



St. Bernard's Parish Newsletter



The Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time. 28th January 2024.

Clergy: Mgr. Michael J Kujacz RD, Fr. Benjamin Garba and Rev. Luke Bradbury

Contact

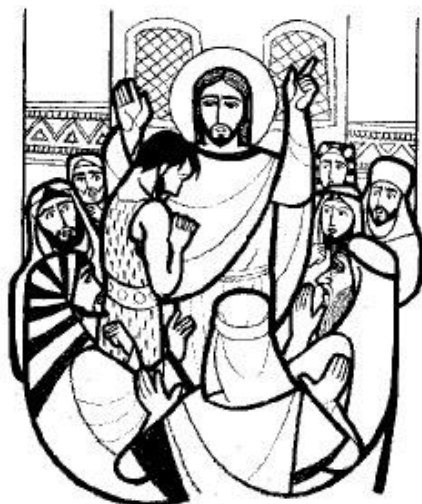
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Caritas Sunday



Where does authority come from? Why is one man regarded as a prophet, and another as a lunatic, and a third as a hypocrite? Jesus startles the crowds with a “new teaching” today, but what amazes them so much is not the message but the authority behind it: they are convinced because what he does somehow adds credibility to what he says. It's the old situation that we are all familiar with - we look through words to see the actions, which show us the real message. The scribes did not heal or work miracles, but simply talked about God. Jesus talks about the Kingdom of God, but also shows the people what it is - a Kingdom where all that damages human happiness is abolished. The other side to this is that we must listen to a prophet or teacher when they are backed by such authority; we may not “harden our hearts” and ignore the message

when we have recognised that the messenger is sent by God. This is the hard part, because it demands that we too show, by our actions, that we have heard.

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St. Dunstan and St John Vianney, Moston, and for Fr. Martin Saunders, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for St. Matthew's High School

Pope Francis Tweet: “Accumulating material goods is not enough to live well, because life does not depend on what we possess (cf. Lk 12:15). Life depends on good relationships: with God, with others, and also with those who have less.”

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS for January: For the Gift of Diversity in the Church: Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

For the Sick and Housebound: God of all goodness, Look with mercy on all who suffer any kind of infirmity, sickness or injury, that they may be comforted. Let your hand of healing and protection be upon them. When they are fearful, ease their fear and anxieties. When they are afraid, give them strength and courage. When they feel alone, send them someone to listen and to care. When they are confused, provide reassurance and direction. When they are in pain, ease their suffering. When they despair, give them hope. May they experience your healing presence through the most Blessed Sacrament today. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

This weekend, we mark CARITAS SUNDAY by celebrating the work of our diocesan charity, Caritas Diocese of Salford. To find out more about the work of Caritas Salford and how you can get involved, please visit <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/caritas-sunday/>. We invite you to keep our diocesan charity in your prayers over this coming week and please support our retiring collection today

Unwanted Christmas gifts can be placed in the box in the church porch. We will recycle to raise funds for the parish heating bills. Thank you .



Saint of the week: 31st January: St John Bosco (1815 - 1888); He was born in Piedmont of a peasant family, and he was brought up by his widowed mother. He became a priest, and his particular concern was for the young. He settled in Turin, where, as in so many cities in the 19th century, the industrial revolution was bringing enormous movements of population and consequent social problems, especially for the young men who came there to work. John Bosco devoted himself to the care of the young, first of all by means of evening classes, to which hundreds came, and then by setting up a boarding-house for apprentices, and then workshops for their training and education. Despite many difficulties, caused both by the anti-clerical civil authorities and by the opposition of some senior people within the Church, his enterprise grew, and by 1868 over 800 boys and young men were under his care. To ensure the continuation of his work, he founded a congregation, which he named after St Francis de Sales (a saint for whom he had great admiration), and today the Salesians continue his work all over the world.

2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Jubilee: This Advent, Pope Francis invites people across the world to embark on a Year of Prayer in preparation for the 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Jubilee. Over the coming weeks and months, the Diocese of Salford will be sharing a range of resources and ideas to help us journey together through this Year of Prayer. To find out more head to <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/>

Walsingham 3rd to 5th May joining the diocesan pilgrimage on the Saturday. If you have booked the deposit is now due £75 per person. We have 2 twin en-suite rooms available sorry no singles available. Contact Ann Tipper or Tony Kirstein.

Our next "Come and See" meeting for those enquiring about a vocation to the priesthood will be taking place on Saturday 17th February at St Winifred's, Heaton Mersey. Our next session will welcome a guest speaker and include a period of Eucharistic Adoration and prayer, before the chance to discuss the vocation to the priesthood over a meal. These events are specifically for anyone interested in finding out more about a vocation to the priesthood. If you know of anyone who may be discerning a vocation or would like to find out more, please invite them personally, and then direct them to Fr Michael Deas (michael.deas@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or Fr Mark Paver (mark.paver@dioceseofsalford.org.uk), who will be able share further details.

Stay with us Lord on our Journey

MRI Hospital Chaplain + Christies number 0161 276 4247; Wythenshawe 0161 291 2297

Last week's collection total £1134 including standing orders Thank you

Groups now open:

Monday - Young At Heart 11.30am to 1.30pm

Tuesday - Toddler's Group 9.30am to 11.30am. Places are available for parents/ carer and toddler(s). Please contact Anne Cummins 07305 392612.

Thursday - Drop Inn 10.00am to 1.30pm

Sacrament of Marriage: 6 months' notice must be given, please see Father to make arrangements.



PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR BAPTISMS by introducing yourselves to Father after Sunday Mass, when details can be taken and our team can begin the process to organise this wonderful Sacrament for your child.

SAFEGUARDING; Our parish community is committed to Safeguarding to ensure the well being of all members of our community. All volunteers over the age of 18 must have a DBS check every 3years. The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is Christine Robinson and she is very happy to assist you in completing any paperwork required. She usually attends the 10.00 Sunday Mass if you wish to speak to her or can be contacted by email at - christine.robinson.safeguarding@outlook.com

BURNAGE FOOD BANK; opening times are: Tuesday 12.30pm-2.30pm St Nicholas Church Hall, Kingsway, Burnage M19 1PL and Friday 3pm-5pm St Bernard's Church Hall, Burnage Lane, M19 1DR. www.burnagefoodbank.org.uk or tel: 07936698546.

Service of Blessing for Engaged Couples; On Saturday 17th February, there will be a Service of Blessing for Engaged Couples, led by Bishop John. The service will take place at 2pm at St Patrick's church, Collyhurst. Contact Clergy for an invite.

Salford Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Centenary Year Fundraiser - The Mercy Brothers Join us for a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with the fabulous 'Mercy Brothers' band on Friday 9th February, 8pm (doors 7.30pm), at The Hough End Centre, Mauldeth Road West, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, M21 7SX. The band is made up of members of the clergy from around the diocese. Tickets are priced at £15 (over 16s) and free for under 16s. Money raised will go to the Centenary Pilgrimage Fund and in support of our sick pilgrims and medical team. To book please visit www.salfordlourdes.co.uk/fundraising or phone the pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209.

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