



## ***Parish of St Anne and St Joseph***

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**Facebook**  
St Anne and St Joseph, Accrington

**Website**  
www.stanneandstjosephaccrington.org.uk

**4th Sunday of Easter**

**26th April 2026**



**Monday 27th April (Easter Weekday)**

9:00am Holy Mass at St Anne's

9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

**Tuesday 28th April (St Peter Chanel)**

9:00am Holy Mass at St Anne's

9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

**Wednesday 29th April (St Catherine of Siena)**

No Holy Mass at St Anne's

9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

**Thursday 30th April (St Pius)**

9:00am Holy Mass at St Anne's

No Holy Mass at St Joseph's

**Friday 1st May (St Joseph the Worker)**

9:00am Holy Mass at St Anne's

9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

**Saturday 2nd May (St Athanasius)**

10:00am Holy Mass at St Joseph's

11:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions at St Anne's

12:00noon Mass at St Anne's

5:30pm Vigil Mass at St Anne's

**Sunday 3rd May (5th Sunday of Easter)**

9:00am Sunday Mass at St Joseph's

11:00am Sunday Mass at St Anne's

**READERS' ROTA**

**In St Anne's**

**Saturday 2nd May**

Margaret Gaskell & Paul Nester

**Sunday 3rd May**

Andrew Szalz

**In St Joseph's**

**Sunday 3rd May**

Anne-Marie Parker

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Sick:** Helen Hyndman, Joan Gallagher, Margaret Coyne, Stephanie Reid, Davy Lightbody, Sheila Young, Martin Moxham, Sheila Winterbottom, Theo Ralph, Peter Crossley, Fr J P Coulon, Joan Duckworth, Maureen Grady, Adrian Melling, Sr Mary Colette, Tommy McMullan, Janet Flood, Shirley Higginson, Joyce Duckett;

**Lately Dead:** Peter Wilkinson; John Dunleavey

**Anniversaries:** Tony Anderson

### Confessions in St Anne's

Saturdays: 11:00am - 11:45am  
4:45pm - 5:15pm

### Confessions in St Joseph's

Saturdays: 10:30am - 11:30am

### NO CASH? NO PROBLEM!



You can make donations to the parish using our new card machine in St Anne's located near the collection baskets. There is also an option to Gift Aid your donation. Or, you can make donations to the parish by scanning this QR Code on your mobile phone and it will direct you to a website where you can donate money to the parish.



### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME



The next Sacramental programme will be **Monday, 11th May** at **6:00pm** in St Anne's Church.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBA



Our next meeting is **Tuesday, 19th May, at 7:30pm** in the Marian Room at St Anne's Church. All men of the parish are warmly invited to attend.

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB



The next meeting of the Friendship Club will be on **Wednesday, 6th May, at 2:00pm** in St Joseph's Hall. It will be a Mardi Gras theme celebrating carnival. It will be great fun!

### GRAND EASTER RAFFLE

The **2nd Prize** - £100 - 02715 - No name - has still not been claimed. Can you please double check your tickets to see if you are one of our lucky winners and contact the Parish Office at St Anne's.

### ST ANNE'S LADIES



Our next meeting will be **Monday, 11th May**. We will be going to The Park on Manchester Road. Meet on St Anne's carpark at 12:30noon for lunch at 1:00pm.

### ST JOSEPH'S LADIES

St Joseph's ladies meet every Wednesday, apart from the 1st Wednesday of the month, in the church hall at 1:00pm for chat, games, quizzes, tea/coffee, cake, occasional meals out and good company.



All welcome!

## IN IT TO WIN IT!!! WEEK 2

Saturday Night's winning number was: **48 - Spare Number**

Wednesday Night's winning number was: **7 - Susan McKeown**

It is time once again to collect church lottery money. Please either post your lottery money through the presbytery door or, leave in the collection basket at the back of church. Please ensure that you place your money in an envelope with your name written on.



## CONFIRMATION 2026



There will be a meeting on **Monday, 27th April, at 7:00pm** in St Anne's Church for young people in Year 8 or above who wish to be confirmed this year. Further details will be given on the night.

## POLISH MASS



Fr Robert Pytel, the Chaplain to our Polish community, will be celebrating Mass next Sunday, **3rd May, at 1:00pm**. Please pass on the message to anyone you know who might be interested.

## SAVE THE DATE

To celebrate Father Livesey's up and coming Diamond Jubilee there will be Mass on **Monday, 8th June, at 7:00pm** in St Joseph's Church followed by refreshments in the hall.



In the next couple of weeks, sign up sheets will be placed at the back of both churches for catering purposes.

A banner for the Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. It features a background image of a large Gothic cathedral with a tall spire, set against a sunset sky. In the foreground, there are two circular logos: one with a figure in a red and white robe, and another with a figure in a blue and white robe. The text on the banner reads: "The 92<sup>nd</sup> Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes", "30<sup>th</sup> July - 5<sup>th</sup> August 2026", "For booking information visit: www.salfordlourdes.co.uk or contact Joe Walsh Tours on 0808 189 0468."/>

The 92<sup>nd</sup> Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

30<sup>th</sup> July - 5<sup>th</sup> August 2026

For booking information visit:  
[www.salfordlourdes.co.uk](http://www.salfordlourdes.co.uk)  
or contact Joe Walsh Tours on  
0808 189 0468.

# CALLED:

WELCOME TO OUR

## Vocations Newsletter

### An Introduction from Vocations Director Fr Mark Paver

On Maundy Thursday this year, as we commemorated the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, we were inspired to consider the life of Servant of God Fr Ragheed Ganni. Fr Ragheed was an Iraqi Chaldean priest who, along with 3 subdeacons, was shot dead outside his church in Mosul, Iraq at the age of 35 on Trinity Sunday in 2007. Fr Ragheed had studied in Rome and lived at the Pontifical Irish College, celebrating his first Mass there in 2001. Having obtained a Licentiate in Ecumenism he returned to his native Iraq in 2003.

A telegram from the Secretary of State of the Vatican to Fr Ragheed's Bishop shortly after his death read: "Ragheed's sacrifice will inspire in the hearts of all men and women of good will a renewed resolve to reject the ways of hatred and violence, to conquer evil with good and to cooperate in hastening the dawn of reconciliation, justice and peace in Iraq."


As Maundy Thursday was celebrated this year, the Middle East was in turmoil again. There remains a profound need for reconciliation, justice and peace - although now the focal point is no longer Iraq but Iran.


Preaching in Rome this Maundy Thursday, Pope Leo placed emphasis on service and appealed to priests as brothers, "Beloved brothers in the priesthood, we are called to serve the People of God with our whole lives". Fr Ragheed served a minority Christian community in Mosul and would, for the most part, have lived a life of simple service - daily Mass, baptisms, funerals, weddings, teaching the catechism, visiting the sick and all the rest. In all probability, he would be unknown to us were it not for the events of that Trinity Sunday in 2007. And yet it was in carrying out this humble mission that his heart was being conformed to Christ, preparing him to give the ultimate gift of his life following the model that Christ himself showed us at the Last Supper, "Love one another, even as I have loved you...By this all men will know that you are my disciples." (John 13:34-35).

As we introduce this 5th edition of "Called", the Diocese of Salford's newsletter on vocations to the priesthood and the permanent diaconate, we invite men to consider if they might be called to give themselves in humble service of the people of God. We will hear from two priests as they approach ten years since they were ordained to the priesthood together, and we will look forward to a day of recollection for those considering the priesthood. Please pray for vocations to the priesthood and permanent diaconate! And for the priests and permanent deacons serving in the Diocese. Fr Ragheed Ganni, pray for us!

### Contact Us

If you would like to speak to a member of our team regarding a possible vocation to the priesthood or permanent diaconate, please get in touch:

 [vocations@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:vocations@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

 0161 817 2226

Or find out more by visiting  
[dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/vocations/](http://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/vocations/)

## Update by Numbers

- 9** Men in our enquirers' group at different stages of exploring a possible vocation to the priesthood.
- 2** Men currently in formation for the priesthood.
- 7** Ordained permanent deacons in active ministry in our diocese.
- 6** Men in formation for the permanent diaconate, with a further 4 exploring a possible vocation.

## Vocations Day of Reflection

A prayerful day of reflection for those who feel called to priesthood. Includes talks from the two Diocese of Salford Vocations Directors; Mass; Adoration; time for personal prayer and strolls around the beautiful grounds. Lunch will be included.

Venue: Schoenstatt Shrine, St John Fisher, Manchester Road, Kearsley, Bolton, BL4 8QQ.

Date and time: Saturday 13th June, 10am-2:30pm

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

## The Pope's April Prayer For Priests

The Pope's prayer intention for April invites Catholics to pray for priests and to "support those who so often support us." He also prays for the Catholic community around them "Good Father, teach us as a community to care for our priests; to listen without judging, to give thanks without demanding perfection, to share with them the baptismal mission of proclaiming the kingdom in word and deed, and to accompany them with closeness and sincere prayer."

## How can you help?

We ask you to pray for our clergy, those in training and all those discerning their own vocation. You can also help by giving a gift to the Clergy Educational Fund. It costs £25,000 a year to train a priest. Any contribution you can make will support the work of the diocese's Vocations team, so they can encourage and inspire those who hear God's call and will support the seminary fees and living costs of our Seminarians and those in formation for the diaconate.

Please consider helping the diocese ensure the next generation of priests receive the formation, education and support they need to answer God's call. To donate, please go now to <https://donate.mydona.com/diocese-of-salford> and select 'Clergy Fund'.

## A Decade of Ministry: Fr Michael Deas & Fr Richard Howard

Recently, we were privileged to listen in as Fr Richard Howard joined Fr Michael Deas for a discussion on 10 years of priesthood, as they shared stories of their ordination and reflected on the rewards and surprising challenges of ministry. We heard insights into what brings them fulfilment in their service of God, the support they find from their brother priests, and more.

Scan the QR Code to watch the conversation and share in their memories of the past ten years:



## Deacon Patrick Tifu's First Year of Ministry

This summer will mark one year since the ordination of Deacon Patrick Tifu, the youngest of our Permanent Diaconate and the latest to be ordained. We sat down with Deacon Patrick to hear about the months since ordination, to reflect on his path to the Diaconate, and to learn more about how his family continue to support and inspire him in his ministry. To read more about Deacon Patrick's service to the people of God in our diocese, head to the News section of the diocesan website.

## *Pray with the Pope*

Lord Jesus,

Good Shepherd and companion on the journey,  
today we place in your hands all priests,  
especially those going through moments of crisis,  
when loneliness weighs heavily,  
when doubt clouds their hearts,  
and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope.

You who know their struggles and wounds,  
renew in them the certainty of your unconditional love.  
Let them feel they are not mere functionaries or lonely heroes,  
but beloved sons, humble and cherished disciples,  
and pastors sustained by the prayer of their people.

Good Father,

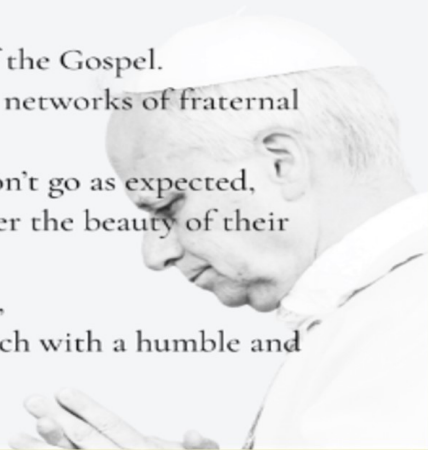
teach us as a community to care for our priests:  
to listen without judging,  
to give thanks without demanding perfection,  
to share with them the baptismal mission  
of proclaiming the Kingdom in word and deed,  
and to accompany them with closeness and sincere prayer.  
May we support those who so often support us.

Holy Spirit,

rekindle in our priests the joy of the Gospel.  
Grant them healthy friendships, networks of fraternal  
support,  
a sense of humor when things don't go as expected,  
and the grace to always rediscover the beauty of their  
vocation.

May they never lose trust in You,  
nor the joy of serving your Church with a humble and  
generous heart.

Amen.





Our next Mass with the anointing of the Sick will take place on Saturday 2nd May at 12:00 noon.

Before Mass there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for Confession.

All Welcome

### SIGNED MASS

I will be celebrating Mass this Sunday afternoon in Sign Language at St John's Church, Ivy Street, Burnley All welcome.



### CORPUS CHRISTI



On the Solemnity of Corpus Christi 7th June at 3:00pm this there will be an outdoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament at St Mary's Magdalene's Church. This is a wonderful way to demonstrate our belief in the Holy Eucharist - 'our highway to heaven' as St Carlo Acutis called it.

I strongly encourage all of you to be present at that procession. We need to witness more to our faith in a public way rather than sit back and do nothing!



### CURRY NIGHT

The Salford Diocesan Nursing & Medical Group will be holding their annual curry night on 30th April at 6:30pm for 7:00pm at The Agra, Hapton. Tickets cost £20.00 per person and includes mixed starters and a main.



**If you would like a ticket see Fr Francis ASAP as numbers have to be given in on Monday.**

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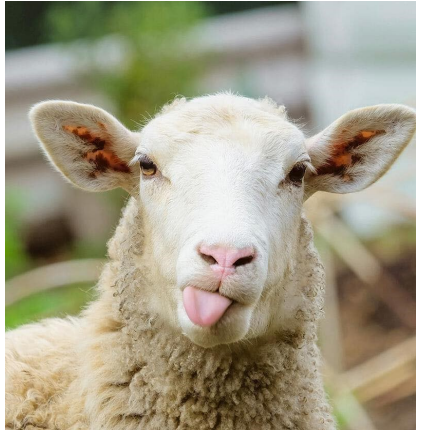
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SHEPHERD	FLOCK	GATEKEEPER
STRANGER	PARABLE	PASTURE
STEAL	KILL	LIFE



## With Love and Faith, we achieve together ...

### Father's Musings

This Sunday is traditionally called 'Good Shepherd Sunday', because of the Gospel references to Jesus as the Good Shepherd. It is also the day of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. On this Sunday we hear one of the great 'I am' statements of Jesus from Saint John's Gospel today 'I am the gate of the sheepfold'. Through Jesus we enter into life and safety, and we 'go through Jesus, the gate' by baptism. This image is implied in all today's readings: the people listening to Peter find this gateway and enter through it: Peter writes to remind us that we have come back to the Good Shepherd, who heals us by his wounds.



This week I have celebrated the Requiem Masses for the repose of the souls of John Dunleavy and Peter Wilkinson. I have also officiated at the funeral liturgy in the crematorium chapel for the late June Kennedy. Please remember them and their families in your prayers at this sad time.



On Wednesday my free day took me, courtesy of British Rail to Chester. There I had a little mooch round and nice lunch in a little hostelry not far from the station. I also visited the famous cheese shop and bought some pecorino cheese with truffles and some stinking bishop.

**VOLUNTEERS** - Do we have anyone in the parish who might consider taking on any of the following roles? If so, please have a word with Fr Francis. The more people that volunteer the easier and less burdensome the tasks become for all of us. It will also help relieve some of the pressure from Fr F.

Gardening	Reading at Mass	Sacristan (preparing things for Mass)
Unlocking & locking the Church	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Serving
Church Cleaning	Flower Arranging	Choir
Parish Hall at St J	Apparitors	Welcomers
	Cleaning Brasses	SVP
		KSC

...for we are nothing without Christ.