



Saint Vincent de Paul

Catholic Church, Altrincham



DONATE



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2nd March 2025

Below we continue to share excerpts of the Holy Father's document on the Holy Year:

This interplay of hope and patience makes us see clearly that the Christian life is a journey calling for moments of greater intensity to encourage and sustain hope as the constant companion that guides our steps towards the goal of our encounter with the Lord Jesus. I like to think that the proclamation of the first Jubilee, in the year 1300, was preceded by a journey of grace inspired by popular spirituality. How can we fail to recall the various ways by which the grace of forgiveness had been poured out upon God's holy and faithful People? We are reminded, for example, of the great "Pardon" that Saint Celestine V granted to all those who visited the Basilica of Santa Maria di Collemaggio in Aquila on the 28th and 29th days of August 1294, six years before Pope Boniface VIII instituted the Holy Year. The Church was already experiencing the grace of the Jubilee as an outpouring of divine mercy. Even earlier, in 1216, Pope Honorius III granted the plea of Saint Francis for an indulgence for all those visiting the Porziuncola on the first two days of August. The same can be said of the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela: in 1222, Pope Callistus II allowed the Jubilee to be celebrated there whenever the Feast of the Apostle James fell on a Sunday. It is good that such "dispersed" celebrations of the Jubilee continue, so that the power of God's forgiveness can support and accompany communities and individuals on their pilgrim way.

Pilgrimage is of course a fundamental element of every Jubilee event. Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life. In the coming year, pilgrims of hope will surely travel the ancient and more modern routes in order to experience the Jubilee to the full. In Rome itself, along with the usual visits to the catacombs and the Seven Churches, other itineraries of faith will be proposed. Journeying from one country to another as if borders no longer mattered, and passing from one city to another in contemplating the beauty of creation and masterpieces of art, we learn to treasure the richness of different experiences and cultures, and are inspired to lift up that beauty, in prayer, to God, in thanksgiving for his wondrous works. The Jubilee Churches along the pilgrimage routes and in the city of Rome can serve as oases of spirituality and places of rest on the pilgrimage of faith, where we can drink from the wellsprings of hope, above all by approaching the sacrament of Reconciliation, the essential starting-point of any true journey of conversion. In the particular Churches, special care should be taken to prepare priests and the faithful to celebrate the sacrament of Confession and to make it readily available in its individual form.

In a particular way, I would like to invite the faithful of the Eastern Churches, particularly those already in full communion with the Successor of Peter, to take part in this pilgrimage. They have suffered greatly, often even unto death, for their fidelity to Christ and the Church, and so they should feel themselves especially welcome in this City of Rome that is also their Mother and cherishes so many memories of their presence. The Catholic Church, enriched by their ancient liturgies and the theology and spirituality of their Fathers, monks and theologians, wants to give symbolic expression to its embrace of them and their Orthodox brothers and sisters in these times when they endure their own Way of the Cross, often forced by violence and instability to leave their homelands, their holy lands, for safer places. For them, the hope born of the knowledge that they are loved by the Church, which does not abandon them but follows them wherever they go, will make the symbolism of the Jubilee all the more powerful.

- Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 5

Pope Francis' Intention for March:

For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

During Ordinary Time (Winter) and up to Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions:

Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those Who work to Combat it: The Unemployed.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - FRIDAYS IN LENT 6.30PM

At 6.30pm every Friday in Lent one of our parish groups or a member of the clergy will lead the Stations of the Cross in church (lasting approximately 20 minutes). Everyone is very welcome to come along for this time of reflection and prayer during Lent.

LENTEN TALKS: FAITH IN ACTION – SAVE THE DATES

Two talks on topics that relate to the Jubilee Year, Catholic Social Teaching and the Lenten themes of prayer, fasting and almsgiving:

Wednesday 19 March 7.30–9pm, Westleigh: Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope – an evening to find out more about Pope Francis' vision for this Jubilee Year and how we are invited to respond through our everyday lives

Thursday 3 April 7.30–9pm, Westleigh: CAFOD speaker: Francis Stewart: CAFOD and Pope Francis' call to fraternal love; more details in the newsletter nearer the time.

LENT REFLECTIONS 2025

As we prepare for Lent, Anne O'Connor, has compiled a [Lent reflections 2025 document](#), available on the [J&P section](#) of the parish website with a series of readings, reflections and prayers.

JUSTICE AND PEACE / CAFOD GROUP

The latest [newsletter](#) from Action by Christians Against Torture is on the CAFOD/J&P page on the parish website. It includes details of the prisoners of conscience who ACAT are asking us to support with Easter greetings. Please consider sending an Easter greeting or lobbying the respective governments to release these prisoners. If you do send a greeting, please ensure you closely follow ACAT's guidelines to avoid additional torture being inflicted on prisoners who receive overtly religious messages.

10.00AM MASS OFFERTORY PROCESSION

At 10.00am Mass on the first Sunday of each month we are looking for families (the more generations the better!) to join a rota to take up the gifts at the Offertory. If you would like to join the rota then please speak to Anna Croughan or Ruth Holland after Mass or email the parish office.

FRIDAY CLUB

Our next session (as usual open to all parishioners and friends) is on Friday 7th March in Westleigh from 2.00pm to 4.30pm. We will be showing the film 'A Conspiracy of Hearts' which tells the remarkable story of how an intrepid community of nuns risked their lives in wartime Italy to save many Jewish children from the Nazis.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT SUPPER - THURSDAY 20TH MARCH

The parish St Patrick's Night Supper is at 7pm on Thursday 20th March, Westleigh. Top Table caterers will be providing a delicious meal for £30. All details are on the poster in church with the booking slips. Please return completed slips, with payment of £30, in an envelope to the parish office by 9th March, via the sacristy or posted through the presbytery door. Bookings cannot be taken after 9th March due to catering requirements.

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

For many years at St Vincent's there have been monthly retiring collections for CAFOD and the SVP. To accommodate the nationally mandated collections for other charities and good causes, there will be fewer CAFOD and SVP collections taken. However, Parishioners may wish to continue to make monthly donations to CAFOD and the SVP. This can be done by donating cash in the wall boxes near the front door of the church or by setting up a standing order. Thank you for your continued generosity.

LET US PRAY TEAM

The Let us Pray meetings on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday evenings will not take place in March and April. We will be leading the Stations of the Cross on 28 March at 6.30 pm before the 7pm Mass and also holding a quiet hour of prayer and reflection on Good Friday evening from 7-8pm.

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM MINUTES

The PPT [minutes](#) are available on the [Noticeboard section](#) of the website and at the back of church.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- ♦ **Children's Liturgy** - Sunday 9th and 23rd March at the 10am Mass.
- ♦ **Tea and Coffee after 10am Mass** - every Sunday, with video games (FIFA, tennis, etc), table tennis and other games, all for parents and children.
- ♦ **Playgroup** - Every Monday and Friday in term time from 9.30am - 11.30am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Bridge** - Every Monday at 2.00pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **SVP** - Meets fortnightly on Mondays at 7pm in Westleigh.
- ♦ **Emmaus Prayer Group** - 7-8pm Mondays in Westleigh. Everybody welcome, please just come along.
- ♦ **Brownies** - Tuesdays in term time at 5.45-7.15pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **Rainbows** - Wednesdays in term time at 6-7pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **Knit and Natter** - 10am in Westleigh— Thursday 13th and 27th March (every fortnight)
- ♦ **Mothers' Prayers** - Every Thursday 11.15am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Young Adults Group (18-35 years)** - Saturday 8th and 29th March. Come along for 5.30pm Mass followed by Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Talk, food, time to socialise etc.

URGENT HELP NEEDED - RAINBOWS ST VINCENT'S GROUP

Thank you to Julia Stockton who has led our Rainbows group for many years. Julia is retiring from this role in July 2025. Currently there are no new volunteers for this Rainbows group and so they urgently ask for new volunteers otherwise the Rainbows group will have to close. Please see the letter at the back of church about this and for information about the role. If you are interested please contact Julia.stockton@btconnect.com or 07718 725758.

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING WED 12TH MARCH FROM 9:15AM

If you would like to have a look around St Vincent's Catholic Primary School or Nursery please come along to our next open morning event for prospective parents on Wednesday 12th March 2025. Please visit the admissions page of our website www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk to book a place or scan the QR code.



DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY JUBILEE LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025

The brochure and booking form for the 2025 Diocese of Shrewsbury Jubilee Lourdes pilgrimage are available from the Brochure & Forms tab on this website <https://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk/>

The 2025 pilgrimage dates are: **AIR:** Friday 25 July to Thursday 31 July **COACH:** Thursday 24 July to Friday 01 August **YOUTH:** Wednesday 23 July to Friday 01 August, for a youth application form email youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

CAFOD CAMPAIGN ON 'CANCEL THE DEBT'

In this Jubilee year, CAFOD is returning to the ancient Hebrew origins of the idea of Jubilee, which was a special time for the cancelling of debts and freeing of people from various forms of enslavement. This is the spirit also which drives Pope Francis to designate the theme of Hope for the 2025 Jubilee. Please consider signing CAFOD's petition calling on world leaders to take action on the global debt crisis which now encompasses 54 countries, more than double the number just 10 years ago. <https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/161357/petition/1>

JOIN CAFOD'S BIG LENT WALK IN THE JUBILEE YEAR

You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 raised will support communities experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

7 NIGHT PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Flying from Manchester 20th May and staying in a 4* hotel in Medjugorje, £749 per person sharing. Single room £879. Organised by Northern Star Travel with Fr. Pat Munroe as Spiritual leader. For information contact Northern Star at info@northernstartravel.com 0161 773 2115 or pat.munroe@btinternet.com 07711 428970 and to request a copy of Fr. Pat's Reflection on pilgrimage to Medjugorje September 2024. Firm expression of interest required by 25th March.

VACANCIES

- The Diocese of Shrewsbury is looking to recruit a full time Deputy Director of Schools. Details of this role and the recruitment process can be found on the Tes website [Deputy Director of Schools Advert](#). If you would like further information or candidate pack please contact Liam Dowds at 01737 652 043 or ldowds@emmausleadership.me
- The Governors of St James' Catholic High School, Cheadle, wish to appoint an outstanding, dynamic and highly motivated Lay Chaplain to begin in April 2025 or sooner. For information: <https://www.stjamescheadle.co.uk/jobs>

OUR PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into God's Family Annie Henderson, Rose Flynn, Francesca Donohoe and Connell Lonergan who were recently baptised here. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Requiescant in Pace Please pray for those who have died recently including Jaccy Fairbrother, Patrick King, Dorteia Thomaides and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Please pray for the sick who include James Ainsworth, Michael Anderson, Robert Anderson, Margaret B, Antoni Baranowski, M Barnes, George Bell, Pat Bell, Stephen Birchall, Helen Boardman, Jackie Body, Laura Body, John Breen, Daniel Brennan, Susan Brennan, Jane Broadfoot, Jozef Broilo, Denise Brooks, Michael Byrne, Jo Carter, Olivia Cashmore, John Cawfield, Peter Cresswell, Marjorie De Maria, Luke Dennett, David Michael Devine, Richard Doherty, Max Dunn, Ross Dwyer, Joyce Eaton, Lynda Edwards, Peter Elliott, Freddie Fenton, Marie Ford, John Gardener, Mary Good, Vicky Gosnold, Stella Gould, Jane Grimshaw, Niel Halsall, Rufus Hasler & family, Mary Heanue, Catherine Heraghty, Thomas Higginbotham, Gavin Hill, Hayley Hill, Nick, Hennis, Gavin Hill, Katie Holmes, Lucy Hunter, Martin Jones, Ava Kendrick, H Khan, H & R Kelly, Nancy Kelly, Amelia Kennedy, Anne Killeen, Thomas Killeen, Elizabeth and Henry Kluck, Marcin and Teresa Kluck, Neil Lancaster, David Lawley, Barbara Lee, Betty Leeson, Willy Leeson, Klaudia Linert, Bob Lloyd, Chloe Logan, Laura MacGinn, Margaret, Erin Marks, Claire McAllister, Martin McConnell, Rupert McDermott, Maria, Mary McLoughlin, Carol McLoughlin, Brian Morris, Luke Murphy, Mary Murphy, Charles Musumali, Elaine Neary, Oliver, Anne O'Neill, Andrea Ottley, Marjorie Owens, Michalis and Karen Papangelis, Anna Perry, Krzysztof Pietrzak, Paul Raybede, Reece, Glen Reed, Jackie Reed, Mark Reed, Dave Renshaw, Rose, Stuart Royle, Margaret Russell, Adrian Ryan, David Ryan and Frank, Mary Ryan, Melinda Ryan, Steve Ryan, Camille Sanders, Jacky Scaife, Richard Sheryll, John Shuttleworth, Julie Taylor, Ralph Taylor, June Telfer, Anthony Tomlinson, Christopher Tomlinson, Leo Tomlinson, Philip Tomlinson, Christy Toye, Joe Traynor, Joseph Tumpang, Jed Wainwright, Peter Walsh, Janina Wardzinska, Isabella Webb, Neil Wilkinson, Mason Williams, Maria Winthrop, Louise Withers, Harry Wood and all in our hospitals and homes.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Helen Norwood: 07800 656966
Sheila Carr: 0161 928 7432

MONEY MATTERS

Offertory Collection 16th February 2025 £1873.77 & 23rd February £2084.61 plus standing orders. Thank you for your generosity.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025

Mass Schedule

Sunday 2nd March <i>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	Henry Foster (special intention) Giovanni Puzo (RIP) Marjorie Woodward (RIP) Fr Denis Maher
Monday 3rd March <i>Ferial</i>	11:00 12:15 18:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Mary Hyam <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Tuesday 4th March <i>Optional Commemoration: St. Casimir</i>	10:00 BV 11:00 12:15	Eleanor Byrne (sick) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Michael Burke (RIP)
Wednesday 5th March <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i>	10:00 11:00 12:15 19:00	<i>Mary & Gerry Conroreley</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Michael Lee Peter O' Connor (RIP)
Thursday 6th March <i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i>	10:00 BV 11:00 12:15 18:00	Mary Kyne <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Fr. Michael Doyle O.M.I. <i>Eucharistic Adoration (Confessions available)</i>
Friday 7th March <i>Optional Commemoration: Ss Perpetua & Felicity</i>	11:00 12:15 18:00 18:30 19:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Peter Shovlin (RIP) <i>Confessions after Mass</i> <i>Rosary</i> <i>Stations of The Cross</i> Thanksgiving & Special Intentions
Saturday 8th March <i>Optional Commemoration: St. John of God</i>	11:00 11:00-12:00 12:15 16:30-17:15 17:00 17:30	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> <i>Confessions</i> Joan Doherty (RIP) <i>Confessions</i> <i>Rosary</i> Jo Doherty (RIP)
Sunday 9th March <i>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	For the People of The Parish Paul Frederick Thompson (anniversary) Irene Brandon (RIP) Thanksgiving for birth of Louie (parents Simon & Cathy)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

BOWDON VALE MASSES 10am Tuesday and Thursday **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - as above & by request

FEBRUARY RETIRING COLLECTIONS: 2ND SVP

MASS READING CYCLE: Sundays Year C, Weekdays Cycle 1; Psalter Week

PARISH CLERGY - Parish Priest: Canon Jonathan Brandon **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Godlove Amungwa

Deacon: Deacon Joseph Fawcett-Wood

CONTACTS

Address: Parish of St. Vincent de Paul, 2 Bentinck Road, Altrincham, WA14 2BP **Telephone:** 0161 928 1689

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Assistant Priest: frgodlove.amungwa@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Deacon: Joseph.Fawcett@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Parish Office: parishoffice@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

WESTLEIGH PARISH CENTRE- Westleigh Bookings: svpwestleigh@outlook.com

Website: stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: @svpaltrincham

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The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025

MARCH LIVE SIMPLY MESSAGE Use Fairtrade products, including cleaning products where possible.