

SACRED HEART CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, 20th January 2019

CHRISTIAN UNITY : The annual week of prayer for this intention begins today. To mark the occasion, we welcome the Rev. Sheelagh Aston from St Silas', who will preach at the 10.30 Mass, while Fr Jim will simultaneously give the address at the morning service at St Silas'. We welcome Fr Paul Taylor as celebrant of our Mass and also hope to be joined for coffee and cake in the Parish Room afterwards by members of St Silas' congregation.

CARITAS SUNDAY will be observed next Sunday, 27th January. A major Salford Diocese charity, formerly known as the Catholic Children's Rescue Society (founded in 1886), CARITAS has expanded to respond to many areas of need in our parishes, including work with the homeless, with children and families in the wider community, and more recently in the welcoming and placement of refugees. Central administrative costs are kept to a minimum to ensure that every penny donated makes a real difference. The work of Caritas in schools and parishes in our diocese is growing in importance as we strive to be missionary disciples.

THE SECOND COLLECTION next Sunday, along with ongoing support, will allow Caritas Diocese of Salford to respond where the need is greatest in the year ahead. Please be generous in contributing to this special collection at next weekend's Masses.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK :

Monday, 21st January : St Agnes	NO MASS
Tuesday, 22nd January : St Vincent	12 noon
Wednesday, 23rd January :	Requiem Mass (Oliver Atkinson) 12 noon
Thursday, 24th January : St Francis de Sales	7.15 p.m.
Friday, 25th January : The Conversion of St Paul (Exposition 11 a.m.)	12 noon
Saturday, 26th January : Ss. Timothy & Titus	12 noon & 6.15 p.m. (Vigil)
Sunday, 27th January :	10.30 a.m.

DAILY MASS READINGS for the coming week are taken from Week 2, Year 1.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK :

St Agnes (Monday) : Venerated as a virgin martyr of the early Church, Agnes was, according to a fifth century record, only about thirteen when suffering martyrdom for refusing to marry a pagan. Her name is included in the Roman Canon (1st Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass). She is often portrayed with a lamb, a symbol of her purity and humility. There is a play on words involved here, as in Greek her name means 'chaste', while the Latin word 'agnus' means 'lamb' (as in the Agnus Dei prayer of the Mass).

St Vincent (Tuesday) : A fourth century deacon of the Church in Saragossa, Spain, Vincent was brutally tortured and martyred in Valencia during the persecution of Christians under the emperor Diocletian. His cult grew quickly and both St Augustine and St Leo preached sermons in his honour. St Vincent is regarded as the first martyr of Spain.

St Francis de Sales (Thursday) : Born in 1597, he was ordained priest and worked zealously for the Church, distributing printed essays on the Catholic faith. Appointed Bishop of Geneva, he was exemplary in his pastoral care. He founded, along with St Jane Frances de Chantal, the religious order of the Visitation and he also wrote 'The Introduction to the Devout Life', a handbook to holiness. Appropriately, St Francis is patron saint of journalists and writers, as declared by Pope Pius XI in 1923.

The Conversion of St Paul (Friday) : This feast commemorates the conversion of Saul of Tarsus while he was on his way to Damascus to persecute Christians there. He was suddenly blinded by a bright light and thrown from his horse, hearing the words, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'. Pope Benedict XVI wrote of Paul : 'The Risen Christ spoke to Paul, called him to the apostolate and made him a true Apostle, a witness of the Resurrection, with the specific task of proclaiming the Gospel to the Gentiles, to the Graeco-Roman world'.

Ss. Timothy & Titus (Saturday) : They were companions and disciples of St Paul on his journeys who were entrusted with the care of the Christian communities of Ephesus and Crete respectively. In the New Testament we

find Paul's letters of pastoral advice to them, which are sometimes used as readings in the Mass.

ANNIVERSARIES : Please remember in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur about this time including : Steve Crook (2018), Sebastian Lowe (2018), Denys Mahon, Eileen Edwards, Lena Martin, Kath Holden, Roland Wilson, Jane Parrington, Mary Fenning, Margaret Teresa Walkden, Ellen Bell, Raymond Smith, Peter Moloney, Kathleen Regan, Leshia Farrelly, John Regan, Alan Isherwood. May they rest in peace.

Please also pray for the repose of the souls of former parishioner Terry Scahill who has died recently and Oliver Atkinson whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Wednesday at 12 noon. May they rest in the peace of the risen Lord.

PARISH LUNCH : Thursday's menu of sausage casserole followed by scrumptious lemon meringue pie and cream was a real treat on a beautiful sunny day enjoyed by some 38 diners. Our appreciation as always to our hard-working catering team who overcame a number of obstacles to deliver on time. The next lunch will be on Thursday, 14th February.

300 CLUB JANUARY DRAW : As we will be entertaining visitors from St Silas' for coffee and cake in the Parish Room following the 10.30 Mass today, the draw will be made next Sunday, 27th January.

BINGO as usual in the Parish Room on Thursday evening at 7.45.

KNIT 'N' NATTER group meet tomorrow (Monday) afternoon in the Parish Room from 2p.m.