

**St. Ambrose Barlow,
Swinton and Pendlebury
Newsletter
13 September 2020. Twenty Fourth
Sunday
Page 128 in Mass Book.**

***Re-opening of our
Churches.***

We are now at a point when we can begin to re-open our churches in a phased way.

Given that last Thursday was the patronal feast of Saint Ambrose Barlow, we celebrated Mass in Saint Mark's

This week we will celebrate Mass in Saint Mark's as per the regular schedule of 10.00am on Monday and Friday.

I was hoping to have Saint Charles open for private prayer this coming week, but there is still a lot of cleaning up to be done by the workmen.

Sunday Mass will be a few weeks off. I would like to re-open for Sunday Mass only when both churches are ready. Let's pray that there is no significant change to our infection rates to bring about stricter lock-downs meanwhile. This will be when a ramp is installed for the new access to Saint Charles.

***Thank you for your patience
meanwhile.***

Father Paul

***The Coming
Week.***

***Sunday
13 September
Twenty Fourth Sunday in
Ordinary Time.
10.00am (Sunday morning)
Mass via Zoom.
We will also be recording
celebrations. Keep an eye on the
parish website***

**The Zoom link for Mass
is:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82766545200?pwd=Q2RZZE9SWWNkd1lyTGpUMVlrdENQQT09>

In case you need it:
Meeting ID: 827 6654 5200
Password: 112448



· *If you are using a computer,* you should be fine. Clicking the link will work as usual.

· *If you are using a phone or a tablet,* you need to upgrade to Zoom 5.0 or Zoom will force you to do that before you are able to join Mass, and it may delay you. To check what version of Zoom you have, open the Zoom application on your phone/tablet, click 'settings' and 'about'. If the version number doesn't begin with 5, then please update your application. If you're struggling, come to Mass early at 9.30 am on Sunday morning and click the link as usual. Hopefully, it should then automatically update for you.

*Some browsers are not working with the link so you can access the Zoom Mass via the Zoom website (www.zoom.us) by joining a meeting (top right hand corner) and using the following (you can ignore this if the link works for you):
Meeting ID: 827 6654 5200
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***Monday
14 September
The Exaltation of the Holy
Cross
10.00am Mass in Saint Mark's.***

***Tuesday
15 September.
Our Lady of Sorrows.
Churches not open today.***

***Wednesday
16 September.
Saints Cornelius, Pope
and Cyprian, Bishop.
Martyrs. Both men lived at a
time of great turbulence in the
Church: they were at the forefront of
the debate on reconciling those who
had denied the faith under
persecution. Together they struck a
middle course and guided the
Church onward by their writing and
preaching. Cornelius died in exile in
253; Cyprian was martyred in 258.
Churches not open today.***

***Thursday
17 September
Weekday in Ordinary Time
Churches not open today.***

***Friday
18 September
Weekday in Ordinary Time
10.00am Mass in Saint Mark's.***

***Saturday
19 September
Weekday in Ordinary Time***

***Sunday
20 September
Twenty Fifth Sunday of
the Year***

Hope in the Future Prayer Cycle

This week we pray for the people of the parish of Holy Cross and St. Helen, Ashton, with Fr. Simon Firth, their parish priest, Fr. Gavin Landers and the sisters of St. Michael the Archangel. We pray for their parish primary schools, St. Damian's College and the chaplaincy to Tameside Hospital.

New Facilities

At long last I am happy to announce that we now have a toilet at the back of church with facilities for people with disabilities and also baby-changing facilities. There is still some finishing up work to do including cleaning of the porch. This now means that there will be no access to the toilet in the house and this has come at a good time given the risk factors at this time of pandemic.

Saint Mary's Church News.

At last I can now report that after much delay caused by the machinations of bureaucracy the demolition firm have moved in. It's a sad sight but a relief that the long process of letting go is coming to completion.

Lest We Forget

Covid is spread through coughs, sneezes and breath amongst other ways.

Covid is carried on our tissues or hands or anything we use to sneeze or cough into (crook of arm for instance).

It's also carried on our clothes and probably hair. An infected person can infect another directly, through coughs,

sneezes and touch, or indirectly through touching surfaces where the infected hands and clothing touch another.

Infected people can also project the virus further than 2 metres if they project their voice, which is the main reason why we're not able to sing together or have the choir at this time.

Thank You

To those who have handed in "catch up" offertory collections and to those of you who pay by Standing Order. It has been a great boost in these times of little income.

Our accounts have now been amalgamated. **Could I encourage you once again to consider contributing through Standing Order. This is even more important now that we no longer have local bank facilities for paying in cash. PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL ME** for a form.

And – could all of you who contribute financially to the upkeep of the parish consider making your offerings gift-aided. It is a free and painless way of increasing the value of your giving.

New Offertory Envelopes

This years envelopes are now available to collect from the back of St. Marks for now. The envelopes have been re-numbered to include all those from the whole parish who use envelopes. Please ensure you take the correct set of envelopes. *IF you cannot see your envelopes, please call or email me with your name and address and your previous set number.*

A member of Churches Together in Swinton and Pendlebury

Registered Charity No. 250037

Parish Priest: Rev. Mgr. Paul F. Smith STL;

• ☎ 0161 794 1089 • 📧 paul.smith@dioceseofsalford.org.uk website: www.stcharlesswinton.com

ALL INFORMATION BELOW SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS SEE BODY OF NEWSLETTER FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

9.30am Saint Mark's.
11.15am Saint. Charles.
(with children's Liturgy)
4.00pm Saint Mark's

Weekdays

Monday and Friday
10.00am Saint Mark's.

Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am
Saint Charles.

Wednesday – normally in school
as detailed above.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Charles: Saturdays: 11.30am
-12.00noon
St. Mark: On Request

BAPTISMS

By appointment. Parents are
expected to attend a course of
preparation.

WEDDINGS

Six months notice is normally
required.

ST. CHARLES:

Saint Vincent de Paul Society
Contact: 07434513732

Union of Catholic Mothers
First and third Tuesdays at 7.15pm

Beaver Scouts

Mondays in school at 6.00pm

Cub Scouts

Tuesdays in school at 6.00 pm
(Contact Adela: 07768182553)

Brownies

Thursdays in school 6.15 – 7.30PM

Rainbows

Thursdays in school 5.00 – 6.00PM
(Contact Mary: 07398016242)

If you would like to receive this weekly newsletter by e-mail Fr. Paul requesting to be on the mailing list.

Confirmation Programme.

As you will already know from newsletters and from school, the Sacrament of Confirmation will in future be celebrated for the children of Year 8 who enrol for the programme. **The heart of the programme** will be twelve units during the course of the school year.



An optional addition to this will be the "Faith in Action" programme, which is voluntary and designed to enable the children of the programme to be more involved in their parishes. Our parish has already begun this and those who took part were recently presented with a medal and bronze certificate by the bishop. There will also be silver and gold levels available in time.

The one big need we have now is a group of catechists.

I am aware that there is already a committed group who organise the Sacramental Programme. Clearly they cannot also take on another commitment. Perhaps you might think of volunteering?

The good news is that a lot of the organisational work will be done for you....

Deanery Confirmation Programme Co-ordinator. The parishes of the deanery have committed to employing a deanery co-ordinator for the Confirmation Programme.

She is Sister Anna Yeo, from the same community as Sister Linda (Daughters of Divine Charity) whom many of you will have met or heard of from her time working in schools during the past couple of years. She has now taken up her post and is working on the units of the programme and will be delivering them with the support of catechists.

All of which is to say – please think of offering your services for work as catechist on our Confirmation Programme. I can guarantee you will find it very rewarding.

Although the immediate preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation will be children in Year 8, there will be involvement in Year 6 and Year 7 leading up to it.

As with the First Holy Communion programme, the Confirmation Programme will be parish based, i.e. not part of school timetable. This means those not in our Catholic High Schools will be able to take part.

Details of dates, venues, enrolment and other information will be circulated in due course. Clearly the current lockdown situation has interrupted much of the administration work and circulating of information but it is now in hand.



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SVP AWARENESS MONTH

September is the month chosen by the SVP to make everyone aware of what the SVP is all about. One of the reasons this month is chosen is because it is the month in which the Society was founded on the birthday of the founder Blessed Frederic Ozanan.

Frederic founded the society so that people could go out and meet the poor wherever they were and find a way of helping them. This may be a visit, a gift of money or time, a lift somewhere - but also it may involve taking action to remove the cause of someone's poverty or make life better for many by involving yourself in social action. The society encourages its members to use their talents in whatever way they choose to do so.

"Our members are not just followers, not just disciples, not just apostles, they are ambassadors for Christ. An ambassador is sent out by the leader, and puts their own thoughts or point of view into their work. Our members are called to go out and seek those in need and put their own personalities and life experience into the friendships they develop." SVP National President Adrian Abel.

We are a group of ordinary people - each with their own gifts, likes and dislikes. Some of us like driving, some like listening to and visiting others, some like fund raising, some like getting to form friendships with others. Some of us have gifts of speaking, some of organisation; we gain laughter and insight and grace from the time we spend with others. We are just ordinary people. Come and join us. Ask any SVP member for more information - including Father Paul.

A Coronavirus Prayer

Loving and healing God,

We turn to you in prayer, confident that you are with us and with all people in every moment. We stand before you as a people of hope, trusting in your care and protection.

May your faithful love support us and soothe the anxiety of our hearts.

Generous God, fill us with compassion and concern for others, young and old, that we may look after one another in these challenging days.

Bring healing to those who are sick and all who work in our medical facilities. Give wisdom to leaders in healthcare governance and governance that they may make the right decisions for the well-being of people.

We pray in gratitude for all those in our country who will continue to work in the days ahead in so many fields of life for the sake of us all.

Bless them and keep them safe. O God of creation and life, we place ourselves in your protection.

May the mantle of your peace enfold us this day and tomorrow. May all the saints of God, pray for us.

Amen

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