



# ST. KENTIGERN'S CHURCH



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**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR IN CYCLE B**

**11th February 2018**

## Message from the Parish Priest

My Dear People,

Today, 11<sup>th</sup> of February is the World day of Prayer for the sick; the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes if it was not a Sunday.

Our Lady never said to St Bernadette that she would heal people at Lourdes but from the very beginning of the Apparitions on this day in 1858, folk were cured. In fact one of the first was a woodsman who was blinded by a chip of wood flying out of the saw he was using to cut a tree. He bathed his eye in the little pool which Bernadette had created when Our Lady told her to wash her face. Bernadette had been humiliated because some of the crowd laughed at her when she washed her face in the muddy water of the miraculous little spring our Immaculate Mother had pointed out. Bernadette had to scrape the earth for there was no Water visible to the eye. However it proved to be the first miracle of Lourdes. His eye was restored. In Knock twenty five years ago a priest of this diocese told me that his sister- a nurse was assisting a patient with MS at Knock Shrine of our Lady and at the Blessed Sacrament Procession her patient was cured instantly. The priest is dead now (may God be good to him) but he was our Dean at the time Father Joe.

The story of Lourdes is an ongoing one and many consolations and communications from God are given at that holy place and others like Medjugorje and Fatima. The one thing all these holy places have in common is that the Mother of God has visited there and blessed the place with her holy and motherly presence for the consolation of God's humble people in painful and difficult times.

Freemasonry and Rational Liberalism ruled in France and in Portugal in 1858 and 1917. The rulers were all atheists and saw the Church as standing in the way of Progress – progress been judged only through the ruler's eyes of course. (Does it remind of our rulers now?)

Famine was not far away for the seers both in Lourdes and in Fatima. Ireland had just emptied two thirds of its population in the face of the Great Potatoes Blight. Famine and the sufferings were so great, the story will never be fully told for the victims are dead or drowned on the way to the New World. Strangely enough in Britain freedom of religion was

genuine and except for anti- Catholic Bigotry which was widespread, there was genuine improvement of religious freedom and the Catholic Bishops had just been restored to England in 1850 by the Pope.

Bernadette was illiterate & in poor health & the family was bankrupt. It was the need for fuel in a harsh mountain winter that caused her to go to the Rock of Masiebelle to look for drift wood that the River Gave might have carried down from the Pyrenees mountains.

Then with a movement of wind and the bushes not moving she saw a light emerge from the cave in the rock above her little frame out of which emerged her beautiful lady who bowed to her and greeted her with such exquisite graciousness and kindness. "Would you be so kind to return here for (so many days)..."etc. she said to the 14 year old. The rest is history. Eighteen time our Lady came.

Millions come to Lourdes now every year, still bringing their sick and handicapped, their dying and their deep personal intentions and there they find God's comfort. Outsiders see us as only going to Lourdes for "A CURE" and think us as superstitious. How wrong they are. I do not know one who has gone to Lourdes for a Cure and only a CURE. Our Lord has told us to ask for everything "in his name" and in Lourdes that's what we do. We know God can work miracles and we pray for a miracle if that is God's will but we want God's will. The Mother of God teaches you there to accept God's will. How many family troubles are cured there and they are not to do with illnesses but past hurts and grudges and injustices.

In the Gospel today it says "*A leper came to Jesus & pleaded on his knees- if you want to you can cure me*" **Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him and at once he was cured.**

NOW – that is exactly what you find in these holy places where Our Lady has appeared. There in Lourdes, Fatima, Medjugorje, Knock, Guadalupe etc – you first find the great crowds and then you find the successors of The Twelve Apostles – the Bishops of diocese with their clergy & disciples and all listening to the message of Jesus...

(continues at the back...)

## Mass Schedule & Activities

### **MASSES THIS WEEK**

Mon- Fri 9.30am

Sat 11:30am  
& 6:30pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY: 9:00 am

11am  
6:30pm

✠

### **CONFESSIONS**

Sat. 12—12.30p.m. and 5.30—6.25p.m.

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### **BAPTISM PREPARATION**

Baptisms 12:15pm Sunday's by

prior appointment only.

Baptism Preparation

1st Sunday of the month 3pm  
In Church

✠

### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS NEXT WEEK**

Mon — Fri

2—4 pm

Sat:10.30am– 11.25am

✠

### **NO Lectio Divina**

✠

**Legion of Mary** meet on

Mon. at 7.30pm in the

Presbytery

### **FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK**

**Wed:** Ash Wednesday

**Sat:** The Seven Holy  
Founders of the Servite  
Order

and celebrating his holy Mysteries which he gave to us the night before he died when He said **“Do this in Memory of Me.”** They carry on the redeeming work of Christ. You find the thousands going to Confess their sins and receive our Lord’s forgiveness at the hands of His anointed Priests. Jesus breathed on them and said **“Whose sins you forgive they are forgiven.”** The **sick are anointed** and have hands laid on them in the name of the Lord and many find healing and strength and the courage to face life ( and death if this is God’s will for them.).

There is so much to say and too little space. Believe me – the hand of God touches you there. So that is why the late Pope- St John Paul 11 - appointed this day as **The International Day of Prayer for the Sick.** He showed with his own example how to be really sick and full of the Spirit did he not? His last visit to Lourdes he told the pilgrim sick: **“I come to you as one of you now..”** What a saint we have in John Paul-. So you are experiencing sickness – cheer up. God has chosen you and given you a great mission. Human life does not consist only in health and strength does it now?

I’ll be praying for you all at St Peter’s Tomb and St John Paul II’s tomb in Rome

God Bless,  
Father Tom Connolly.

**SICK:** Elizabeth Leyden, Michael Nolan, Mary Fitzpatrick, Anette McHale, Brenda & Tom Lynch, Brendan Foy, Christine Booth, Laurence Lindley, Fred Pook, Omana Babus, Vera Sheehan, Eileen Ramsbottom, Peter Ramsbottom, Patrick Banahan, Carol Grighton, Sheila Scannell, John Leyden, Agnes Halligan, Ann Brady, Barbara Williams, Maureen Smith.

**Recently Deceased:** Beatrice & Albert Johnson, Kath Hilton, Helen Walsh, Kevin Fanning.

**Anniversary:** Phyllis Hanna, Owen Lambe (9am), Afram Zaia, Anesaa Cano, Wasem Gorgis, Rehan Gorgis, Sabre Dawood



**WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE**— Monday June 25th—Friday June 29th (5Days) Bed, breakfast & evening meal. Day out to Cromer £320. Deposit of £50 required to book a place. Enquiries : Mary Walsh 0161 474 0964.

**ASH WEDNESDAY LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO WARDLEY HALL**— Wednesday 14th February from 9:30am –4:30pm the Shroud of Turin exhibition & the imparting of ashes throughout the day. For group bookings please contact Marie Satini maria.sartini@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or 0161 794 2825.



**CHANGES IN MASSES NEXT WEEK**

Monday 9.30am Kath Hilton’s funeral Mass.  
Tuesday NO MASS.  
Wednesday Ashes Mass 9.30AM - &7PM.  
Thursday at 9.30am.  
Friday -NO MASS  
Saturday at 11.30-am

**BIBLE STUDY COURSE**—A Bible Study course entitled "The Bible and the Virgin Mary" consisting of 12 weekly sessions starts on Thursday 22nd February at St Kentigern's Social Club Wilbraham Road start time 7.30pm. No experience of Bible Study required just a desire to know more about our Faith and the Church's teachings about the Virgin Mary in particular. For more info please take a leaflet from the tray at the back of church.

**ORGAN RECITAL SERIES 2018**— at Holy Name Church 7:30pm:  
Wed 21st Feb Simon Leach (organ) and Benedict Holland (violin), Fri 23rd Feb Benjamin Sheen, Fri 29th June Andrew Dean; Fri 4th May Daniel Brondel; Wed 7th Nov John Kitchen

**SALFORD DIOCESE PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** 27<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Led by Bishop Arnold. If you come as a nurse or doctor you may get financial help. Lourdes Pilgrimage Office 817 2209 or website [www.salfordlourdes.co.uk](http://www.salfordlourdes.co.uk)

**FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE.** Lent Campaign. has been organised in Manchester beginning 14 February throughout the Lenten season. Come along and join this venture to save precious lives OF THE UNBORN

**BETHLEHEM ART-** mission is to provide an income for the few Christian families still living in Bethlehem. There are few pilgrims and visitors to the Holy Land and so families have no means of selling their work. The items produced by local craftsmen are individually hand carved from the wood of the olive tree that are common throughout the Holy Land. Every purchase of these carvings will help to support the many Christian families that still in current times live under constant deprivation and conflict. They will be at St. Edward’s on the 18<sup>th</sup> February and at St. Kentigern’s on the 24<sup>th</sup> February.

**NEXT WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> IS ASH WEDNESDAY. LENT BEGINS**

**ASH WEDNESDAY AT 9.30 AM and 7PM DAY OF ABSTINENCE FROM Meat and & ONE MAIN MEAL AND TWO COLLATIONS ONLY.**

**Collection £678**  
**Poor box £512**  
**Mary’s meal £13**

**Director– Kevin Fitzpatrick:**  
**2242033 / 07912287289**  
*St Kent’s the Place to be*

**MON:** Irish Community Care & Ladies Darts  
**TUE:** Irish language classes & Don Night  
**WED:** Bingo & Adult Dancing  
**THU:** Ceili/Set Dancing  
**FRI:** Irish Dancing classes  
**SUN:** Salsa

**FEBRUARY**  
**Sun 11th**—Little Sisters of the Poor Afternoon Lunch  
**Thu 22nd**—Liverpool Irish Tues group