

People of the Word: Jacob

The names of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – Grandfather, father and son – often appear together in the Bible. Today we meet the third of these great patriarchs.



Having cheated his older brother Esau of his birthright, Jacob fled in fear of his life. On his journey he had a dream in which he saw angels going up and down a ladder between earth and heaven (Genesis 28:10-18). This ladder was a sign of God's communication with human beings.

Having fled to Chaldea, Jacob met and married two wives – Leah and her sister Rachel. All in all, Jacob had twelve sons, who were to become heads of the twelve tribes of Israel (more on these next week).

Jacob wanted to be reconciled with his father, Isaac, and brother, Esau, and set off for his homeland. On the journey, he met a man with whom he wrestled all night (Genesis 32:23-33). At dawn he realises that the man is an angel of God. He tells Jacob, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, because you have been strong against God." The name Israel, so well known to us today, comes from this moment; it means "one who strives with God."



Questions for reflection:

- Jacob 'wrestled with God'. Does my faith or my prayer sometimes feel like a struggle, as though I am struggling with God or with His will?
- Jacob cheated his brother and lied to his father but in the end was reconciled with both. Are there people in my life I need to be reconciled with?

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 133

Office: Psalter Week 1; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: Year 2

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Saturday 8 th	6pm (vigil)	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Terry Cairns RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 9 th	9:30am		Teresa Madden RIP	
	6pm		People of the Parish	
Monday	9:15am		St Scholastica	Special Intention (Steve)
	5:15pm			<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm	Our Lady of Lourdes	Christine Mattinson (ints)	
Wednesday	9:15am		Rachel Kinsella (ints)	
Thursday	9:15am		Thanksgiving (CM)	
Friday	12noon	Sts Cyril & Methodius	Clemence Myerscough RIP	
Saturday 15 th	10am	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Edmund Starkie RIP	
	6pm (vigil)		Mary & Ronald Airey RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 16 th	9:30am		Doris & Jim Mattinson RIP	
	6pm		People of the Parish	

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon and on request.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. These prayers are offered for the protection of human life from conception to natural end.

ST ANTHONY: February wall box donations will go to local people in need of help.

ANNIVERSARIES: Len Stevens, Ann Cobley, Pearline Simpson, Pauline Southworth, Peter Whelan, Veronica Jolly, Anne Dias, Margaret Davies, Dorothy Hayes, Maureen Rooney, Rhoda Myerscough, Georgette Mullen, Peter Newsome, Eleanor Mangan, Harold Wilson, Mary Hornby, Julia Devaney, Adele Loid, Jane Haythornthwaite, Robert Wilkinson.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FEBRUARY: We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES: Patroness of our Diocese and also World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Feast day this Tuesday. Mass at 7pm, followed by a short candlelit procession in honour of Our Lady. For more about Lourdes, see the back page.

LOURDES PRIZE BINGO: This Friday, 7pm in the parish hall. Tickets are available after Mass this weekend, or on the door. A fun evening! Bring your own drinks. Money raised will be used to sponsor young people on the Lourdes pilgrimage in the summer (see below).

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE YOUTH: Young people (school year 10 and over) are invited to take part in the diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage this summer, 23rd July-1st August. The parish may be able to provide funding towards your travel. If you are interested in going on the pilgrimage, please speak to Fr Andrew.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Meeting this Sunday (9th) after the evening Mass. The booklet is *Practising the Presence of God*, based on the life and insights of Brother Lawrence of the Resurrection. Copies are available from the sacristy.

DAY OF RENEWAL: Saturday 29th February, led by the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal who visited us last March. Begins with Mass at 10am. See poster.

CENACOLO COLLECTION: This Sunday (9th). **FOOD BANK:** Next Sunday (16th). Please leave items at Mass times in the porchway of the presbytery.

EDMUND STARKIE RIP: Edmund attended Mass regularly at St Clare's, but his funeral took place in Ireland. Edmund's son, Fr Andrew Starkie, will celebrate a Requiem/memorial Mass here next Saturday at 10am, and all are welcome.

LENT IS APPROACHING! This holy season begins on 26th February. Think now about how to keep it with special acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

FR LAKELAND'S GRAVE is located at the Ribbleton Avenue end of Preston Cemetery. His headstone is now in place. If you would like to visit and need more precise directions, call in at the cemetery office on Blackpool Road.

YEAR OF THE WORD: Metanoia's 'The God who speaks' series continues this Thursday, 7:30pm at St Wilfrid's. Poster with full details in the narthex.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES 2020: On sale now in the narthex. Price £3.50. Please put money in the wallbox marked 'CTS, Books etc'.

WINCKLEY SQUARE COVENT ANNUAL REUNION at Our Lady and St Edward's Parish Hall on Saturday 22nd February, 1-4pm. Please spread the word!

OLSE LADIES' GROUP: This Thursday (13th) at 8pm in OLSE Parish Centre. This will be a musical evening with Graham Jackson, 'Stop the Concert'. Visitors welcome.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 494; Collection: £1016.97; Thank you.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Cenacolo Collection	House porch
Sunday 9 th	9:30am	Children's liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Holy Communion Preparation (1)	Parish Hall
	4:30pm	Confirmation Preparation (1)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	CTS Book Club	Chapel
Monday-Friday	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6:15pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7:45pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:30pm	Marriage Preparation (4)	Parish Hall
	7:45pm	Fabric & Finance Meeting	House
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (trip – book in advance)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	Lourdes Prize Bingo	Parish Hall
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House porch
Sunday 16 th	9:30am	Children's liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Our Lady of Lourdes

Between February 11th and July 16th 1858, Our Lady appeared eighteen times to St Bernadette at the grotto of Lourdes, south-west France. It has become one of the world's most important shrines, a place of pilgrimage and healing. When our Diocese was founded in 1924 Our Lady of Lourdes was chosen as its principal patron saint.

This Tuesday we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, which is also World Day of Prayer for the Sick, with Mass at 7pm ending with a short candlelight procession. **Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.**

