

CHORLEY AND PRESTON HOSPITALS: Please contact St Joseph's Chorley (262713) if any member of your family is admitted into Chorley Hospital and needs a visit. In urgent cases or emergency please ask the ward staff to call the duty Chaplain on his bleep/phone. For the chaplaincy service at Royal Preston Hospital please ring 01772 522435. For the chaplaincy service at Wigan Infirmary T. 01942 822324.

MESSAGE FORM FR HUGH SEENAN MAfr. The African Missionaries held an appeal in the Archdiocese of Liverpool last year. **The sum raised from 103 parishes in the Archdiocese was £37,009.70.** Thank you to all who contributed.

THANK YOU TO THE PARENTS who are bringing their children to Holy Mass. It is truly good to see youngsters at Mass. You are giving your child the vital opportunity to form a relationship with God and to understand why Mass is so important in the Catholic Faith. Please continue and well-done boys and girls.

CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK IN CHORLEY: 18th – 25th January. There is a Breakfast and Service at St Laurence's on Friday 26th January; Breakfast at 09.30 and Prayers at 10.00 am. You are very welcome to attend. Please pray for continued Christian Unity in our town of Chorley. More information available on the poster in the narthex.

PEACE SUNDAY MASS AND LECTURE Sun 14th January "**The challenges of non-violence in 2024:** being non-violent in a violent world. Join Archbishop Malcolm and Pax Christi Liverpool for solemn Mass in the Metropolitan Cathedral at 11.00 to mark Peace Sunday. This will be followed by the Liverpool Archdiocese Justice and Peace commission's annual memorial lecture at 1:30 PM in the Gibberd Room. Andrew Jackson CEO of Pax Christi England and Wales will speak on 'The challenges of non-violence in 2024: being non-violent in a violent world.' For more details contact p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS 2024

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD: 2ND February – Candlemass and blessing of church candles.

ST BLAISE: 3rd February. Throats will be blessed at 5pm Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY: 14th February

ST JOSEPH: 19th March

PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK: 24th March

EASTER SUNDAY: 31st March

ASCENSION OF THE LORD: 9th MAY

PENTECOST: 19TH MAY

CORPUS CHRISTI: 2ND JUNE

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: 9th JUNE

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden

Deacon Norman Arrowsmith

Tel: 01257 262537

E-mail: stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk

Parish website: www.stmarys-chorley.org

Parish Office: Tues - Fri 10.30-13.00. 14.00-17.00

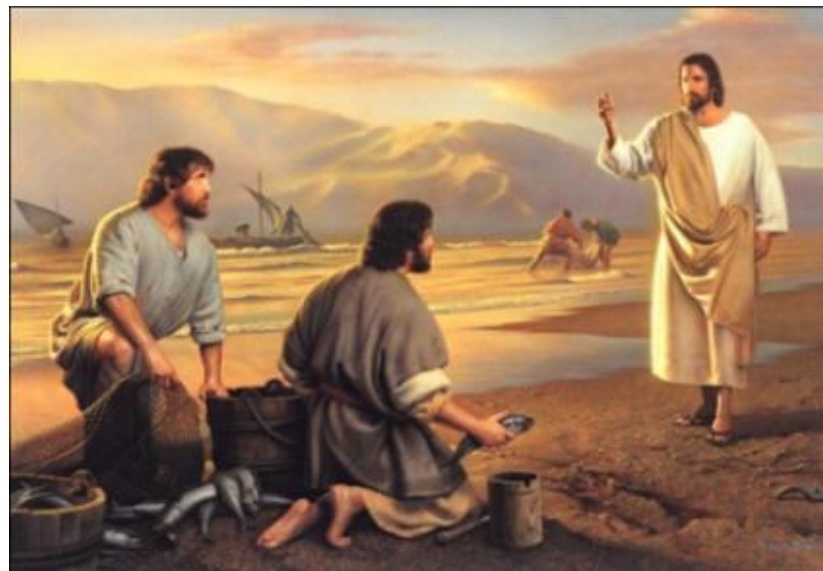
Parish Centre: 270122 or 07377 341969 (Manager – Heather Cheyne)

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL Registered Charity No. 1199714

St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

14th JANUARY 2024



As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus.

Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock. John 1:35-42

Sat 13th

16.15 -16.45

17.00

Confessions

Mass – Bettie McQuillan (A)

Sun 14th

10.00

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (p.127)

Peace Sunday

Mass – Parishioners

Mon 15th 09.00	Mass – Patrick Michael Riordan (A)
Tues 16th 12.00	Mass – Thanksgiving (MMcD)
Wed 17th 13.30	<u>St Anthony of Egypt</u> Requiem – Bernard McDermott
Thurs 18th 12.00	<i>Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion:</i> Christian Unity Week starts
Fri 19th 12.00	<u>St Wulfstan of Worcester</u> Mass – Edward Mc Daid (A)
Sat 20th 16.15 -16.45 17.00	<u>Ss Fabian and Sebastian</u> <i>Confessions</i> Mass – Kevin McCarrick (A)
Sun 21st 10.00	<u>THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</u> (p.129) Mass – Michael Carus (A)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Fr Barry McAllister, Emily Atkins, Patrick and Maureen Bolger, Dorothy Burgoyne, John Campbell, Michael Collins, Fr Jonathan Cotton OSB, Kathleen Coyle, Colette Ellis, Jimmy Henry, Rosemary Hough, Jacob Hughes, Winter Heenan, Fr John Johnson, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Mary Langton, Teresa Martin, Fr Laurence Mayne, Debbie MacFarlane, Molly Redhead, Denis Smith, Joan Smith, Alan Taylor, Mike White, and parishioners in The Adelphi, The Gables, Westwood, and Gillibrand Hall.

ANNIVERSARIES: Christine Bicknell, John Cowdall, Patrick Michael Riordan, Kevin McCarrick, Michael Carus, Bettie McQuillan.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jack Greenhalgh (81) who died on 11th January at St Catherine's Hospice. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 23rd January at 12.00 noon followed by burial in Chorley Cemetery. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord...

READERS: Sat: 13th 17.00 Richard Gillett Sun: 14th 10.00 John Riley. Sat: 20th 17.00 Kinga Grzeczynska Sun: 21st 10.00 Tracy O'Neill

FR MAYNE: Fr Mayne is resident in Marley Court Nursing Home in Heath Charnock. He is settling in slowly. He would welcome visitors and a small bag of Jelly Babies. Fr Mayne has been a priest for 67 years and is now 94 years young. He has worked tirelessly looking after the parishioners of his many parishes that he was sent to, by the Archbishops of Liverpool over the decades. Please remember him in your prayers and if you can spare an hour, please do visit him.

CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTION: Thank you very much for your great generosity. A sum of £2058 was given on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Mary's Meals and Bishop Gregory Komar have received £1029 each. Mary's Meals funds food for school children across the poorest African countries. Donations made to Mary's Meals until the end of January 2024 will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.1 million pounds. Bishop Gregory will use the money sent to him to give food and heating for refugees and displaced Ukrainian families. God bless you for your generosity.

WELCOME BACK TO SPRING TERM: to the children and Mr Smyth and his staff. The juniors attended church last Wednesday and prayed for the new Spring term. Well done

to all the children for their beautiful behaviour and singing in church. They certainly had a good walk back to school!

CATHOLIC PICTORIAL: The January edition of the Catholic Pic is available to download on: <http://tinyurl.com/yn8n6v6r>

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND CONVALIDATIONS: You are welcome to contact Fr Marsden or Dcn Norman Arrowsmith and make arrangements for baptisms, weddings and convalidations. **What is a convalidation?** If you have been married outside the church for example, in a civic building in the UK or abroad, or stately home etc, and you **are free to marry** under the rules of the Catholic Church, you can have a convalidation in church. Your sacramental marriage is then entered into the Register of Marriages at St Mary's. Please ask Fr Marsden or Dcn Norman if you require further information.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? We have evening courses for anyone who wishes to become a Catholic. Currently, there is a course for adults who would like to be baptised at Easter 2024. Would you like to join the course? Please contact the parish office for further information.

PARENTS/CARERS if your child (up to the age of 18 years old) is not baptised and you would like to make further enquiries, please contact the parish office. 01257 262537.

SVP/CHORLEY BUDDIES: The next social is on Wed. 24th January in St. Mary's Parish Centre, from 12.00 noon until 2pm. Transport available. It is free to attend but we welcome donations towards the cost of lunch. Call 01257 542367 to book. If you are feeling lonely and isolated, please get in touch.

WHY ARE WE IN ORDINARY TIME IN THE MASS BOOKS? After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Church begins the period of the Liturgical Year known as 'Ordinary Time', the Sundays and weekdays *per annum*. The liturgical colour is green, symbolising new life and hope. The overall purpose of this season is to contemplate the life and teaching of Christ and the salvation He has won for us. The Sunday readings this year belong to Cycle B and are mostly from St. Mark. The weekday readings follow Year Two of the Lectionary Cycle. During much of history, Ordinary Time was referred to as the 'Season after Epiphany' and the 'Season after Pentecost.' It was only in 1969 when the new Liturgical Calendar took effect after the Second Vatican Council that the term 'Ordinary Time' came into common use in the liturgical calendar. It got its name not because it is ordinary or non-exceptional – how can any time after the Resurrection be deemed ordinary? - but because it is ordered or numbered time, derived from ordinal numbers (first, second, third, etc.). The season continues until Ash Wednesday (this year 14th February) and begins again on the Monday after Pentecost (this year 20th May) until the First Sunday of Advent. It consists of 33 or 34 weeks. The last Sunday is celebrated as the Solemnity of Christ the King.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CONFIRMATIONS 2024

Message from Fr Simon Gore, Lead for Confirmation Catechesis
(Letter on the notice board in the narthex)

'At the start of the New Year, I wanted to let you know that the website for registration for the Sacrament of Confirmation will open on the **15th January**. And will close on the **15th March**. Registration; Any young person in year 8 can register for Confirmation preparation at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk **Please see the notice for further important information.**