

# The Parishes of

## St. Margaret Ward

Sale M33 4GY

Tel: 0161- 962-4444

Primary School: Tel: 0161- 969-9852



### All Saints

164 Carrington Lane, Ashton-on-Mersey M33 5WL

Tel: 0161- 962-4444

### Our Lady of Lourdes

Chapel Lane, Partington M31 4EZ

Office Tel: 0161-775 2905



#### Newsletter Holy Family

First Reading	Samuel	1:20-22.24-28
Psalm	Psalm	83:2-3.5-6-10.R.v5
Second Reading	St John	3:1-2.21-24
Gospel	Luke	2:41-52

Parish Priest: Father Ned Wall. The Presbytery, 164, Carrington Lane  
Permanent Deacons: Anthony Caffrey and John Conway  
The RC Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 23402

## REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, we hear how Mary hurried to her cousin's house--a long trip, on foot, over dirt, sand, and rocks, under the hot sun. She does not have to be pampered in order to bring forth the Holy One. She doesn't spend a second worrying whether the way is too hard. Her soul somehow knows about the soft light that will shine forth when she gives birth. Everything else takes second place.

Here we are presented with the humility of Mary, and her unborn Son. It is they who go to visit-not they who are visited. Even before he is born, Jesus already comes to serve, and not to be served. It is through service we will recognise him as Lord. He will be like us in every respect, except in his freedom from sinfulness.

As we prepare to enjoy the Christmas season, let us not forget what it is really about--the coming of God among us to show the greatest love that can be shown--the laying down of his life for his friends. We celebrate his birth because of the triumphant victory of his death. We are about to celebrate Christmas, and the most important preparation of all, is to say Yes to the Father, Yes to Jesus, Yes to the New Year, Yes to every call God makes of us in the coming year. Contemplating the experiences of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we learn from them how to say an unqualified Yes to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

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### Psalm:

They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon :

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

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### Next Week s Readings:

First Reading	Isaiah	60:1-6
Psalm	Psalm	71:1-2.7-8.10-13.R.cf.v11
Second Reading	St Paul	3:2-3.5-6
Gospel	Matthew	2:1-12

## ALL PARISHES

### THANK YOU

Fr Ned, Fr Bernard, Deacons Anthony and John would like to thank you all for your personal, cards, presents and good wishes.

With thanks also for your generosity for all the Christmas offerings.

### HUGE THANK YOU

We would like to express our sincere thanks to each and every one of you who worked so hard in all areas, (too many to name) to prepare all three churches for Christmas. Your involvement is so needed and very much appreciated.

### SOUND OF MUSIC

Our theatre trip to the Sound of Music is this Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2015, so here is a reminder of the details. We will all need to meet at All Saints car park at 1.00pm to ensure we get to The Lowry in good time. The coach will leave after the show around 4.45 – 5.00pm . Hope you are all looking forward to it.

### ST MARGARET WARD

The next meeting of the Christian Meditation Group is Tuesday, January 5th at St Margaret Ward.

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME FOR THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

Bishop Mark will lead a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome for the Holy Year of Mercy from 17-21 October 2016. We will visit the major Basilicas of Rome including passing through the Holy Door at St Peter's. In addition there will be a General Audience with the Holy Father and a visit and Holy Hour at the Venerable English College. Flights are from Manchester and accommodation is on a half board basis with lunch included on the first day, The cost is £695 in a twin room or £565 in a triple room. A very limited number of single rooms are available at a supplement of £130 . Numbers are restricted to 100 so early booking is recommended. Full information and booking forms are available from your Parish Priest or can be downloaded from the Diocesan Website. Alternatively contact Fr David Long on 0151 638 1520.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR !

**Wishing everyone a Happy New Year**

**with Prayers and Blessings**

		St. Margaret Ward		All Saints		Our Lady of Lourdes
Holy Family						
St Stephens Day	5.30pm	Joan Andrews				
Sun 27th			9.30am	Arthur Upton	11.00am	Veronica Mahon
Sun 27th			5.00pm	Anne O Connor		
Mon 28th	9.15am	Eucharistic Service		Eucharistic Service		No Service
Tues 29th	9.15am	Eucharistic Service		No Service	7:30pm	Eucharistic Service
Wed 30th	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service	7.30pm	Talitha Rose Leigh	12.15pm	Eucharistic Service
New Years Eve	7.30pm	Tom Fitzpatrick & Family		No Service		No Service
New Years Day			12 Noon	Jim Bones		
The Epiphany of the Lord						
Sat 2nd	5.30pm	Teresa Moran				
Sun 3rd			9.30am	Fabian Gaughan	11.00am	Adam Flowers
Sun 3rd			5.00pm	Peter Bailey		