

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.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? RCIA Rite of Election Metropolitan Cathedral 15.00 on 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

TWO YEARS OF WAR: Saturday 24th February marks a terrible anniversary. Two capture Kyiv within three days. An unprovoked and barbarous attack upon a peaceful independent nation. At present, Moscow making every effort through black propaganda and trolls on social media to undermine western support for Ukraine

Holy Mass will be offered for the suffering Ukrainian people at 17.00 on Saturday 24th February. There will be a **special Service of Prayers for Ukraine at 18.15 on Monday 26th February at St Lawrence's** – an opportunity for reflection and for our community to come together in solidarity to offer prayer for those who are suffering, those who are fighting, those who are offering support, and naturally it will be a time to pray for a just peace.

CHANGES IN MASS TIMES THIS WEEK: You can see that we have three funerals this week. Please make a note of the Requiem / Service time. There is no 09.00 Mass on Monday morning. The funeral at 12.00 noon is for Anne Julie Holding. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS to the Sacred Priesthood. If you could offer a decade of the holy Rosary whenever you can. Thank you.

ON THE TRANSFIGURATION: 'Let us listen to the holy voice of God which summons us from on high, from the holy mountain top. There we must hasten – I make bold to say – like Jesus who is our leader and has gone before us into heaven. There, with him, may the eyes of our mind shine with his light and the features of our soul be made new; may we be transfigured with him and moulded to his image, ever become divine, being transformed in an ever greater degree of glory.' (St Anastasius of Sinai)

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 OF LENT

25th FEBRUARY 2024



Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them anymore but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain, he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.
Mark 9:2-10

Sat 24th

N.B.

17.00

Sun 25th

10.00

15.00

Mon 26th

12.00

18.15

Tues 27th

12.00

Confessions after 17.00 Mass

Mass – For the suffering people of Ukraine

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (p.151)

Mass – Francis Calderbank (A)

Holy Hour with Evening Prayer (15.40) and Benediction

Funeral Mass – Anne Julie Holding

St Laurence's Church, Service of Prayer for Ukraine

St Anne Line, martyr

Funeral Mass – Patricia Ileana Clarke

Wed 28th

09.00

Mass – Doreen McMellon (A)

13.30

Funeral Service – Anne Sweeney

Thurs 29th

12.00

St Oswald of Worcester

Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Fri 1st March

11.30

ST DAVID, PATRON OF WALES

Stations of the Cross

12.00

Mass – Michael Bolton and deceased family members

Sat 2nd

16.15 – 16.45

St Chad of Lichfield

Confessions

17.00

Mass – Jerzy Sochocki and deceased family members

Sun 3rd

10.00

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (p.154)

Mass – George and Margaret Bury RIP

11.00

Baptism – Freddie Barrow

15.00

Holy Hour with Evening Prayer (15.40) and Benediction

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Fr Barry McAllister, Emily Atkins, Patrick and Maureen Bolger, Dorothy Burgoyne, Michael Collins, Kathleen Coyle, Colette Ellis, Rosemary Hough, Jacob Hughes, Winter Heenan, Fr John Johnson, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Mary Langton, Theresa 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: John Valentine, Ian Grime, John Ginty, Kate Redhead, James Dawber.

READERS: **Sat: 24th 17.00** Eileen McCarrick **Sun: 25th 10.00** Dr Jane Eccles. **Sat: 2nd 17.00** Gillian Sharples. **Sun: 3rd 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.

ST DAVID OF WALES (DEWI SANT) c.500–589, bishop of Mynyw (now St Davids), and the patron saint of Wales. His mother was Non and his grandfather Ceredig ap Cunedda, king of Ceredigion. Born probably at Henfynyw (Vetus-Menevia) in Ceredigion. He became renowned as a teacher and preacher, founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Dumnonia (Cornwall / Devon), and Brittany. St David's Cathedral stands on the site of the monastery he founded in the Glyn Rhosyn valley of Pembrokeshire. Around 550, he attended the Synod of Llandewi Brefi, where as he spoke, the ground on which he stood is reputed to have risen up to form a small hill. A white dove, which became his emblem, was seen settling on his shoulder. His eloquence in opposing Pelagianism caused his fellow monks to elect him primate of the region, and Dubricius retired.

David's monastic Rule prescribed that monks had to pull the plough themselves without draught animals, and must drink only water and eat only bread with salt and herbs, no meat and no beer. The monks spent their evenings in prayer, reading and writing. No personal possessions were allowed: even to say "my book" was considered



an offence. David's last words were: **"Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do."**

POSSIBLE CHANGE IN ABORTION LAWS: Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. **Take action:** Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to our MP urgently in support of this amendment! Post cards may be found on the round table in the narthex. Thank you.

WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR LENT?

Fasting depends on the individual. If you have health issues and cannot fast, then it would be wrong to encourage fasting. We omit eating meat on Fridays or something else if you are vegetarian or vegan.



Fasting has to be taken sensibly and please do not over do it. **Almsgiving**, depends on your purse. You will find the Lenten Box near St Anthony's statue. In these days of high energy costs and a significant increase cost for basic foods, the Lenten Box is there if you can spare to give something. **Prayer**, at home or in church, going to work or Hoovering at home – it is up to you to give time to the Lord and

accompany Him on this Lenten Journey before Holy Week comes.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday at **11.30 am in church** so you don't have to come out into the cold dark weather in the evenings. **Please dress warmly. Sundays at 15.00** there will be a **Holy Hour**, to be peaceful with the Lord and pray for the causes in your heart. I encourage you to leave your couches and TVs and come to the Lord and offer Him your time in anticipation of His offering to Mankind. Evening Prayer at **15.40** and a **short Benediction** concludes the Holy Hour.

Each day (except Thursdays) **Holy Mass** is available for you. Please make a special effort to receive the Lord in the Holy Eucharist during Lent. **Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** is on Tuesday and Fridays following Mass. **Reconciliation / Confessions** are available each Saturday at **16.15 – 16.45**. If you cannot make that time, there are opportunities for Confessions after weekday Masses. Please let Fr Marsden know in advance. **Volunteering to help in the church**, is always most welcome. The cleaning ladies meet Thursdays at 09.30 together with the gentlemen who look after the grounds. Your help would be very appreciated.

CHRISM MASS 2024 - Wednesday 27 March at 19.30 in the Metropolitan Cathedral, is usually the largest annual gathering of Archdiocesan clergy and faithful throughout the year. At the Mass, Archbishop Malcolm blesses the holy oils that are used throughout the Archdiocese for celebrations of the sacraments in the next year. He does this in the presence of priests, deacons and lay faithful. We thought it would be a good idea to car share for this very special Mass. If you are interested in going, please contact the parish office **next week**. If there are enough people for a minibus or even coach, we will get some prices for transport. Latest events from across the archdiocese can be found here: [Events - What's on \(liverpoolcatholic.org.uk\)](https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

CHURCH DRY ROT WORKS: Please stay away from the areas where the works are going to take place. The contractors will be on site for about one week from Monday 4th March. Thank you for your understanding.