in the confessional on Saturday 11.30-12 noon and 5-5.20pm.

OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

**CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 Finney Lane, HEALD GREEN Cheadle, SK8 3DY  
 Priest: Fr. Paul R. Lomas  
 Tel No: 01614375042      Mobile 07973239942



**Next Week : Second Sunday of Lent:**

**Saturday 16th March 2019 Vigil Mass 5.30pm**

**Sunday 17th March 2019 Mass at 9am & 11am**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**LADIES GROUP** Thursday 14th March 2-4pm.  
A talk by Heather Slater "Living with the Saudi Royal Family"

### SERRA MEETINGS. In the Parish Hall 7.30pm

On Thursday 21st March for the Lenten Reflections. Fr G O'Grady will talk on The Psalms. Everyone is very welcome. Mass is at 7.30pm, followed by a light supper and the talk. Please ring Gerry Lanigan (428 9103) early in the week, if possible, for catering purposes.

**The Celebrate North West family conference** takes place on April 27-28 at All Hallows College, Macclesfield. It is a two-day event packed full of interesting and thought provoking experiences that help to engage and encourage the faith of all ages by offering an all-age, exciting, faith-building experience. Please phone Chris and Martina on 01706 640 359, or email them at northwest@celebrateconference.org or go to <https://www.celebrateconference.org/north-west>

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE (MANCHESTER)

From 6th March to 14th April, you're invited to join 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil on the pavement opposite Marie Stopes abortion clinic in Fallowfield, Manchester, and also to help spread the word about this important work. If you'd like more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer, please visit [www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/manchester-2/](http://www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/manchester-2/) or call 07810 791032.

### DIOCESAN SPRING TALKS

The theme of the 2019 4 diocesan spring talks is **CALLED TO HOLINESS, GIFTED FOR MISSION**. On 16 Mar, 10:30-12:30, St Winefride's School Hall SHREWSBURY (SY1 1TE). Fr Tom Cunnagh will address the title: "**We're in this together!**" The other 3 talks are on the following Weds and Sats. Everyone is most welcome to come and reflect on this vital theme.



Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

## YOUR HOLY NAME STORY PROJECT

The Holy Name Church is a Grade 1 listed gothic revival building of 1869-71 Built by the Jesuits, it served as a parish church until 1960. The aim of this project is to record personal accounts of experiences of the Church by conducting interviews with people who attended the Church while also acquiring photographs, archives and local history pertaining to the Church. If you wish to participate contact: Grace Thornhill [holynamestory@gmail.com](mailto:holynamestory@gmail.com)

### Attention all Gift Aid Donors

The tax year 2018/19 will be coming to an end on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and the Parish will then make a claim to HMRC (HM Revenue & Customs) for Gift Aid refunds on all donations made in the tax year. Father Paul would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the donations you have made over the course of this tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Jane Handley, our Parish Gift Aid Organiser (Mobile Telephone Number 07925 340 252) or the Parish Office know by 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations you have made during the tax year.

In addition it is important that we keep our Gift Aid records up-to-date and therefore if you have moved house or change your name in the past few years, we would be grateful if you could let Jane or the Parish Office know.

### Gift Aid & Planned Giving Envelopes

The envelopes for the 2019/20 tax year are now available for collection in the porch. They should be used from 7th April. If you would like to give regularly by envelope or standing order, please contact the office and fill in the appropriate forms.

**FRIDAY 15th MARCH.  
FAMILY FAST DAY**

## VACANCIES

### ST JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Cleaner, 3 and 6pm (term time only) Full details on the school website or please contact Michelle McCumesky on 0161 482 6900 opt 3.

### EXAM INVIGILATORS NEEDED

This is a part time and seasonal role on a casual basis. Applicants must be available for at least 4 sessions a week (Sessions are a.m. 8.15am - 12pm and p.m. 1pm - 4pm) during May and June. For more information, please contact Amy Morrin by email [amy.morrin@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:amy.morrin@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk)

### DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS & DIOCESAN RELIGIOUS COORDINATOR

Two important opportunities have arisen to implement sector leading support and advice within the Diocese of Shrewsbury. Further details of the role including an application form can be found at <http://dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies>

**Closing date Friday 16th March 2019**

### Urgent Appeal for Volunteers

Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury are in need of volunteers for their asylum seeker and refugee project at St Aidan's Centre in Wythenshawe. Tuesday afternoon's (11:45-2:30) or Thursday mornings (9:45-12:30).

We need male and female volunteers for the Tuesday group, which is an "English Conversation" group helping both male and female clients to improve their English.

We need female volunteers for the Thursday group, which is just for women and their children. We work to improve English skills and we learn about each other's cultures while taking part in fun activities. We particularly need female volunteers who will help with the children. If you feel you could spare 2-3 hours per week to join our team of reliable and friendly volunteers, please contact Rachel Hughes (Caritas Volunteer Coordinator) 07938 377 689/email: [rachel.hughes@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk](mailto:rachel.hughes@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk)

### WEEKDAY EVENING MASS DURING LENT

St Chad's—Tuesdays 7.30pm

St Ann's Wednesdays 7.30pm

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND



May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration

**ROSARY** Monday to Friday at 9.30am.

**MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** is prayed prior to 10 am weekday Mass or Service of the Word & Communion.

### DIVINE MERCY GROUP

This group meet each Monday at 2pm in the Meeting Room.

### HOLY WATER

*Holy Water* is available from the stone jar on the altar steps near the Baptismal Font.



### BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Andrea Lomas will be available on Tuesday evenings 7.30-8.30pm for anyone wishing to discuss arrangements.

### APF (RED) BOXES

will be emptied in the next 2 weeks.

### WELCOMERS

We need another person to join the welcomer's rota at the 11am mass. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**The Requiem Mass for Gerry Dwan will be on Wednesday 20th March at 11am.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

### LENT—So what are you doing?

**Why not :**

- **Attend an extra weekday mass**
- **Follow the way of Jesus in Stations of the Cross each Friday**
- **Make sure you fast on Wednesdays & Fridays**
- **Spend 5 minutes each day quietly praying to God**
- **Attend the Lent course on Tuesdays**