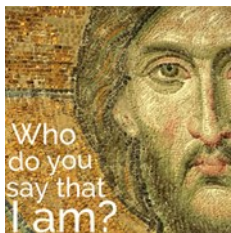


From Sunday's Gospel



When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Then Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Christ," he said, "the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven.

So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven."

Adapted from Matthew 16:13-19 The Feast of Ss Peter and Paul, Year A
Sunday June 28th 2020



St Ignatius of Antioch writes, "Faith and love are everything, and nothing is more precious than these" Today's word is **Faith**. Having faith is to

believe and trust in God's love for us. Faith is one of life's greatest blessings—it is a gift to be shared. The Church exists to help people to grow in their faith and there is no better time than the present to explore and refresh our faith. Putting our faith in Jesus helps us to know God as our loving Father and helps happiness and love to grow in our families. What can we do in these coming weeks to help our family's faith to grow?

Parish Finances

Last week it was possible to deposit just over £1,000 in the bank in Oldham taken from envelopes given in to the presbytery over the past few weeks, and thanks to a donation of £100 in memory of Tom Hunter.

Thanks You



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 Masses, Newsletter and Readings.

Newsletter during the time of the suspension of Public Worship

Fr Bernard will continue to celebrate Mass
IN PRIVATE without any people present at 9.00am each morning
The Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul June 28th 2020

The intentions are as follows:

Sunday: Brenda Regan
Monday: People of the Parish
Tuesday: Brian Wilde
Wednesday: Susan Howard
Thursday: Michael Bernard Crewdson
Friday: Special Intention (LM)
Saturday: Yorkshire Brethren
Sunday: People of the Parish
There will be only **one** Mass each day. **The Church will remain closed until further notice.**
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

The Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul



When a feast day replaces a Sunday we know that the person we are remembering must be greatly important. Today we celebrate not one but two huge personalities in the story of the Church, St Peter and St Paul. Both Peter and Paul had their strengths and their weaknesses, and both recognised the presence of Christ in their lives. Both were guided by the Holy Spirit, willing to go to places where, on their own, they might well have preferred not to go. Both fulfilled the role for which they had been chosen. Both, according to Tradition were martyred in Rome during the reign of the Emperor Nero. But they are not just figures of history. The Church today needs the rock of unity

which Pope Francis exercises, not just for Catholics, nor indeed Christians of other denominations, but to those of other faiths and none. The Church needs men and women like St Paul, not afraid to be prophetic, to push boundaries, to read the signs of the times and interpret them in the light of the gospel. Pope Francis calls such people missionary disciples. As we thank God for St Peter and St Paul we ask their intercession to help us to be faithful to Gospel and for the courage to share it with others, exploring different ways of making the Good News known and lived in our own time and place.

Saddleworth Three Peaks Challenge



Earlier this week Fr Bernard received an email from Luke Armstrong advising him of an online transfer of £801.69 to Sacred Heart's bank account raised by Luke and Max by completing three circuits of the Saddleworth Three Peaks. Luke said that they had (mostly) enjoyed it. On behalf of the Parish I replied to Luke and Max congratulating them on their achievement and thank-

ing them for their great generosity in raising such a magnificent sum. The same amount was given to St Edward's Parish, Lees.

Opening of Churches for Public Worship



This week the four Archbishops of England and Wales welcomed the Government's decision to lift the ban on Public Worship from next weekend July 4th-5th. In a joint statement

they emphasised the importance of fulfilling Government and Church guidelines on health and safety. Fr Bernard had a conversation with Bishop Marcus on Wednesday in which the Bishop stressed that churches could only be opened when they had been officially inspected and signed off as fit for purpose. Some churches in the diocese went through this process to allow them to be open for Private Prayer, but our church was not one of them. At present we cannot open the church for either private or public prayer and Bishop Marcus told Fr Bernard that it may be some considerable time before all our churches are able to open. The **SAFETY** of those coming to church when open is the **first priority**. In the meantime Fr Bernard will continue to say Mass in private on a daily basis, and Mass on Sundays will be live streamed. A reminder of part of Bishop Marcus' statement in last week's newsletter— ***This does not mean that every church in our Diocese will be able to open immediately, and it may be that some churches will not be able to open for some time. Please, do be patient and understanding; there may be a number of very good reasons why individual churches will not be able to re-open straightaway.***

The local Dean Fr Richard Carter will be visiting the parish during the coming week.



Mary Farmer will be taking part in the Big Sleep Out on Friday July 10th 2020 and is looking for sponsors to raise money for Cornerstone. Mary writes:

If people are interested in sponsoring me or in doing the sleep in themselves details are: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/TheBigSleepOut2020>.

You can donate directly to their own justgiving website or mine:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Mary-Farmer3>.

You can write a cheque—'Sister Lucy Dunne Cornerstones day' or pass cash on to me as I will be able to get it to them.

It would just help me to know who has donated if it is sponsorship money so know a total to pass on. Many thanks, Mary