



Saint Vincent de Paul
Catholic Church, Altrincham



Second Sunday of Lent

16th March 2025

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

In addition to finding hope in God's grace, we are also called to discover hope in the signs of the times that the Lord gives us. As the Second Vatican Council observed: "In every age, the Church has the responsibility of reading the signs of the times and interpreting them in the light of the Gospel. In this way, in language adapted to every generation, she can respond to people's persistent questions about the meaning of this present life and of the life to come, and how one is related to the other". We need to recognise the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence. The signs of the times, which include the yearning of human hearts in need of God's saving presence, ought to become signs of hope.

The first sign of hope should be the desire for peace in our world, which once more finds itself immersed in the tragedy of war. Heedless of the horrors of the past, humanity is confronting yet another ordeal, as many peoples are prey to brutality and violence. What does the future hold for those peoples, who have already endured so much? How is it possible that their desperate plea for help is not motivating world leaders to resolve the numerous regional conflicts in view of their possible consequences at the global level? Is it too much to dream that arms can fall silent and cease to rain down destruction and death? May the Jubilee remind us that those who are peacemakers will be called "children of God" (Mt 5:9). The need for peace challenges us all, and demands that concrete steps be taken. May diplomacy be tireless in its commitment to seek, with courage and creativity, every opportunity to undertake negotiations aimed at a lasting peace.

- *Pope Francis, Spes non confundit, 7 & 8*

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.

(Please note there will be no Let Us Pray Tuesday and Thursdays meeting in March and April.)

- ♦ **DEANERY LENTEN STATION MASSES** allow us, during Lent, to go to the different Churches in our Deanery and gather together with those outside of our own parish community. These take place on Wednesdays: 6.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation with Adoration; 7.00pm Mass followed by refreshments. 19th March at St Joseph's; 26th March at St Hugh's & St John's; 2nd April at Sacred Heart and **9th April here at St Vincents.**

EASTER CARDS: a limited number available from the sacristy for 75p, profits will go to St Anne's Hospice.

CHILDREN'S ORDER OF SERVICE MASS CARDS

There are now Children's Mass Cards available at the back of church. These are aimed at children 7 years plus to support them in following the Mass. Please return them to the leaflet holder at the end of Mass. Thank you.

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.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Weekly Offertory Envelopes for next year are available for collection at the back of church. For those using the Gift Aid scheme there are individually named boxes, in alphabetical order. Gift aid is simple, gives a substantial boost to the parish finances, costs you nothing extra and is completely confidential. The parish can claim back a refund of the tax on your offerings. If you are interested in helping the parish in this way please contact Michael Swarbrick on 07957 630230 or michael@swarbrick.co.uk.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

If you do not use the Gift Aid scheme but wish to use Offertory Envelopes, please take any of the boxes without name labels.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- ♦ **Children's Liturgy** - 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— 27th March (every fortnight)
- ♦ **Mothers' Prayers** - Every Thursday 11.15am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Young Adults Group (18-35 years)** - Saturday 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 this 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.

PARISH REGISTER

Our **Welcome Leaflets** available in the Porch are always taken but very few get returned to register family details! If you have taken one please complete and return.

New Parishioners, please let the parish office have your details i.e. names, address, contact number and email (and for children their dates of birth) so that you can be registered as a Parishioner.

Existing parishioners, if you have changed address, changed your telephone contact number or changed your email address, please let the parish office have your updated details to keep the records up-to-date.

ST BENEDICT'S, WARRINGTON WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

Fr Chris Sykes from St Benedict's invites parishioners to join them on their pilgrimage to Walsingham, Monday 26th - Thursday 29th May. The cost is half board Basic Room £320; Ensuite £370. The coach has a lift for those pilgrims who may have difficulty accessing the coach steps. The coach can collect and return from St Vincent's church. Contact Chris Sykes 07587 046985 or leave a message at St Benedict's Warrington 01925 630127.

LENT SERIES OF TALKS

- ♦ On **Thursday 20th March at 7pm in the Shrewsbury Cathedral Parish Room** you are invited to a Lent talk on the theme **Pilgrims of Hope** by Mrs Natalie Orefice, Director of Evangelisation and Catechesis. In his Message for Lent 2025, Pope Francis invites the faithful to "journey together in hope," and to take the opportunity of the upcoming Lenten Season to ask ourselves whether we are truly willing to heed God's call to change our lives. This also reflects the theme of the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope.' For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or 07730 526826.
- ♦ Lent Series of Talks on **Faith, Hope and Love** with Mrs Natalie Orefice and Fr David Irwin at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Hope Rd, Sale M33 3BF. At **7pm on 18th & 25th March and 1st April**. The evening will conclude with Adoration and Compline. For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or 07730 526826.

VACANCIES

- ♦ Parish Secretary at the parishes of St Vincent's, Knutsford and St Winefride, Lymm (based at St Vincent's). 12 hours per week, £13 per hour. For details visit <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> Send CV with covering letter to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date: Monday 31 March .
- ♦ Loreto Sixth Form Catholic College is seeking to appoint a teacher of Core Religious Education and Chaplaincy Support. Core RE has centrally planned resources and is not an examined subject. As a Core RE teacher, your unique role will be to develop students spiritually, ethically and theologically. <https://www.loreto.ac.uk/vacancies/>

OUR PARISH FAMILY

Requiescant in Pace Please pray for those who have died recently including James Bradley, Peter Smith, John Thelwall, Anthony Burns, Dominic Barbour 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, John O'Donnell, 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, Joceph 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 9th March £2355.70 plus standing orders. Thank you for your generosity .
The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025

Mass Schedule

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)
Monday 17th March <i>St Patrick</i>	11:00 12:15 18:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Jim, Ruth and Martin Yearsley <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Tuesday 18th March <i>Optional Memorial: St Cyril of Jerusalem</i>	10:00 BV 11:00 12:15	Teresa Smith (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Thomas Foster (special intentions)
Wednesday 19th March <i>St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	11:00 12:15	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Mathew
Thursday 20th March <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV 11:00 12:15 18:00	John Shuttleworth (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Irene Burke (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration (Confessions available)</i>
Friday 21st March <i>Ferial</i>	11:00 12:15 18:30 19:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Denise Mortimore (ann) <i>Confessions after Mass</i> <i>Stations of The Cross led by the Baptism Team</i> David Waterworth (RIP)
Saturday 22nd 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> Raymond Todd <i>Confessions</i> <i>Rosary</i> Alice Bridget Collins (ann)
Sunday 23rd March <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	John McGowan (ann) Eve and Arnold Crowther (RIP) Kathleen Kennedy (birthday) For the People of the Parish

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 2

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

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.

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