



Parish of St. Michael & St. Bernadette Whitefield



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

In each of the Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after his baptism by John, Jesus goes into the wilderness to fast and pray for forty days, during this time he is tempted by the devil. In Matthew, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus: to use his power to appease his hunger; to put God's promise of protection to the test and Jesus is offered all of the kingdoms of the world, if he will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture. Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the Word and the authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness. As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's love and protection can be trusted; God alone is God.



Times of Services this Week		
	ST. BERNADETTE'S	ST. MICHAEL'S
Sunday 22 nd February	11.00am Mass	9.30am Mass
Tuesday 24 th February	6.45pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Mass	
Wednesday 25 th February		9.30am Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and quiet prayer until Noon
Thursday 26 th February	9.30am Mass	
Friday 27 th February (St Gregory of Narek)	7.00am Mass	9.30am Mass
Saturday 28 th February	10-11.00am Sacrament of Reconciliation 10-11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	
Sunday 1 st March	11.00am Mass	9.30am Mass

Next Sunday: **Second Sunday of Lent (Year A)**
Genesis 12:1-4. 2 Timothy 1:8-10. Matthew 17:1-9.

Response to today's psalm: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Mass Intentions: Sick: John Officer.

Recently deceased: Fr Bob Morrow, Robert Duff, Rita Reynolds, Jon Lewis, Pat Beresford, Margaret Ayres, Alice Monaghan, Margaret Walsh, Rev Dominic Hyland.

Anniversary: Sean McManus, Peter Milton Hughes

Other intentions: Rita Clarke (RIP), Joan & Bernard Howell (RIP), Bernard Morley (RIP), Ann Cummins (Birthday Remembrance), Fr. Philip Caldwell (Thanksgiving), Special Intention, Christine Byrne (Birthday)

Parish Priest - Canon Steven Parkinson

St Bernadette's Catholic Church
436, Bury New Road
Whitefield, M45 7SX
Tel: 0161 766 2356

St Michael's Catholic Church
Albert Rd,
Whitefield,
Manchester M45 8NR

E-mail: info@whitefieldrc.co.uk
Website: www.whitefieldrc.co.uk
Parish Office: 0161 766 5961
(Monday – Friday 9.00am-2.00pm)

Thank you for Offerings for week ending 21st February 2026 £1267.22 of which £869.00 can be Gift Aided. Foodbank: £20.00

Please continue to donate any foreign and obsolete UK currency to Mary's Meals. For further information about Mary's Meals visit: marysmeals.org.uk This Month's Special Collection is for LEPROSA an international charity founded in 1924, dedicated to detecting, treating, and supporting people affected by leprosy, in the poorest parts of the world. Total so far: £104.18 Thankyou.

March monthly charity will be for CAFOD. Lenten Fast Day is Friday 27th February.

DONA machines to enable donations by card payment are installed at the back of each church, thank you for using them. The month end payment for January 2026 was £757.66 for offertory collections, that is in addition to the amounts listed above each week.

LENT 2026 – SOMETHING FOR LENT

Dawn Mass on Fridays of Lent - St Bernadette's at 7.00am. **Stations of the Cross** on Tuesday Evening - St Bernadette's at 6.45pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Wednesday mornings in St Michael's after the 9.30am Mass until 12noon beginning Ash Wednesday, will run until the Wednesday of Holy Week. All are welcome to come for silent prayer in preparation for Easter and on Saturdays 10.00am-11.30am in St Bernadette's concluding with Benediction.

Personal Prayer for Lent – either Walk with Me booklets or the prayer sheet "Pray every Day" for Lent are available at the back of each church.

SAINT THERESE OF LISIEUX DEANERY LENTEN STATION MASSES 2026 in our Deanery we will be calling at five different "stations" to celebrate Mass together as we journey through Lent. Everyone is very welcome. Each Mass (with confessions beforehand and refreshments afterwards) begins at 7.00pm on the following Thursdays:

26th February St Mary, Radcliffe, M26 4DG; 5th March Holy Cross Sixth Form College, Bury, BL9 9BB; 12th March St Michael, Whitefield; 19th March Sacred Heart, Rochdale, OL16 5BX; 26th March St Vincent, Norden, OL12 7QL

SVP APPEAL: ONE ITEM FOR LENT The SVP is once again asking parishioners to donate ONE good quality, pre-loved item. These will be taken to the St Vincent de Paul charity shop, Market Street, Bury (beside the Interchange). They particularly need WOMEN'S TOPS i.e. jumpers, blouses, tee shirts, cardigans, jackets. Other items are always welcome e.g. ornaments and household items; any men's, women's or children's clothing; children's toys, and unwanted/unopened gifts such as toiletries, candles, jewellery. There will be a box for these donations in both churches throughout Lent. Your donations will raise much-needed funds for a range of projects. You could also support the shop by calling in when you are passing, to buy or make donations. Many thanks. **PARISH SVP CONTACT NUMBER IS 07749678562.** Need help or advice, phone, or leave a message and someone will call back.

THE PRAYER GROUP will meet via Zoom at 7.00pm on Tuesday evenings. For further information please contact Tel: 0161 766 5141. All Welcome.

RCIA JOURNEY IN FAITH GROUP For anyone who would like to know more about or reflect upon the Catholic faith. The group will not meet this Wednesday 18th February but will reconvene in the Lourdes Room in St Bernadette's on Wednesday 25th February at 7.30pm

YCW IMPACT GROUP The Parish Impact Youth Group (YCW) for 10–14-year-olds to see how you can be more involved in the life of the parish. The next meeting will be Tuesday 3rd March in the Lourdes Room at St Bernadette's.

BAPTISM Parents seeking Baptism for children, please collect the leaflet which can be found at the back of each of our churches, 'Celebrating the Baptism of your child'. Please return the slip from the leaflet indicating the date of the Baptism preparation meeting you wish to attend. Families not resident in the parish and who do not make St Michael's and St Bernadette's their parish by attendance, will be directed to their parish of residence.

RED DOOR (Caritas, Diocese of Salford) is open each weekday (Monday-Friday) from 10.00am until 1.00pm at St. Joseph's (former Presbytery), Peter St, Bury, for meals, food parcels, toiletries, showers, a laundry service and advice with housing and benefit issues. Tel 0161 272 0771.

PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE Did you know our Parish has a new Facebook Page? We share homily highlights and updates about events and activities in our parish community. Just search for "Parish of St Michael and St Bernadette Whitefield" on Facebook to find us. Remember to Like and Follow the Page to stay connected.

PARISH FUNDRAISERS: CHRISTMAS FAIR 2026! Thank you for the many early donations we have received, they have been stored carefully until later in the year and we do appreciate your support. If you are having a spring clear out between now and November, we will pick up any unwanted items from you. In particular, new gift sets which are always sought after, new or used soft toys, tombola items and any bottles of alcohol for our stalls. Ring 0161 766 8448 for pick up or to arrange to drop off.

TABLE TOP SALE AT ST MICHAEL'S HALL SUNDAY 8TH MARCH booking opens on Tuesday 17th Feb you can call or text 07759 678753, please leave your name, phone number or email and state if you would like a 6ft Table @ £12 or 8ft Table @£15. Thank you

EASTER EGG RAFFLE - coming soon. Thank you for your support with all our fundraising events. The money raised goes directly into much needed parish funds!