

**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

**STATUTORY CHECKS:** This week all the gas checks have been completed on the church and house boilers and the gas appliances. **H&S MATTERS:** *If anyone has some bags of sand and salt spare, we will gratefully receive them. Thank you.*

**B&B STAYS AT CASTLERIGG MANOR:** Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic retreat centre in the Lake District owned and operated by the Diocese of Lancaster. They work with more than 3,000 young people a year from around the north and beyond. When the building is empty, they offer B&B stays to individuals, families and small private groups and the money this raises supports their mission with young people. Some B&B dates have opened up this January and February. Specifically, January 5-7th, February 9-11th, and February 16-18th. It's very affordable to book and a nice chance to spend a few days in the Lakes - head to <https://castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us/>

**ST BEDE'S INVITATION:** You are invited to join three times of prayer and reflection - some space at this busy time of year for us to deepen our Advent preparation for the celebration of Christmas. At St Bede's Church, 598, Preston Road, Clayton Green. PR6 7EB. Thursdays at 19.00 on 4th, 11th and 18th December.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** – our patronal feast for the parish and the school. **Mary conceived without sin – pray for us who have recourse to Thee.** The school will come for 09.00 Mass on this special solemnity day. We encourage families and parishioners to come to this Mass and thank God for all your blessings and prayers answered through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We should also thank God for our beautiful church and pray for the repose of the souls of the previous priests, altar servers and benefactors who so generously assisted the building of this church with love and hard work.

**COULD YOU HELP?** A lady who lives in Astley Village would very much like to come to a weekend Mass. Could someone bring and take her home please? Thank you.



**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS: 16.30**

**Carols start at 16.00**

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS: 09.30**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden**

Tel: 01257 262537 E-mail: [stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk)

Parish website: [www.stmarys-chorley.org](http://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 ADVENT**

**7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025**



*In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."'*

*Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees*

*coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.*

*'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'* Matthew 3:1-12

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup>**

16.15-16.45

14.30 – 16.30

**17.00**

**Sun 7<sup>th</sup>**

St Nicholas of Bari / Myra

Confessions

Sacred Heart Chorley, Christmas

Celebration afternoon

**Mass** – James and Margaret Thompson (A)

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

St Ambrose of Milan



<b>09.30</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Catherine McIntyre (A)
<b>11.00</b>	St Laurence's Liturgy – Canon Kelley
<b>15.00</b>	<i>Advent Holy Hour at St Joseph's Anderton</i>
<b>Mon 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</b>
<b>09.00</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Nora O'Donoghue (School Mass)
<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<u>St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin</u>
<b>12.00</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Joseph (A) and Claris (A) Southworth
<b>12.30-13.00</b>	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
<b>19.00</b>	<b>Carol Concert at St Joseph's Anderton</b>
<b>Wed 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<u>Our Lady of Loreto</u>
<b>09.00</b>	<b>Mass</b> = Thanksgiving (Uzor)
<b>Thurs 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<u>St Damasus I, Pope</u>
<b>12.00</b>	<i>Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion</i>
<b>Fri 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<u>Our Lady of Guadalupe</u>
<b>12.00</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Damien Sheehan (LD)
<b>12.30 – 13.00</b>	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
<b>Sat 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<u>St Lucy</u>
<b>16.15-16.45</b>	<i>Confessions</i>
<b>17.00</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Fr Louis Catterall SMM (A)
<b>Sun 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	<b>Gaudete Sunday</b> [St John of the Cross]
<b>09.30</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Parishioners
<b>15.00</b>	<i>Advent Holy Hour at St Mary's Chorley</i>
<b>15.00</b>	<i>Advent Service of Reconciliation at St Gregory's Weldbank, Chorley</i>



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND:** Margaret Arrowsmith, Kathleen Coyle, Rosemary Hough, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Theresa Martin, David Monks, Vasil Olijniczuk, Molly Redhead, and parishioners in the Adelphi, Westwood, and Gillibrand Hall. **Please note: We now need written permission to add a name to the above sick list. This can be done by the sick person or by the next of kin, if the sick person cannot give permission themselves. Written permission can be made via email to [stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk)**

**The Mass Intention for Bernard Fahey (ill) has been offered by Fr Marsden.**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** James and Margaret Thompson, Catherine McIntyre, Joseph and Claris Southworth, Fr Louis Catterall SMM,

**READERS:**

<b>Sat: 06<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>17.00</b> Chris Thorpe	<b>Sun: 07<sup>th</sup> 09.00</b> Richard Gillett
<b>Sat: 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>17.00</b> Kinga Grzeczynska	<b>Sun: 14<sup>th</sup> 09.30</b> Dr Jane Eccles
<b>Sat: 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>17.00</b> Gillian Sharples	<b>Sun: 21<sup>st</sup> 09.30</b> Charlotte Eccles

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** are available in the sacristy. They are the usual ones from St Rita's in Honiton; religious, beautiful and not expensive. **Please remember that we do have a small stock of different items in the repository. There are many beautiful things to buy your children/grandchildren for Christmas. We also have a small number of religious advent calendars for children.**

**MARY'S MEALS APPEAL:** A sum of £760.00 has been sent to Mary's Meals. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed. It is very much appreciated.

**PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD – MARANATHA:** We say this probably every year as Advent comes and Christmas approaches. Hundreds of people walk past the church, hurrying into town to do their shopping or go ice skating with their children. Scores of people park in the car parks and go to the theatre or for drinks in town – and why not? It is a time to be together and also prepare the home for family, guests and presents, however, it is also a time to prepare your heart and soul for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Salvation.

We are offering you several ways to do this. Confessions are on Saturdays 16.15 - 16.45 – ask God's mercy to clean your soul for Christmas. Service of Reconciliation – see times for Services and Masses. Holy Mass is available every day in the sacristy (except Thursday when it is a Eucharistic Service). Come to an extra Mass during Advent and offer your prayers for the Holy Father's Intentions, for world peace or for those adults and children in hospices who may not see Christmas 2025 on this earth.

Donate money or a needed item to the Appeals. Offer your rosaries for world peace. Please remember that for some people Christmas may be a difficult time because of worry or illness, financial problems or family arguments. If you are lucky enough to have your family blessed with health, peace and joy, then thank God for all the blessings and graces that you receive and pray for those who are not as lucky as you.

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION TIMES**

**Second Sunday of Advent: 7.12. St Joseph's Anderton/Adlington.**  
**15.00 Holy Hour and Benediction.**

**Third Sunday of Advent: 14.12. St Mary's Chorley. 15.00 Holy Hour**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent: 21.12. St Joseph's Anderton/Adlington.**  
**15.00 Holy Hour and Benediction.**

**DCN NORMAN** and Margaret. If anyone would like to send Christmas wishes to Dcn Norman and his wife, please put their names on the envelope and post through the presbytery letter box. The mailbox is open for Dcn Norman and Margaret until **12<sup>th</sup> December Tuesday.**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** Dr Jane Eccles would like to invite all willing hands to decorate the church and for a Christmas workshop on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 16.30. As usual, sherry and mince pies will be provided to bring out the artistic talents of all the volunteers (cordial or pop for drivers).**

**POINSETTIA APPEAL:** Please consider donating a red poinsettia in memory of a loved one or a thanksgiving for blessings received. We would be grateful if the poinsettias came into church by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.