

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 Tel: 01772 522435. For the chaplaincy service at Wigan Infirmary Tel: 01942 822324

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM AT ST MARY'S:

Maundy Thursday 17th: 19.00 The Lord's Supper – with watching at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 21.30. Confessions after Mass.

Good Friday 18th: 10.30 Stations of the Cross. 15.00 The Passion of the Lord. Confessions follow as required.

Holy Saturday 19th: 12.00 Paschal Food blessing for the Polish and then the Ukrainian communities. Confessions. 20.15 – Easter Vigil and Mass of the Resurrection.

Easter Sunday 20th April: 09.30 – Mass with Little Church.

Divine Mercy Service: Sunday 27th April 15.00 Sacred Heart Chorley. Chaplet and Mass.

MOTHER'S DAY is today. A special thank you to all Mothers and the special ladies in our lives who have been a Mother to us. Prayers for you all and thank you for all that you did or still do. Through the intercession of Mary, Mother of God, may all our prayers be heard and answered.

TO PARENTS AND CARERS: Please come and join us at Sunday Mass. The little children can join the Little Church during Mass and make friends with the other children. Friendships can last through school and throughout life. Little Church welcomes all children. It is a great opportunity for a talk about the Gospel and the Readings on the levels of children's understanding. The Little Church catechists prepare everything, and the children have fun listening, answering questions and drawing. Toddlers and infants can join their own area in the narthex, where there is a good assortment of toys. The older children can stay with their parents and learn about the Mass and the Liturgy. The greatest friendship we can form is the one with God and during Mass we can learn to be close to God and receive Him in Holy Communion. You will be welcome.

**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)

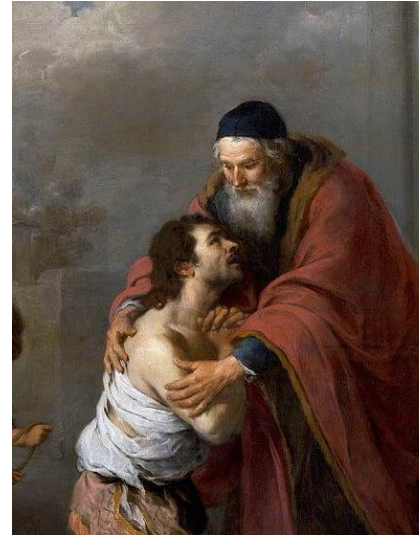
ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL Registered Charity No. 1199714

St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Laetare Sunday

30th MARCH 2025



At that time: The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, 'This man receives sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me." And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

'But when he came to himself, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."

'And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate.

‘Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.” But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, “Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!” And he said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.” Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Sat 29th

16.15-16.30 Confessions
17.00 **Mass – Peter Higgins (A)**

Sun 30th **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Laetare**

Sunday Mother's Day

09.30 **Mass – Parishioners**
15.00 **Holy Hour with Benediction**

Mon 31st

09.00 **Mass – Maura Brown RIP**
13.30 *First Confessions in school for Yr 4 children*

Tues 1st

12.00 **Mass – Sp Int (PK) ill health**

Wed 2nd

09.00 **St Francis of Paola**
Mass- Stephen Hull RIP

Thurs 3rd

12.00 *Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion*

Fri 4th

11.30 *St Isidore*
Stations of the Cross
12.00 **Mass – Teresa Esnekier (LD)**

Sat 5th

16.15-16.30 Confessions
17.00 **Mass – Carl Andrew Spear (A)**

Sun 6th

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
09.30 **Mass – Jean Murray RIP**
15.00 **Holy Hour with Benediction**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Pope Francis, Margaret Arrowsmith, Emily Atkins, Michael Collins, Kathleen Coyle, baby Henry Curtis, Colette Ellis, Rosemary Hough, Jacob Hughes, Winter Heenan, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Theresa Martin, Fr Laurence Mayne, Debbie MacFarlane, Molly Redhead, Joan Smith, Alan and Marjorie Taylor, Mike White, and parishioners in The Adelphi, The Gables, Westwood, and Gillibrand Hall.



LENT

RECENTLY DECEASED: Michael Antony Eccles (86) who died in Chorley Hospital on 25th March. Funeral Service details to be announced.

Geoffrey Yates (64) who died at home on 27th March. Funeral Service on Monday 14th April at 10.00 am followed by private cremation.

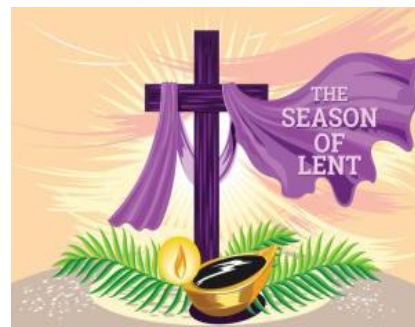
ANNIVERSARIES: Peter Higgins, Carl Andrew Spear, Lauren Owen,

READERS: 29 Sat 17.00 Eileen McCarrick 30 Sun 09.30 Richard Gillett

05 Sat 17.00 Kinga Grzeczynska 06 Sun 09.30 Richard Gillett

Palm Sunday 12th Sat: 17.00 Gillian Sharples and Richard Gillett

13th Sun: 09.30 Simon Eccles and Paul Lennon



PROGRAMME FOR LENT AT ST MARY'S:

Fridays - 11.30am; Stations of the Cross.
Sundays 15.00 - Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction. Confessions on Saturday at 16.15 – 16.45.

ROSARY ON SUNDAYS IN LENT; We pray the Sorrowful Mysteries on Sundays in Lent, returning to the Glorious Mysteries on Easter Sunday.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY AT

WALSINGHAM will take place after Mass today, again, to give chance to the people who missed the opportunity last week. This is for the hefty bills that the basilica has every year. Thank you.

GUEST SPEAKER FROM USA. We are very lucky to have Mike Pietrzyk a speaker from Michigan USA, visiting the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We have invited Mr Pietrzyk to speak to us **on Monday 28th April at 18.30** in the parish centre about Eucharistic Miracles. This will be a day after the canonisation of Bl. Carlos Acutis in Rome. A further visit will take place **on Saturday 3rd May**, in the parish centre, and we will have a talk about the Shroud of Turin and the secrets that the forensic evidence tells us with the new technology we have available to scientists.

Please book the dates in your diary and come and hear the amazing evidence that will astound you about the Passion of Christ and the true existence of Jesus in Holy Communion.

READER AND ALTAR SERVER FOR MASSES DURING THE WEEK: Could you read at Mass during the week? This is a temporary need for approximately 3 months. Job share welcome. We also need **an altar sever** during the weekday Masses. Could you help? Thank you.

WOULD YOU LIKE A MASS OFFERED for a loved one or a special occasion during the Easter Octave? We did the same at Christmas and reserved the Masses during the Octave for the Intention requests. We have a few days available. Please use the parish Mass Intention envelopes and write Easter Octave on the front. Thank you.

ST MARY'S CONFIRMANDEES. There are 17 candidates this year from our parish. Please look at for details of a meeting in church, after Easter for you and your parents.