



Saint Vincent de Paul
Catholic Church, Altrincham



First Sunday of Lent

9th March 2025

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

The Holy Year of 2025 is itself in continuity with preceding celebrations of grace. In the last Ordinary Jubilee, we crossed the threshold of two millennia from the birth of Jesus Christ. Then, on 13 March 2015, I proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee for the sake of making known and encouraging an encounter with the "merciful face of God", [3] the core message of the Gospel for every man and woman of every time and place. Now the time has come for a new Jubilee, when once more the Holy Door will be flung open to invite everyone to an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ. The Holy Year will also guide our steps towards yet another fundamental celebration for all Christians: 2033 will mark the two thousandth anniversary of the redemption won by the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. We are about to make a pilgrimage marked by great events, in which the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope (cf. 1 Thess 1:3) .

Sustained by this great tradition, and certain that the Jubilee Year will be for the entire Church a lively experience of grace and hope, I hereby decree that the Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican will be opened on 24 December 2024, thus inaugurating the Ordinary Jubilee. On the following Sunday, 29 December 2024, I will open the Holy Door of my cathedral, Saint John Lateran, which on 9 November this year will celebrate the 1700th anniversary of its dedication. Then, on 1 January 2025, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major will be opened. Finally, Sunday, 5 January 2025, will mark the opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls. These last three Holy Doors will be closed on Sunday, 28 December 2025.

I further decree that on Sunday, 29 December 2024, in every cathedral and co-cathedral, diocesan bishops are to celebrate Holy Mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year, using the ritual indications that will be provided for that occasion. For celebrations in co-cathedrals, the bishop's place can be taken by a suitably designated delegate. A pilgrimage that sets out from a church chosen for the collectio and then proceeds to the cathedral can serve to symbolize the journey of hope that, illumined by the word of God, unites all the faithful. In the course of this pilgrimage, passages from the present Document can be read, along with the announcement of the Jubilee Indulgence to be gained in accordance with the prescriptions found in the ritual indications mentioned above. The Holy Year will conclude in the particular Churches on Sunday, 28 December 2025; in the course of the year, every effort should be made to enable the People of God to participate fully in its proclamation of hope in God's grace and in the signs that attest to its efficacy.

The Ordinary Jubilee will conclude with the closing of the Holy Door in the Papal Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican on 6 January 2026, the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. During the Holy Year, may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God's love addressed to all! And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world!

- Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 6

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 Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions:

Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

LENT AT ST VINCENT'S

- ♦ **Stations of the Cross** - every Friday at 6.30pm in church led by a parish group or member of the clergy
- ♦ **Lent Reflections** - 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.
- ♦ **Lenten Walk With Me booklets** - available for £1.00 from the sacristy.
- ♦ **Lenten Alms** - our Lenten Alms this year will be donated to St Anne's Hospice (wallbox in the church porch).
- ♦ **LENTEN TALKS: FAITH IN ACTION**

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.

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.

ST. PATRICK DAY CARDS St Patrick's Day cards are available to buy from the sacristy for 60 pence.

LET US PRAY TEAM

Let us Pray meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays will not take place in March and April. The Let Us Pray team will lead the Stations of the Cross on 28 March, 6.30pm and will hold a quiet hour of prayer and reflection on Good Friday 7-8pm.

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.

The [Spring 2025 Justice and Peace Mouthpeace newsletter](#) is available on the parish website, with numerous J&P items relevant to the Jubilee year and other issues as well as dates for your calendar for J&P events in the region.

WINTER HEATING HELP

If you or someone you know needs assistance with winter heating or other bills please call the SVP at 0161 941 3498 or speak with an SVP member.

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.

THANK YOU - CAFOD thanks our parishioners for helping families survive the winter cold via the generous donations given during Advent and Christmas.

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.

CAFOD LENT APPEAL – FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION, 15/16 MARCH

Please donate to our Lent Family Fast Day parish collection which takes place next weekend, 15th/16th March and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Please take one of the CAFOD envelopes from church to use for your donation. If you are a tax payer please consider Gift Aiding your donation as indicated on the envelope. You can also donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030 or text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

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

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/>

JUBILEE RETREAT WITH A FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

Come and learn about the biblical roots of a year of jubilee, and why a jubilee year includes an important focus on the family. Come and understand what that can mean for us today, in and through Jesus Christ. Venue: St. Columba's Church Hall, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA. Date & Time: Saturday 15th March 2025, 9.45am- 1.00pm. To register and for more information, please get in touch with monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org, Mobile: 07549 226794, or Jane Deegan jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435

VACANCY

A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary at the parishes of St Vincent's, Knutsford and St Winefride, Lymm (based at St Vincent's). Hours: 12 per week. Rate of pay: £13 per hour. More details can be found via the Diocesan website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> CV's with a covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date: Monday 31 March 2025.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

Requiescant in Pace Please pray for those who have died recently including Dorthea Thomaides, Peter Smith 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, Joephenn 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 2nd March £1948.79 plus standing orders. Thank you for your generosity.
The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025

Mass Schedule

Sunday 9th March <i>First Sunday of Lent</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)
Monday 10th March <i>Ferial</i>	9:30 10:00 11:00 12:15 18:00	<i>Confessions</i> Young Adults Group <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> John Kenner (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Tuesday 11th March <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV 11:00 12:15	Peter Walsh (Australia) (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Vocations to the Priesthood
Wednesday 12th March <i>Ferial</i>	11:00 12:15	NO Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction (due to organ tuning) Shrewsbury Seminarians and Discerners
Thursday 13th March <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV 11:00 12:15 18:00	Michael Burke (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Vocations to the Priesthood <i>Eucharistic Adoration (Confessions available)</i>
Friday 14th March <i>Ferial</i>	11:00 12:15 18:30 19:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Mr Joe Kennedy (birthday memories) <i>Confessions after Mass</i> <i>Stations of The Cross led by the SVP</i> Margaret Toal (RIP)
Saturday 15th March <i>Ferial</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> Flynn Family Intentions <i>Confessions</i> <i>Rosary</i> Peter Walsh (Australia) (RIP)
Sunday 16th March <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	Patrick Dodd (RIP) For the people of the parish Raymond Ball (ann) Franz Blum (ann)

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

MARCH RETIRING COLLECTIONS: 16TH CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

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

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

Parish Priest: frjonathan.brandon@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

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

The parish of St Vincent's, Altrincham sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/ Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025

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