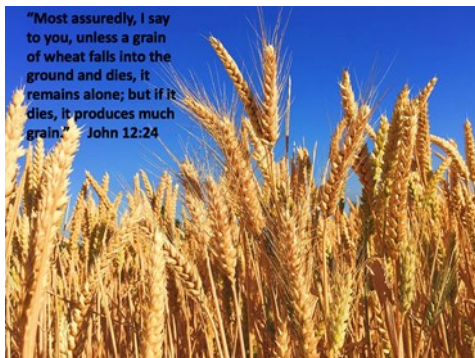


From Sunday's Gospel



Jesus said:
'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me,

wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!' And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

SUNDAY 21st March 2021 Adapted from John 12:20-33



Pope Francis writes, "My dear young people, let us ask for the grace to follow Jesus faithfully not in words but in deed."

Today's word is **Follow**. Jesus always welcomes anyone who wants to follow him.

We can follow Jesus in the simple things we do in our lives every day, like being kind, helpful, forgiving, trying to make peace and putting the needs of others before our own. In this coming week the invitation is to see how we are going to follow Jesus more closely. Perhaps we might look out for someone who is going through a rough time or being prepared to listen to someone if they are sad or afraid. We might try and be a little bit more generous or extend the hand of friendship to someone who is lonely. Pope Francis also says, '**Are you a parent or a grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones to follow Jesus.**'

Dear Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us and calling us to follow you, so that our world may become a better place. Amen



Sacred Heart & St William

31 High Street

Uppermill OL3 6HS

www.sacredheartparish.org.uk

Please visit the website above.

For Daily Mass Readings, Video reflections and any updates go to Sunday Mass in the Newsletter

5th Sunday in Lent (Laetare)

March 21st 2021 (Mark's Gospel)

PLEASE NOTE THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR MASS ON TUESDAY & THURSDAYS AT 9.30AM AND SATURDAYS AT 6.00PM. BOOKING FOR THE SATURDAY MASS ESSENTIAL.

Fr Bernard will celebrate Mass each day

The intentions are as follows:

Sunday:	People of the Parish
Monday:	Ambrose Hardy
Tuesday:	Joan Yeadsley
Wednesday:	Sr Catherine Heron
Thursday:	Cissie Bickers
Friday:	Fr Lawrence Lister
Saturday:	John Smith & Veronica Tobias
Sunday:	People of the Parish

Confessions by appointment

Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Bickers Tel: 01457 872603

Permanent Deacon: Revd Peter Rudd Tel: 01457 876559

Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Tessa Spalding Tel: 01457 873515

Mrs Michelle Moore

Re-opening the Church for the celebration of Mass



Mass with a congregation will be celebrated on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9.30am and on Saturday evening at 6.00pm. This is possible thanks to the generosity of our stewards and cleaners, and to Susan our 'Booking Agent'.

To ensure a place at this Saturday evening Mass parishioners are asked to 'book' a place. To do this please phone Susan Gibson between **4.00-6.00pm on FRIDAY 26th March** on 01457 878055 or 07778856089

The Live Streaming of Mass on Sunday Morning at 9.00am will continue .

Stewards/Cleaners for the coming week

Saturday March 20th 6.00pm: Liz Taylor & Ian Charnock

Tuesday March 23rd 9.30am: Michelle Mowinski & Celia Hall

Thursday March 25th 9.30am: Emma Kirkman & Claire Ward

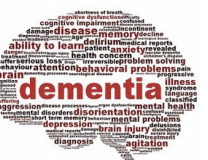
Saturday March 27th: 6.00pm: Mary Farmer and Tessa Spalding

IF ANYONE IS ABLE TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE LET FR BERNARD KNOW. No stewards means no open church. Thank You

Lent 2021 Wednesday Reflections

Each Wednesday in Lent Fr Bernard will be recording a Reflection which can be viewed on the parish website any time after 9.00am. These will remain available throughout Lent. Simply log onto the Newsletter and click on to Lenten Wednesday Reflections.

Thursday 7.30-9.00 pm CTIS Lent Group—The Prayers of Jesus—on line.



"Loving Father, you are close to the broken hearted. Look with compassion on those whose lost memories have robbed them of home and belonging. Comfort and strengthen those who care for them. May they make their home in You. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen"

March 8th Banking: 1st Collection: £350; 2nd Collection £16.00 Christmas: £10.00

In memory of Joseph Priestley £100;00. Donation £50.00

In memory of Janice Jacobs £200.00

Thank You.



Statement by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Archbishop Malcolm McMahon on the National Day of Reflection for COVID-19 Tuesday 23rd March.

We welcome the designation of Tuesday 23rd March as a National Day of Reflection to mark the anniversary of the first national lockdown . We ask you all to make this not only a Day of Reflection but also a Day of Prayer.

Throughout this difficult year, so many have been inspired by prayer, so much effort sustained in prayer, in every place. So let us make the 23rd March truly a day of prayer. March 2020 was the first time our churches had to be closed. It is our hope that on this day, every one of our churches will be open. We invite everyone to enter a church on this day, to reflect and pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

There is so much on which to reflect and include in our prayer.

- We reflect in sorrow on all those who have died, we pray for their eternal rest and peace.
- We reflect with compassion on all those who have suffered during this last year, We pray for their ongoing resilience, courage and capacity to forgive.
- We reflect with thanksgiving for the generosity, inventiveness, self-sacrifice and determination shown by so many in this most difficult of times. We pray for them, thanking God for their gifts and dedication, whether they are scientists, politicians, health workers, public servants of every kind, community leaders or steadfast family members and friends who continue to show such love and compassion.
- We reflect in hope that, as the pandemic is controlled and we open up our lives again, we will gather in the lessons we have learned and build our society into a better shape, more compassionate, less marked by inequalities, more responsive to needs and deprivation. We ask for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us in this endeavour, whether we are focussing on overcoming family breakdowns, economic recovery, or building political consensus.

The Church will be open from **8.45am for the 9.30am Mass**. It will then have to be cleaned and sanitised.

The Church will again be open from **12.00noon—2.00pm** when the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. You are welcome to make a visit during this time.