

Times of Services this Week

ST. BERNADETTE'S

ST. MICHAEL'S

Mon	9.00am Service of Word & Communion	
Tues	6.45pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Mass	
Wed	10.00am Mass 3.15-4.15pm & 5.00-6.00pm Exposition	
Thurs	12:05 Mass	
Fri	12.05pm Service of Word & Communion	10.00am Mass
Sat	12.00 Noon Mass 6.00pm SUNDAY VIGIL MASS	
Sun	11.00 am Mass	9.30 am Mass
	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sat	11.30 - 12Noon	Sun 9.00am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 3.15-4.15pm & 5.00-6.00pm in St Michael's
Saturday 11.00am - 12.00 noon in the Lourdes Room at St Bernadette's

Prayer Group meets each Tuesday at St Bernadette's
in the Lourdes Room after Mass

THIS WEEK: Thursday – The Chair of St Peter
Wednesday St Peter Damian. Friday – St Polycarp.
NEXT SUNDAY – Second Sunday of Lent (B)

Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13. Rom 8:31-34. Mark 9: 2-10

Masses: Sick: Don Garvey, John Kernaghan.
Recently Deceased: Grace Ogedegbe, Jim Morrison, Brian Bowler, Eddie MacDonald. Sarah and Margaret Carr, Chris McGuinness, John Edward Hogarty, Peter Milton Hughes.
Other Imelda and Padraig Guckian, Hilda Moran (Birthday), Rita Clarke, Teresa Fitzgerald.

Response to the Psalm:



Your ways,
Lord, are
faithfulness
and love
for those
who keep
your covenant.

Together

at St. Michael's
and St.
Bernadette's
Whitefield



First Sunday of Lent (Year B) 17th/18th February 2018

Undertaking an important journey we must be well prepared. Today's gospel reading invites us to prepare ourselves in the company of Jesus. As he set out on the journey that was to lead to Easter, he prepared himself by withdrawing to some desert place, and confronting the temptation to avoid the great task that lay ahead of him. This is an astounding moment in the life of Jesus. In sharing our human experience, Jesus knew the weight of human decisions and the temptations involved – though, of course, he was without sin in the response he made. This testing brought Jesus new strength, and he began to proclaim the Good News of the coming reign of God. In his company, during the coming days, let us recognise the nature of our temptations, and the bonds of selfishness from which we want to be freed as we make our journey to Easter. Jesus found strength in the certainty with which he looked to the end of his journey. Though what lay ahead would not be easy, he knew that God's goodness and mercy would be victorious in the end, through his generous response to the call of his Father.

The first reading from the Book of Genesis invites us to share in this hope and expectation as we set out on our journey. It is the conclusion of the story of Noah and the ark which saved him from the Flood, one of the old stories in the introductory pages of the Bible, describing a wayward humanity, in need of the salvation God was to give. The story ends on a note of hope and promise, the rainbow will be a sign of the covenant God makes with humanity, promising that he will always be merciful. What a magnificent symbol, reminding us of the trust we can place in God, whatever our difficulties and failings. The second reading interprets the story of the flood and Noah's being saved as a kind of foretelling of the wonder of baptism, the destination of our journey to Easter, because it is through our baptism that we share in the risen life of Christ.

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LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £ 1446.55 many thanks.

LENT 2018 Something extra for Lent: Stations of the Cross on Tuesday evenings at 6.45pm before Mass at St Bernadette's and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays in St Michael's from 3.15pm-4.15pm and 5.00pm-6.00pm

LENTEN PROMISES We would like to invite you to experience a taste of some of our ministries during Lent in preparation for Easter. It would be one simple promise to try something new just once during Lent. It is a great way to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. You will be accompanied, and guided, by a member of the ministry team, to help you fulfil your promise. There are many ministries to choose from. As well as this we have been in contact with CARITAS (Diocese of Salford) about ways we can help others during Lent. Cornerstone based in Moss Side would be grateful for volunteers could to help adults from other countries who are Homeless on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday evenings during Lent; it would involve making a meal for them and chatting to them. Ben Shatliff will be at the back of church during all three masses this weekend with more information. Ben can be contacted on 0161 773 7561 or 07860 790 996 or enquiries@benjaminshatliff.com

THE NEW COMBINED ROTA FOR READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS at St. Bernadette's church is available from the sacristy and will take effect from today, any previous rota should be ignored. Rearrangements can be made by directly contacting another Reader or Minister, using contact details on the rota.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: RCIA meets on Wednesday in the Lourdes room at St Bernadette's at 7.30pm. Please remember in your prayers Louise Smith and Paul Johnstone from our parish who are preparing to be received into Full Communion with the Church at Easter and attend the Rite of Election with Bishop John in Salford Cathedral today at 2.30pm.

TABLE TOP SALE AT ST MICHAEL'S Sunday 25th February. Check with Angela 0161 796 2128 to see if any tables are available.

CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY will be observed this year on Friday 23rd February. We will distribute the CAFOD envelopes on the weekend of 24th/25th February and they can be returned the following weekend 3rd/4th March as our monthly parish charity collection.

FOOD BANK your weekly donations are much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY many thanks for the interest expressed, unfortunately there is not yet sufficient support to facilitate a group at the 9.30am Mass.

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 2nd March: the local gathering will be at St George's, Hollins Lane, Unsworth at 2.00pm.

A LENTEN RETREAT: ACCOMPANYING JESUS IN THE EVENTS OF HOLY WEEK using Scripture, Poetry art and music on the Fridays of Lent at Wardley Hall, 10.30am-12.30pm. 23rd February: Last Supper; 2nd March: Washing of the Feet; 9th March: Gethsemane and Arrest; 16th March: Jesus' Trial; 23rd March: The Crucifixion. To confirm participation Marie Sartini at Wardley Hall: marie.sartini@dioceseofsalford.org.uk 0161 794 2825 or Sister Joan Kerley on 0161 971 7842.

LENTEN PRAYER WORKSHOPS a series of Prayer Workshops are being offered across the Diocese. Over three evenings, participants will be introduced to different methods of prayer and invited to experience them within their Lenten Prayer: Schoenstatt Shrine, Manchester Rd, Kearsley on Tuesdays 6th, 13th and 20th March; The Cloisters at Cathedral House, Chapel St, Salford, on Tuesdays 13th, 20th and 27th March. The evenings start at 7.30pm and finish at 9pm. While booking is not essential it would be help give an idea of numbers if people could email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

CHURCH CLEANING the new rota for St Bernadette's is now available. Thank you to all who keep our churches looking so well cared for.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE (BURY BRANCH) from May 3rd – May 6th, deposit £50 standard room £210.50, ensuite £253, leaving St Michael's 9.45am on Thursday 3rd May. Please contact Kath Gill on 0161 766 5273.

JIMMY CRICKET returns by popular demand, to St Michael's Hall, Ribble Drive, on Friday 9th March 2018. Join him for a night of Laughter. Tickets are £10 each in advance or £13 at the door. A raffle will be held – prizes welcome. All funds raised will be used to deliver more Primary education in East Africa and teacher training. Further information, and tickets from Tom Power on 0161 796 9926.

CREDIT UNION is open after 9.30am Mass in St Michael's Archangel room and after 11:00am Mass on Sundays at St Bernadette's Parish centre. You may deposit money or receive advice on loans, managing your account or joining as a new member.

SALORD DOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2018 the 86th annual pilgrimage led by Bishop John will take place between Friday 27th July and Thursday 2nd August. Details about travel and accommodation are available from Joe Walsh Tours on 0161 820 8790 or via email: info@joewalshstours.co.uk