

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

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

The Archdiocese of Liverpool is offering marriage preparation courses for couples planning to marry in the Catholic Church. Each course includes four evening sessions led by trained lay facilitators, providing time for couples to reflect on their relationship, develop communication skills, and explore the meaning of love within the context of Catholic faith. Two course options are available:

Course A Venue: Christ the King Church, Queens Drive, Childwall, Liverpool L15 6YQ

Dates: Mondays – 16 June, 23 June, 30 June, 7 July Time: 18.30 – 20.30

Course B Venue: St Helen's Church, Alexandra Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 7TQ

Dates: Mondays – 29 September, 6 October, 13 October, 20 October Time: 18.30 – 20.30

Cost for either course: £50 per couple (to cover materials and expenses)

Booking: <https://forms.office.com/e/1dcczNSQqX>

Enquiries: Moses Mui, Training Coordinator – m.mui@rcaol.org.uk.

RELICS FROM FATIMA including the relics of Saints Francisco and Jacinta, and the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, will visit Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on Monday, June 2nd, 2025. The visit is part of a national pilgrimage marking the Centenary Year of the Pontevedra Apparition and the Jubilee. Programme: 9:50 AM – Welcome, 10:00 AM – Holy Mass, 11:15 AM – Holy Rosary for World Peace 12:00 PM – Break / Book Table (Brown Scapulars available) 1:00 PM – Fatima Film & Talk, 2:30 PM – Enrolment & Investiture of the Brown Scapular, 2:50 PM – Holy Hour & Reconciliation, 3:55 PM – Benediction, 5:00 PM – Evening Mass.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL 2025

Taking place in the grounds of Ampleforth College from **Friday 22nd - Monday 25th August**, the Youth 2000 Summer Festival provides young adults (aged 16-35) from across the UK the opportunity to come together and explore faith, build relationships and find hope. This four-day festival includes great speakers, social time, break-out sessions, Daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and much more! Register your place at: youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025.



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

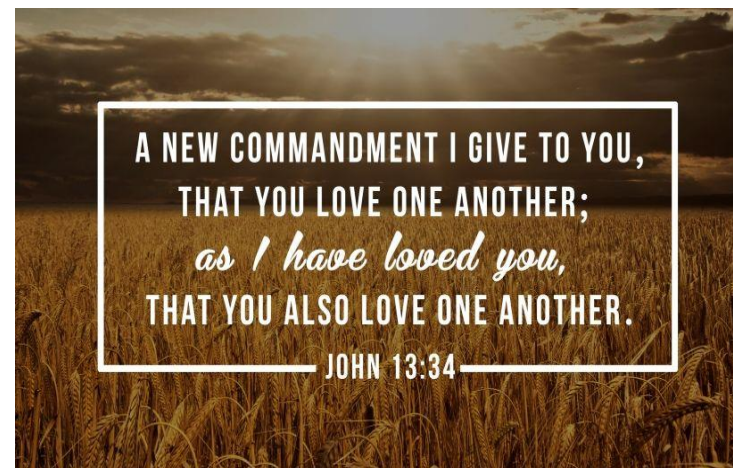
Parish Centre: 270122 or 07377 341969 (Manager – Heather Cheyne)

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL Registered Charity No. 1199714

St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

18th MAY 2025



When Judas had gone out from the upper room, Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you.

'A new

commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Sat 17th

17.00

Mass – Françoise Archer

Sun 18th

09.30

EASTER V

Mass – Yr 4 children and families – First Holy Communions

Mon 19th

12.00

St Dunstan

Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Tues 20th

12.00

Mass – Gerard and Agnes Carter RIP

Wed 21st

12.00

St Christopher Magallanes and Companions

Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Thurs 22nd

12.00

St Rita of Cascia

Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Fri 23rd

12.00

Mass – Freda McHugh RIP

Sat 24th

17.00

Mass – Maura Brown RIP

Sun 25th

EASTER VI

09.30 Mass – Michael Bolton (birthday remembrance) deceased members of Bolton Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: 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.

ANNIVERSARIES: Renee Rypel, George Carter, James Ryan, John Harlow.

READERS: Sat. 17th 17.00 Eleanor Jenner. Sun. 18th School teachers
Sat. 24th 17.00 Gillian Sharples Sun. 25th Dr Jane Eccles
Sat: 31st 17.00 Eileen McCarrick Sun: 01 Simon Eccles

EASTERTIDE MARIAN ANTHEM:

Regina coeli, laetare, alleluia: Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia: Because he whom you merited to bear, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia: He has risen, as he said, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia: Pray for us to God, alleluia.

DAY OF PRAYER for survivors of sexual abuse will be on Tuesday 20th May.

CONGRATULATIONS to 32 children who made their First Holy Communion this Sunday morning. The children have been to Confession during Lent and have been preparing for this very special day since September last year. Thank you to the parents who have supported their children during the Sacramental Preparation Programme and have brought their children to weekly Mass. Please continue to bring your children to Mass and let them form a close relationship and understanding with God. Thank you also to Mr Smyth, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Banwell and the teachers for their great support.

A WORD FROM THE VOCATIONS DIRECTOR – FR JOHNSON

After the four priestly ordinations last summer, we have six seminarians in formation for the diocesan priesthood and a number of men in the discernment group or in one-to-one discussions with the Vocation Director. They come from across the Archdiocese, are of various ages and backgrounds reflecting the Lord's call of ordinary men who by God's grace are able to respond and offer themselves to live a life of service to the Church and God's people. Please pray for them and support them with your prayers and love. And if you feel that the Lord might be calling you to serve His Church, have the courage despite your own sense of unworthiness, to start a conversation by calling our Vocation Director on 0151 727 2493 or email r.johnson@rcaol.org.uk

POPE LEO XIV appeared on the loggia of St Peter's Basilica for his first ever *Regina Coeli* address on Sunday 11th May. Addressing the faithful gathered in St Peter's Square and countless others following from around the world he echoed the cry for peace of his predecessor, Pope Francis. "In today's dramatic context of a third world war fought piecemeal ... I too appeal to the powerful of the world by repeating these ever-relevant words: *never again war!*" He recalled, first, "the immense tragedy of the Second World War", which came to an end 80 years ago, on 8th May, "after causing 60 million deaths." Pope Leo then turned to the modern wars plaguing the world today: "I carry in my heart the suffering of the beloved Ukrainian people," he said, urging that "every effort be made to reach a true, just, and lasting peace as soon as possible. May all prisoners be freed, and may the children be returned to their families", he said. He

then turned to the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in the Gaza Strip. "I am deeply pained by what is happening," he said. "Let the fighting cease immediately, let humanitarian aid be provided to the exhausted civilian population, and may all hostages be released". ***Regina Coeli prayer and the Pope's address can be seen on TV every Sunday at 11.00 am (our time). EWTN, Vatican News or You Tube Vatican Live presents the Papal Sunday address to the world.***

INVITATION FROM THE CATHEDRAL: The Installation of **Archbishop-elect John Sherrington** as the tenth Archbishop of Liverpool will take place in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Tuesday 27 May at 12 noon. There are still some spaces available for people to attend the Mass, but everyone attending will need a ticket. If you would like a ticket, please email Claire Hanlon on c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk ASAP.

27th May is significantly the Feast of **ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY**, a Catholic monk who became in 597 the "Apostle to the English". He was the prior of a monastery in Rome when Pope Gregory the Great chose him in 595 to lead a mission to Christianize King Æthelberht and his Kingdom of Kent, from Anglo-Saxon paganism. Æthelberht commanded influence over neighbouring Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, and was married to Bertha, a Catholic Frankish princess. Before reaching Kent, the missionaries considered turning back, but Gregory urged them on, and in 597, Augustine landed on the Isle of Thanet and proceeded to Æthelberht's main town of Canterbury.

The following Easter King Æthelberht converted to Christianity, was baptised, and allowed the missionaries to preach freely, giving them land to found a monastery outside the city walls. Augustine was consecrated as a bishop and converted many of the king's subjects. Pope Gregory sent more missionaries in 601, along with encouraging letters and gifts for the churches, although attempts to persuade the native Celtic British bishops to submit to Augustine's authority failed. Roman bishops were established at London, and Rochester in 604, and a school was founded to train Anglo-Saxon priests and missionaries. Augustine died 26 May 604, being succeeded by St Laurence of Canterbury.

WELCOME TO FR PATSY FOLEY who is helping for the next two weekends, and Fr Peter Crowther for the weekday Masses.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? We are running a course during summer for people who wish to become Catholics. If you have not been baptised, then the course is a little different for you. People who have been baptised and if the baptism is valid, can be prepared during the summer to receive the Sacraments and become Catholics. Please see Fr Marsden or email the parish office. stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk

IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY FOR YOUR DIARY:

Holy Day of Obligation – Thursday 29th May, Ascension of the Lord 12.00 noon Mass only (no vigil Mass)

Friday 30th May – First day of the Pentecost Novena to The Holy Spirit

Saturday 31st May – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

RETRouvaille NOTICE: Alone or bored in your marriage? Considering separation or are you already divorced? If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get back on track. Call to find out more www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443