

ST MARY & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

Sunday 25th May – 6th Sunday of Easter Year C

May Devotion: The Blessed Virgin Mary



Parish of St Mary & St Paul
Celebrating 200 years
1825 to 2025

Peace

The peace which Christ gives is deeper and more far reaching than worldly peace. It is the ground which nurtures rich spiritual growth. We cannot achieve it, then, by merely following a code of rules; peace is given to us only when we allow God's living Spirit to permeate our whole being.

Date	Celebration	Service Time & Location	Intention
Sun 25 th May	6 th Sunday of Easter	Vigil Mass Sat 6:00pm St Paul's Mass 9:30am St Mary's Mass 11:00am St Mary's	Parishioners' Intention Parishioners' Intention Parishioners' Intention
Mon 26 th May	St Philip Neri (M)	6:15pm Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 7:00pm	Mary Read (RIP)
Tues 27 th May	St Augustine of Canterbury (Feast)	8:30am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 9:00am	Parishioners' Intention
Wed 28 th May	Eastertide Weekday	Vigil for The Ascension of the Lord 7:00pm St Mary's	Parishioners' Intention
Thu 29 th May	The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)	9:00am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Paul's; Mass 9:30am	Parishioners' Intention
Fri 30 th May	Eastertide Weekday	9:00am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Paul's; Mass 9:30am	Parishioners' Intention
Sat 31 st May	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9:45am Holy Rosary, St. Mary's; Mass 10:00am	Sick and Housebound
Sun 1 st June	7 th Sunday of Easter	Vigil Mass Sat 6:00pm St Paul's Mass 9:30am St Mary's Mass 11:00am St Mary's	Lee Schofield (RIP Ann) Parishioners' Intention Parishioners' Intention

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 9am to 9:50am St Mary's; 5pm to 5:50pm St Paul's; Sunday 8:30am to 9:20am; by appointment. **Sacraments and other liturgies:** Please speak to the Priest after the weekend masses.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Date	Event	Location
Tues June 3 rd 2025	Meeting for Confirmation Candidates 6:30pm	St Mary's meeting room
Sun 13 th July 2025	Parish Jubilee Heritage Day – 10:30am onwards	St Mary's Church
Fri 18 th July 2025	Confirmation celebrated by Bishop Mark	St Mary's Church
Fri 19 th Sep 2025	200 Year Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark - 7:00pm followed by a parish celebration	St Mary's Church

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Bonnie Billy Foster was welcomed into the family of God last weekend. Please pray for her and her family.

JOHN 14:23-29: We have been promised something even better than future glory. Jesus has given us his word that when we turn our lives to him, he and the Father will come and live in us; not at the end of time, but now. When we are troubled or afraid, we can turn to one who is not only all-powerful but also loving. He will help us to get our priorities right; he will encourage and fortify us; he will replace the panic with tranquillity and the terror with serenity. He does not promise an easy undisturbed life: what he does promise is peace.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD: The Catholic Feast of the Ascension, also known as Ascension Day, is a Holy Day of Obligation. Celebrated on the 40th day of Easter, the feast has been observed since the early Christian church, with its origins traced back to the 4th century. It marks the moment when Jesus ascended into heaven, 40 days after his resurrection and signifies the completion of Jesus' earthly ministry and his return to the Father. It is a pivotal moment that

underscores Jesus' divine nature and his victory over death. The Ascension also serves as a promise of eternal life for believers, as Jesus' departure is accompanied by the assurance that he will send the Holy Spirit to guide and comfort his followers. This feast is a reminder of the hope and joy that come from living a life of faith, and it calls Christians to reflect on their spiritual journey and their relationship with God. In many places, the day is marked by processions, the ringing of church bells, and the lighting of candles. It serves as a call to Christians to live out their faith with hope and joy.

POPE'S INTENTION: One of the conditions required to gain a Plenary Indulgence is to pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. Usually this can be attained by simply praying one *Our Father*, one *Hail Mary*, and one *Glory Be*. Each year, the Holy Father puts forward a list of his monthly intentions and we have been sharing Pope Francis' intentions in the newsletter. Whether Pope Leo XIV will choose his own intentions or affirm those of Pope Francis remains to be seen. Meanwhile, we pray for the Holy Father's intentions – whatever they may be – and allow God to apply the graces that flow from these prayers to where they are needed most. The Baltimore Catechism reminds of the importance of these devotions: *What does praying for the intention of the Pope mean? It does not mean that you are to pray for the Pope himself, but for whatever he is praying for or wishes you to pray for. For instance, on one day the Holy Father may be praying for the success of some missions that he is establishing; on another, he may be praying that the enemies of the Church may not succeed in their plans against it; on another, he may be praying for the conversion of some nation, and so on; whatever he is praying for or wishes you to pray for is called his intention.* **Holy Father's Intention for July 2025 For formation in discernment.** Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

PARISH REGISTERS: The Parish Jubilee Heritage Day will include an exhibition centred around the Parish registers, which for St Mary's go back to 1825. We also have some of the more recent registers from St Paul's. The data in the registers has to be kept confidential for 100 years, so you will not be able to search through the registers after 1925. If you would like to see a specific entry relating to your own family, then we will be able to find that and show it to you. If you would like to let us know in advance, we will find the entry ready for you, and we could also take a picture that you could take home with you. Please send an email to the parish email address or put your request on paper and drop it into the sacristy at either church marked 'Parish Register Look-up Request'. Include as many details as you can, to help find the entry. We can look up Baptisms, Deaths, Marriages, and Confirmations. Please include a small donation to cover costs.

PARISH JUBILEE INVITATION: If you haven't already done so, please **complete and return the invite** to our Parish Jubilee events.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE: The 2025 Diocesan Mass for Marriage will be held at 12 noon on Saturday 21st June at Holy Angels, Hale Barns, followed by a buffet lunch for invited guests. If you are celebrating a significant marriage anniversary this year, speak to Fr Isidore, who will request an invitation for you to attend.

HOUSE BLESSING: Fr Isidore will be undertaking the annual house blessing during June. If you would like your house blessed, please complete a form from the back of church.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT: Novena prayer to the Holy Spirit will begin on Friday 30th May. Kindly pick up the Novena prayer sheet at the back of our churches to join.

VISITATION: Fr. Isidore will visit the sick and house bounds on Wednesday through Friday.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY: £433.68; Flowers £337.58; First Holy Communion £361.77 Thank you for your generosity

PARISH JUBILEE FUNDRAISING: We have raised over £300 so far, through the weekly raffle and plant bring and buy sale, and other donations.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK: Building Fund **NEXT WEEK:** World Communication Day



Scan the QR code to access the Online giving page for St Mary and St Paul, Dukinfield and Hyde

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Please consider remembering the parish in your will.

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