

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.

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.

TALK ON 'ANOTHER FIFTY CATHOLIC CHURCHES TO SEE BEFORE YOU DIE.'

BY ELENA CURTI Sat 24 Feb 11:00 Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Mount Pleasant Liverpool L3 5TQ Cathedral Friends will be hosting a talk on 'Another Fifty Churches to See Before You Die.' by Elena Curti in the Gibberd Room. Tickets, which are limited, are £12 = £1.30 booking fee, and include refreshments, a chance to meet the author and to purchase her book at a reduced rate. Please purchase tickets via the Archdiocese events website. Any queries please contact Claire Hanlon at c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

“God has created my heart only for Himself. He asks me to give it to Him that He may make it happy”. St John Vianney

“Only in friendship with Christ is the great potential of human existence truly revealed. Only in his friendship do we experience beauty and liberation”. Pope Benedict XVI, Opening Homily as pope.

“I have done what is mine to do; may Christ teach you what is yours to do” St Francis of Assisi

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission—I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. Somehow, I am necessary for His purposes, as necessary in my place as an Archangel in his—if, indeed, I fail, He can raise another, as He could make the stones children of Abraham. Yet I have a part in this great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connexion between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling. St John Henry Newman

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

21st JANUARY 2024



After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. ‘The time has come’ he said ‘and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.’

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and

his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.’ And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him. Mark 1:14-20

Sat 20th

16.15 -16.45

17.00

Sun 21st

10.00

Mon 22nd

09.00

Tues 23rd

12.00

Wed 24th

09.00

Thurs 25th

12.00

Fri 26th

12.00

Sat 26th

16.15 -16.45

17.00

Ss Fabian and Sebastian

Confessions

Mass – Kevin McCarrick (A)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (p.129)

Mass – Michael Carus (A)

St Vincent of Zaragoza deacon and martyr

Mass – Sheila Makinson (A)

Requiem – Jack Greenhalgh (then interment in Chorley Cemetery)

St Francis de Sales

Mass – Elizabeth Pennington RIP

The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle

Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: Christian Unity Week

St Timothy and St Titus

Mass – Vincent Aspinall (birthday remembrance)

St Angela Merici

Confessions

Mass – Clarice Blakemore (A)

Sun 27th
10.00

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (p.132)
Mass – Parishioners

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Fr Barry McAllister, Emily Atkins, Patrick and Maureen Bolger, Dorothy Burgoyne, John Campbell, Michael Collins, Kathleen Coyle, Colette Ellis, 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. **Please inform the parish office if you would like to have your name removed from the above sick list. Thank you.**

ANNIVERSARIES: Sheila Makinson, Margaret Matulewicz, Clarice Blakemore, Fr Freddie Matthews SMM.

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. **Fr Jonathan Cotton OSB** (81) Monk of Ampleforth and retired Parish Priest of St Mary's Leyland (1992 - 2022) who died on 17th January. Funeral details to be announced by the Abbot of Ampleforth in due course. **Christopher John Patrick Riordan** (66) who died in Wigan Infirmary on 4th January. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 30th January at 13.00 followed by committal at Charnock Richard Crematorium. Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord...

READERS: **Sat: 20th 17.00** Kinga Grzeczynska **Sun: 21st 10.00** Tracy O'Neill.
Sat: 26th 17.00 Eileen McCarrick. **Sun: 27th 10.00** Simon Eccles.

BAPTISMS OF CHILDREN: Please see either Deacon Norman or Fr Marsden after a weekend Mass in order to get an Application Form. Once that is completed and handed back in, we can try to arrange a suitable date.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? RCIA RITE OF ELECTION Metropolitan Cathedral 15.00 **Sun Feb 18.** There will be a service of the Rite of Christian Initiation and call to conversion. The deadline to submit your forms is 31 January. Please send to a.kiely@rcaol.org.uk **Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5TQ**

SVP / CHORLEY BUDDIES: The next social is this **Wednesday 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.

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE TRUST (STONYHURST) MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES The next marriage preparation course at the CHC will run over two consecutive Saturdays: **27 January and 3 February**. The course offers a testimony to the sacramental married life, an overview of the key themes underpinning the Church's vision of marriage, relational exercises for the couples, time for discussion as couples and in groups. For more information and to book:
<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/marriage-preparation/>

RETRouvaille: A PROGRAMME FOR COUPLES STRUGGLING IN THEIR MARRIAGES **Help Your Marriage** – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish

and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CONFIRMATIONS 2024

Message from Fr Simon Gore, Lead for Confirmation Catechesis

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 notices in the narthex for further important information.**

CATECHIST TRAINING: 'HOW DO I CHOOSE AND USE CATECHETICAL

RESOURCES?' **7:00PM - 8:30PM** Beginning on Wednesday 24 January 2024 until June, we will be offering 3 modules over 13 weeks of training for Catechists. Whether you are considering being a catechist, or are an existing catechist, looking to refresh your knowledge, this course could be for you. This course is initially being offered on Wednesdays at the St Margaret Clitherow Centre at 7pm – 8.30pm for free. To register your interest for this course, please email training@rcaol.org.uk **St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Liverpool, Croxteth Drive L17 1AA**

QUIET DAYS AT THE CENACLE 10:30am - 4pm Sat 27th Jan

We all need time to stop, ponder, be still, be find it hard to have the time. Why not come for a few hours, with like minded people, and just stop and be away from the daily round of life? Bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided, suggested offering £10 No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. For further information contact Sr Winnie, Cenacle, Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, L15 6TW tel 0151 722 2271

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES MASS - Saturday 10 February Diocesan celebration for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick 12.00 noon, Saturday 10th February Christ the King, Queen's Drive, Liverpool L15 6YQ. Bishop Tom Neylon will preside.

FOUND LAST SUNDAY IN CHURCH: White multi stone cluster ring set in a yellow-coloured band. Is it yours? Please contact the parish office. If you have been asking St Anthony to find it – it is here!

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS: We need to pray more for vocations into the Sacred Priesthood. If you could offer a decade of the holy rosary whenever you can. Thank you.

COLD WEATHER CHECK; Do you have a lonely or elderly person living near you? Perhaps you could call in and check that he or she are OK. Thank you.

PERHAPS IT IS DRY ROT!! Unfortunately, we have a problem with some woodwork that looks very much like dry rot. Neil Fewtrell the archdiocesan surveyor, has been called in and we are seeking a further opinion from a specialist next week. Swift action needs to be taken before it spreads. We will action a plan very soon.