



**EVERY YEAR ON THIS, THE WEEKEND OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER WE CELEBRATE THE DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD.**

In our Diocese we have 106 parishes (of which 50 have 2 or 3 churches in the one parish) plus hospitals.

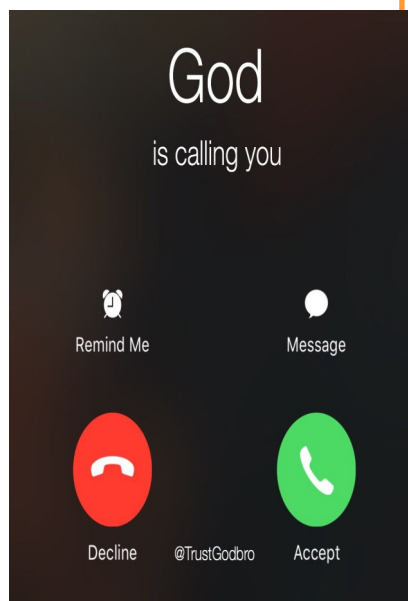
We have 79 Salford Diocesan priests working in parishes. Of these 20 will retire in the next ten years.

In addition we have c35 priests, some from religious orders, most from overseas.

We do have two seminarians training to be priests and a possible two starting this September.

We also have seven permanent deacons ministering in the Diocese, six in training for ordination as deacons, and a possible three starting training this year.

So let's pray for vocations as priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers.



**Might you be called to become a priest? Open to exploring it further?**

**Come along to a prayerful day of Reflection** at Schoenstatt Shrine, St John Fisher, Manchester Road, Kearsley, Bolton, BL4 8QQ, on Saturday 13th June, 10am-2:30pm

The day will include talks from our Vocations Directors; Mass; Adoration; time for personal prayer and strolls around the beautiful grounds. Lunch will be included.

Spaces are limited, so to register your interest, email [michael.deas@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:michael.deas@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) and your booking will be confirmed in due course.

**Youth Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne**

Following on from the success of last year's pilgrimage to Lindisfarne, we are offering young people in years 7, 8 and 9 another opportunity to go to Lindisfarne from Friday 22 May – Sunday 24 May 2026. The cost is £120 which includes travel by coach and full board accommodation. We will be staying on the island at the SVP Camp. For more information or if you have any questions, contact [youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**I am the Door of the sheepfold**  
by Malcom Guite

Not one that's gently hinged or deftly hung,  
Not like the ones you planed at Joseph's place,  
Not like the well-oiled openings that swung  
So easily for Pilate's practiced pace,  
Not like the ones that closed in Mary's face  
From house to house in brimming Bethlehem,  
Not like the one that no man may assail,  
The dreadful curtain, The forbidding veil  
That waits your breaking in Jerusalem.

Not one you made but one you have become:  
Load-bearing, balancing, a weighted beam  
To bridge the gap, to bring us within reach  
Of your high pasture. Calling us by name,  
You lay your body down across the breach,  
Yourself the door that opens into home.

**CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS!** To keep in touch with you we invite you to register as parishioners. A Google Form has been created. Do use the QR code (right) to submit it.



**Pope Leo's Intention:** For priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

In our Diocese this week we pray for the parish of the Holy Cross and St Helen, Ashton, and for Fr Jude Lemeh, and Fr. Joachin Nwaorgi, of the Vincentian Fathers, together with the Missionary Sisters of St. Michael the Archangel. We pray for the chaplaincy to Tameside General Hospital, for the parish primary schools and for St. Damian's Science College.

In our parish we pray for all who live on Emmet St East, Bush Street and Sanderson Street.

For Fr Chris Lough, Sister Dolores and all the sick.

For Sr Colette, PBVM, Dympna Ann Slack, Thomas Lawrence, Norah Fletcher, David Connor, Elizabeth Golden, Mary Burgess and all who have died recently, and Andrew Maguire and all remembered at this time.

E	R	U	T	S	A	P	E	D	R	SHEEPFOLD	THIEF	BRIGAND
D	E	E	P	H	H	E	N	L	E	SHEPHERD	FLOCK	GATEKEEPER
R	P	E	T	L	I	A	C	O	E	STRANGER	PARABLE	PASTURE
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**This Week's Feasts: Mon: St. Macaldus,** robber chief turned Christian, ordained by St. Patrick, first Bishop of the Isle of Man.

**Tue: St Peter Chanel,** first martyr of Oceania, born in France in 1803, joined the Marists and travelled to the Southern Pacific. After working there without success for 5 years, he was clubbed to death. His martyrdom converted all the islanders to the Faith.

**St Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort,** born in 1673, became a priest after great hardships, founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Divine Wisdom and the Missionary Priests of Mary and wrote "The True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin". He died in 1716.

**St. Gianna Beretta Molla,** born in Italy in 1922, qualified as a doctor and worked as a GP/paediatrician. She married, bore 3 children and suffered 2 miscarriages. In 1961 she became pregnant again. She was advised to have an abortion but told the doctors; "This time it will be a difficult delivery, and they may have to save one or the other; I want them to save my baby." On Good Friday 1962 her daughter was delivered by Caesarian section. Seven days later Gianna died of peritonitis. She was canonised in 2004 in the presence of her husband and children.



**Wed: St. Catherine of Siena,** born at Siena in 1347. She became a Dominican while still an adolescent. She brought peace and harmony between her fellow citizens, strenuously fought for the rights and liberty of the papacy, and did much for the renewal of religious life. She dictated a number of writings that are renowned for the spirituality and sound doctrine. She died in 1380

**Thur: St. Pius V,** a Dominican, became Pope in 1566, reforming the church, with a renewal of the liturgy, the creation of seminaries for the training of priests and a catechism of the Catholic faith.

**St. Erconwald,** 7th century founder of the monastery at Barking, Bishop of London.

**Bl. William Southerne,** arrested saying Mass, was executed in 1618 at Newcastle under Lyme.

**Fri: St. Joseph the Worker,** carpenter of Nazareth, is patron saint of all workers.

**St. Asaph** succeeded St. Kentigern as Bishop of Llanelwy (church on the river Elwy) upon St. Kentigern's return to Strathclyde. Llanelwy, in English, is now called after St. Asaph.

**Sat: St. Athanasius** was bishop of Alexandria. He died in 373.

**Bl. William Tirry,** from Cork, became an Augustinian, becoming Prior of the Austin Friars at Skreen. The same year marked the beginning of the Cromwellian persecution in Ireland. He was executed in 1654.

**Catholic Social Teaching** Caritas Salford is offering a free online webinar to introduce the basic principles of Catholic Social Teaching in an accessible way, with a particular focus on building hope, homes and a positive future for all. This will take place on Thursday 30th April 2026 from 6PM to 7:15PM. With local elections approaching in May, the time is right to raise our awareness of CST and reflect on how it can help to inform the decisions and choices we make in life. Register for your free place or find out more : [www.caritassalford.org.uk/events](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/events)

Please help the parish via the QR code OR BY MACHINE in the church porches.



Thank you for your generosity last weekend £448.56 (loose), £204 (giftaided)

If you would like an 8 day light to burn for a particular intention in front of the Bl Sacrament, Our Lady or St. Joseph please write the intention on an envelope. If you can enclose a donation we suggest £10.

**HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW OUR PARISH STORY?**

1836 Upon arrival in Liverpool the sisters attended Mass after which they continued their journey and arrived in the evening at Newton in the Willows where Sr Mary Francis unfortunately slept in a damp bed, which seriously injured her constitution.

On Monday they went to the Bishop's Residence where they saw His Lordship in his chamber of sickness. He gave them every token of his regard and earnestly wished them every success and happiness. The Bishop appointed Sr Mary Magdalen Sargent to be Superioress.

His Lordship granted them permission to cross a small part of the burial ground at St. Patrick's between the Convent and the Church, to enter a vestry to hear Mass receive Benediction etc.

He appointed the Rev D Hearne as Superior, the Rev J Crook as Ordinary Confessor and the Rev Thompson as Extraordinary, and then gave them his solemn blessing. They proceeded to the Rev Thomas Lupton's house at Garswood where they were most kindly received and hospitably entertained. They breakfasted there on Tuesday morning and then started for Manchester. In leaving the house, Mother Magdalen knelt down to ask Fr. Lupton's blessing upon all of them and upon their new foundation. He said to her, as he placed his hands upon her head "Yes, Mother Magdalen, I do wish you well and I wish you plenty of crosses; they will ensure the good work to be safe and do well."

They came to St. Patrick's on Tuesday 19th January and remained there that night.