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**Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church**

DIOCESE OF  SALFORD

Catlow Hall Street, Oswaldtwistle,  
BB5 3EZ  
01254 232433

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. S D O'Brien

Parish Secretary: Berni McGuinness – e-mail [berni.mcguinness@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:berni.mcguinness@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

Parish office hours this week Tues-Fri 9am-1pm

**Sick:** Sheila Eborn

**Lately Dead:** Joseph Doherty

**Anniversaries:** Richard Henry, Joanne Hughes, Veronica Anderson

**Masses & Liturgies 17<sup>th</sup> March – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions. 7:00pm Mass

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> 9:30am Mass. 11:00am Mass at St Oswald's School

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 9:30am Mass.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30am Mass. 6:30pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> 9:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions. 10:30am Mass. 6:30pm Vigil Mass.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am Mass.

**Sanctuary Lamp** This week's intention is for a Thanksgiving Mass

**Last weekend's collection** £732.17 Thank you for your kind generosity.

**Coronavirus Precautions:** The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and Salford Diocese have now issued us with measures in regards to dealing with the potential spread of coronavirus. We have been asked to temporarily suspend some liturgical practices such as the Sign of Peace and Communion from the Chalice. Holy Water stoups have been emptied and all hymn books, for the time being, have been removed. It is also asked that if you pick up a parish newsletter then please do not return it but take it home with you. These are precautionary measures that the diocese and Bishop's Conference have asked us to follow so that those who are vulnerable in our parish, family and community are protected.

**Gift Aid.** This weekend (14th/15th March) Rob Harrison, who oversees the parish gift aid scheme, will be saying a few words after the weekend Masses to help explain how it all works. He will be available afterwards for any questions at the back of church. This is a really helpful financial benefit for the parish and my thanks again to all those who are able to support it.

**Crib Figures.** Lewis & Lewis have written back with their estimate to repair Baby Jesus (Bambino), Our Lady, St. Joseph and the donkey. The total cost will be £745.00. They intend to "degrease & prepare all surfaces, repair bases and overall surfaces, reconstruct severed base with internal supports, new fingers for bambino, re-paint figures and add protective coating". Thank you to those who have so generously given. Any other donations towards our crib figures would be gratefully accepted.

**Hope in the Future:** Children's Liturgy Training Day. On Saturday 28th March there will be a Children's Liturgy Training Day with Linda Pennington at Salford Cathedral from 10am-3pm. To register your place or for more information visit [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/parishes/events](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/parishes/events) or call 0161 817 2214.

**Parish Finance & Building Group: Church Repairs** We will soon be looking at repairs to the Church. This will be supervised through the Diocese. The Diocese tends to award work to their approved contractors, many of whom are companies based in the Manchester/Liverpool area. What we would like to do is form a list of local companies that can carry out building maintenance work (including builders, joiners, plumbers, general maintenance companies and electrical contractors). We are looking for medium sized companies who can submit to the Diocese for inclusion on their approved contractors list and local individuals/ small companies that we can call upon at short notice when minor or emergency works are required. If you are a local tradesman or work for a larger company and would like to be considered for future work please contact Berni McGuinness the Parish Secretary with your contact details, details of any trade organisations/accreditation schemes you are a member of and your insurance details. "As a community-based Parish, we would like the local community to be considered for carrying out any work."

**The next meeting of the Friendship Club** will be on Monday 16th March when we go to Oswaldtwistle Mills for a St. Patrick's celebration. Please be there by 11.45am because the lunch and entertainment will begin at noon. Feel free to dress up for the occasion!"

**Catechists.** In light of recent events the Catechists meeting scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> March will now be suspended until after Easter as it's a non-essential immediate event.

**APF/Mission Booklets** are ready for collection in the Sacristy.