



22nd February 2026
First Sunday of Lent Yr A

THE NEW MISSAL: Mass during the day pg. 153—158

St William Parish, Wigan

The Churches of St Mary, St John and St Patrick

www.stwilliamparishwigan.org

Parish Priest: **Fr Paul Grady** Assistant Priest: **Fr John Causey**
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(Fr John) St John's, 13 Powell St, Wigan, WN1 1XD Tel: 01942 247561
St Patrick's Postal Address: 67 Hardybutts, Wigan, WN1 3RZ
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LENT 2026 Stations of the Cross

St Patrick's: Tuesday and Friday 7.00pm

St John's: Friday 9:30am

St Mary's: Sunday 6:30pm (with Benediction)

Morning & Evening Prayer during Lent: Begins this Monday 23rd February at St Patrick's As we prepare to journey through Lent, you are warmly invited to consider adding Morning and/or Evening Prayer of the Church to your daily routine as a simple but meaningful extra act of prayer. Praying the official prayer of the Church helps you to pause, centre your day on God and walk through this holy season together with the parish community. You are very welcome to join us, whether regularly or just occasionally.

LENTEN EVENTS throughout the Wigan Family of Parishes is now available in the church porch.
Please take a copy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

ALL WHO ARE SICK Including: Linda Evans, Chris Higgins Snr, all our parishioners & friends, our priests.

ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY including: Amy Power, Margaret Ashall, May Doran, John Heyes, Bernard Sheridan, Michael Moore. **May they rest in peace.**

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary McDonnell, Catherine & James Bannister, Tadhg Meehan, Catherine Taylor Eileen O'Donnell, Thomas O'Leary John Taylor, James Howarth, Frances Rafferty, John Lee, Marion & Kevin Melia, Alice Stevens, Kirsty Michelle Onuoha, Doris Barker, William McCormick William Laker, Alice Wilkinson, Ann Hilton, Lilian Alcock, Margaret Poole, Teresa Penman Harry Howarth.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED: James Lawson, Fr Barry McAllister, Paddy McAllister Joseph Leyland, Pauline Burgess, Thressiamma Mathew, Neethu Thomas, Harry Hopwood John Robert & Mary Ann Thomas, John, Jane & Terry Dixon, Margaret & Alfred Boyle. Catherine & James Bannister

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

St Mary's: Michael Ainscough

St Patrick's: Fr James Lappin & Fr Joseph Burns *in loving memory*

St John's: Colin Benfold



	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	
Sat 21 Sun 22 February	Holy Mass (Sunday Vigil) St Mary's 5.00pm - Margaret Ashall (LD) Holy Mass St Mary's 9.00am - Anthony Gannon Holy Mass St Patrick's Church 9.15am - Fr Lappin & Fr Burns (A) St Patrick's Coffee Morning after Mass Holy Mass St John's 11.00am - Special Intention (B) Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm - Parishioners Stations of the Cross with Benediction St Mary's 6.30pm Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm.	
Mon 23	Monday Adoration St John's 8.45-9.45am Holy Mass St John's 10.00am - Pauline Burgess (RIP) Lenten Rosary St Patrick's Church 12.15pm	
Tue 24	Tuesday No Mass St John's Stations of the Cross St Patrick's 7.00pm Holy Mass St Patrick's Church 7.30pm - Rita Conroy (LD)	
Wed 25	Wednesday Requiem Mass St Patrick's 10.00am - Amy Power Holy Mass St Mary's 12.00pm - Theresa Casey Lenten Rosary St Mary's 12.30pm St Patrick's Holy Hour 6.15pm Rosary 7.20pm No Mass St Patrick's	
Thur 26	Thursday Holy Mass with Yr 5 St Patrick's 9.30am - Brian Scott Pondering & Praying Vatican II St John's Campbell Room 7.00pm	
Fri 27	Friday <i>Stay & Pray with Reception</i> Junior Hall 9.05am Stations of the Cross St John's 9.30am Holy Mass with Yr 4 St John's 10.00am - Clare Pulford & Christine Sharrock Stations of the Cross St Patrick's 7.00pm	
Sat 28	Saturday Holy Mass St Mary's 10.00am - Mary Gibbons Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions St Mary's 10.30am -11.30am Confessions St Mary's 4.00-4.45pm Holy Mass (Sunday Vigil) St Mary's 5.00pm - Winifred Howe (A)	
Sun 1 March	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Holy Mass St Mary's 9.00am - Margaret Burns (A) Coffee Morning St Mary's after Mass Holy Mass St Patrick's Church 9.15am - Gerard & Veronica Ashton (B) Holy Mass St John's 11.00am - Joseph Leyland (A) Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm - Parishioners Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm Station of The Cross with Benediction 6.30pm St Mary's	(A) - Anniversary (LD) - Lately Dead (B) - Birthday

BAPTISMS: please speak to either Fr Paul or Fr John if you would like your child baptised.

CONFESSION: For 10 mins. after each weekday Mass.

St Mary's Saturday: 10.30 – 11.30am & 4.15 - 4.45pm and **St John's Sunday: 3.45pm - 4.15pm.**

PRIVATE PRAYER:

St Mary's Church is open during the day from 10.30am – 4.00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday during the Winter.

St Patrick's Porch for Private Prayer from Monday 5th January 8:30am-3:30pm Monday to Friday.

PONDERING AND PRAYING VATICAN II:

Pope Leo XIV has called the People of God to re-engage with the documents of Vatican II. Here in the parish we have responded to this call and will begin a series of reading and reflection sessions this week.

The Second Ecumenical Vatican Council, often referred to as Vatican II, was a re-markable event in the worldwide Catholic Church. The Council was called by Pope John XXIII to enable the Church to meet the missionary demands of proclaiming the Gospel. Vatican II began on 11 October 1962 in St Peter's Basilica, Rome. Over 4000 bishops from across the world gathered there with the Pope. They met in four autumn sessions, across the following years, concluding on 8 December 1965. Having opened the Council, Pope John XXIII died in June 1963. It was, therefore, his successor Pope Paul VI who continued, and then concluded, Vatican II. Both popes were later declared saints, St John XXIII in 2014 and St Paul VI in 2018, in recognition of their holiness in imitating Christ.

We hope to start a journey of discovery by pondering and praying some essential themes. Please do not be daunted. These sessions require no previous or specialist knowledge – they have been written for easy access to what the Church said at Vatican II, and what this means for our life of faith in the Body of Christ. We will follow ideas produced by Archbishop John Wilson of Southwark Diocese.

Over a number of weeks we will reflect on the four Constitutions of the Council:

- The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (4 Dec 1963) - about how we worship
- The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (21 Nov 1964) the Body of Christ
- The Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (18 Nov 1965) - about how God speaks to us
- The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (7 Dec 1965) - about the relationship of the Church to contemporary social and global matters

The session will be held in the Campbell Room at St John's on Thursdays 7-8pm. If you are able to make this first session please take a pink sheet from the back of church and read before the session. Tea and coffee will be available from 6.45pm

For more information contact Chris on 07712 552410

THE NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH: This takes place from 10th –18th March. The Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the feast of St Joseph their patron with a special novena of Masses to ask for God's blessing on their missionary work. You are welcome to send in your petitions and /or request a copy of the Novena Prayer (£1.00) by writing to :

The Novena Director, 6 Colby Gardens, Maidenhead, SL6 7GZ.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ALL THREE CHURCHES A meeting with all those who are Extraordinary Ministers (Eucharistic ministers) will be held after **Mass on Sunday 8th March in the Lappin Room.** Eucharistic Ministers **St Mary's & St John's meetings on Saturday 14th March** after 5.00pm Mass & **Sunday 15th March** after 9.00 & 11.00am Masses (Meetings will be no longer than 30 minutes).

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS for the Wigan Family of Parishes

Lenten Recollection Day Invitation to all Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 14th March, 10.00am - 1.00pm, led by Fr Michael Harwood, at St Jude's, Church, Poolstock. Ends with lunch (bring your own sandwiches).

To give an idea of numbers, please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

"ALL EARS" CHARITY WALK Saturday 28th February. Thanks to our volunteer walkers.

Julie Michison, Catherine Stockley, Bernard Dorgan. Finn Evans, Mary Kearsley, Catherine Ward Michael Westhall, Peter Cunliffe, Maureen O' Bern, Margaret. Atkinson, Benedict Ratchford Jamie Winstanley. Please sponsor them for their time and effort in raising funds towards giving therapy to children (5 to 16 yrs) affected by loss of a loved one by suicide.

John Graham 07963 163335.

OUR THREE CHURCH REPOSITORIES are stocked with lovely things –cards, 2026 Diaries and calendars, St Patrick's Day & Easter cards and lots more. Come and browse after Mass.

ST PATRICK'S IRISH NIGHT AND EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS: We are now gratefully accepting donations of Easter eggs, bottles and chocolates for our Irish Night and upcoming Easter Raffle. If you are able to donate a prize, please place it in the collection box at the back of the church. Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support.

The Marian Antiphon, the "Ave Regina Caelorum", is for this liturgical season, which is from The Presentation of The Lord to Maundy Thursday.

Ave, Regina caelorum

Ave, Domina Angelorum.
 Salve radix, salve porta.
 Ex qua mundo lux est orta.
 Gaude, Virgo gloriosa.
 Super omnes speciosa.
 Vale, O valde decora.
 Et pro nobis Christum exora.

Hail, O Queen of Heaven.

Hail, O Lady of Angels.
 Hail ! Thou root. Hail! thou gate.
 From whom unto the world a light has arisen.
 Rejoice, O glorious Virgin.
 Lovely beyond all others.
 Farewell, most beautiful maiden.
 and pray for us to Christ.

ST PATRICK'S FEAST DAY Tuesday 17th March Procession of St Patrick's Statue at 1:45pm, with Masses at 2:00pm and 7:30pm on the day.

IRISH NIGHT TICKETS NOW ON SALE: Tickets are now on sale for this year's Irish Night, celebrating Saint Patrick's Patronal Feast. The celebrations will take place on **Friday 13th March** at Whelley Ex-Servicemen's Club. Doors open at 7.00pm, with live music from The Fly By Knights and Martyn Ode, our DJ. There will also be hot food, a raffle, and plenty of opportunities to dance. All are very welcome. Tickets cost £10 and are available from Katie Price or Josh Marshall (St Patrick's), Ann Foster (St Mary's) and Chris Higgins (St John's).

ST PATRICK'S EASTER RAFFLE: Tickets go on sale from 8th March at £1 per strip. The raffle will be drawn during the Coffee Morning on Palm Sunday. If you would like to donate prizes (Easter eggs etc.), please place them in the box at the back of the Church.

ST PATRICK'S RESTORATION UPDATE: Thank you to everyone who helped re-install the Stations of the Cross and the remaining statues in the Church last week – it was a great team effort. This week, additional security features have been installed and the confessionals have been fitted with improved lighting, making it easier to see when they are available for use. Although they remain temporarily unusable, they are drying out well.

WELCOME: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Rose into our Parish Family, this Sunday, at St Patrick's. We hold her, and her family, in prayer.
 The Baptism will be celebrated by Fr Paul.

The Parish	Important dates for your diary...
Sunday 22 nd February	St Patrick's Coffee Morning Lappin Room after 9.00am Mass
Friday 27 th February	CAFOD Lent Fast Day-Collection Saturday 28 th Feb /Sunday 1 st March
Sunday 1 st March	St Mary's Coffee Morning after 9.00am Mass
Tuesday 3 rd March 9.00am	St Mary's Church Cleaning Team
Thursday 5 th March 12.30pm	Ladies Group Meeting Lappin Room .New members welcome
Saturday 7 th March 10.00am	St John's First Saturday Rosary Church Cleaning 10.30am
Sunday 8 th March	St John's Coffee Morning after 11.00am Mass
Friday 13 th March 7.00pm	Irish Night to celebrate the Feast of St Patrick
Tuesday 17 th March	St Patrick's Feast Day Procession, School Mass, Patronal Feast Mass
Wednesday 18 th March	Keep in Touch after 12.00pm Mass St Mary's. All welcome
Wednesday 18 th March	Archbishop's Visit St Patrick's Church
Sunday 29 th March	Palm Sunday begins Holy Week