

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.

HALF-TERM: We wish Mr Smyth, his staff, children and families a good half term break next week. Be safe and enjoy your school break.

VISITOR: Last week a man was caught coming from the choir loft after the alarm had been set off. He had climbed onto the chairs and over the banister and was looking to steal something. Being a town centre church, we can expect that we may receive visitors who are on the wrong side of the Law. Please watch out for anyone looking to harm the church. We all have a duty to protect the church. If you are not sure, please call the police.

LOST PROPERTY: Have you lost the following? House door key with blue tag. There is a number on the tag – to claim the key you will need to tell me the number. Large face titanium Sekonda watch. The strap has been to the repair shop a few times. Gold coloured ring with white stones and an earring, in the shape of an animal which is gold coloured and has multiple white stones. There is also an old nurse's badge with a faded number. Enquiries to parish office. Thank you.

QUOTATIONS ABOUT LENT

"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy."

"Fasting makes sense if it really chips away at our security and, as a consequence, benefits someone else." — Pope Francis

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... He knows your weakness. He only wants the chance to love you." — St. Teresa of Calcutta

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday."
— Ven. Fulton Sheen

"Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism for what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes but bite and devour our brothers." — St. John Chrysostom

"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may go to heaven."
— St. Rose of Lima

"Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring." — St. Catherine of Siena

"Lent is like a long 'retreat' during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God." — Pope Benedict XVI

"Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself." — St. Francis de Sales

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden

Tel: 01257 262537 E-mail: stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk

Parish website: www.stmarys-chorley.org

Parish Office: Mon by appointment, Tues - Fri 10.30-13.00. 14.00–17.00

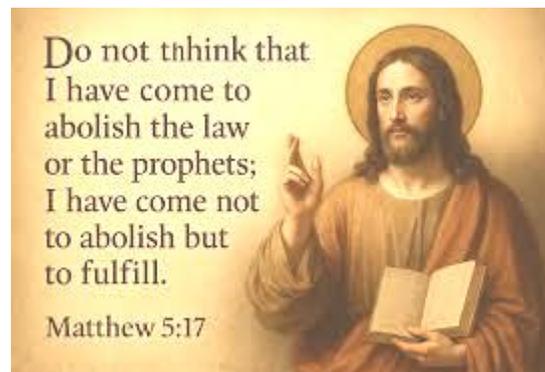
Parish Centre: 270122 or 07377 341969 (Manager – Heather Cheyne)

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL Registered Charity No. 1199714

St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

15th FEBRUARY 2026



At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments

and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

'You have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement." But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, "You fool!" will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is

better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.” But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.” But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply “Yes” or “No”; anything more than this comes from evil.’ Matthew 5:17-37

Sat 14th
15.00 **Ss Cyril and Methodius, Co-Patrons of Europe**
Baptisms - Elliott Aldridge, Coby and Oakley Taylor, Eala Armitt-Parke, Evelyn and Verity Hulton

16.15-16.45
17.00 **Confessions**
Mass – Maura Brown

Sun 15th
09.30 **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Mass – Parishioners – especially the sick and housebound

Mon 16th
09.00 **Mass** – Ro Anderton

Tues 17th
12.00 **The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order**
Mass – Henry Watmough

Wed 18th
12.00 **ASH WEDNESDAY** - day of fast and abstinence
19.00 **Mass** – Fr Peter Crowther - poorly
Mass – Patsy McCrory (A)

Thurs 19th
12.00 **Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion**

Fri 20th
11.30 **Stations of the Cross**
12.00 **Mass** – Patrick and Maureen Bolger
12.30-13.00 **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Sat 21st
16.15-16.45 **St Peter Damian**
17.00 **Confessions**
Mass – Pauline Partington

Sun 22nd
09.30 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**
15.00 **Mass** – Pauline Smith (LD)
Holy Hour – Evening prayer at 15.40

Please note that there are two possibilities for Mass for you on Ash Wednesday.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Fr Peter Crowther, 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**

ANNIVERSARIES: Patsy McCrory, Bernard Bray, Ronald King, Lloyd Messado, Isabella Quinn, Henry Langton, John Durkin.

READERS: **Sat: 14 17.00** Chris Thorpe **Sun: 15 09.30** Richard Gillett
Sat: 21 17.00 Gillian Sharples **Sun: 22 09.30** Dr Jane Eccles
Sat: 28 17.00 Eileen McCarrick **Sun: 29 09.30** Simon Eccles

ASH WEDNESDAY 18th February – mandatory fasting for 18 - 59 year olds. No meat to be eaten on this day for anyone 14 or over, except for medical reasons. **Why do Christians fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and not eat meat?** It is a spiritual practice of repentance and self-denial. **What if I am a vegetarian or vegan?** We ask you to consider denying yourself a particular food which you like on this day. Please plan your diary to come to Mass and receive blessed ashes on your forehead as a sign of willingness to accept the disciplines of Lent, an outward sign of turning back to God, accompanied by the words: "Remember man that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return" or "Repent and believe in the Gospel" Mass times are 12.00 and 19.00 on Ash Wednesday.

WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR LENT?



STATIONS OF THE CROSS – each Friday at 11.30am just before the 12.00 noon Mass. Please make every effort to come.

HOLY HOUR – During each Sunday of Lent, we will have a Holy Hour at 15.00 with Evening Prayer at 15.40.

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT – Every Tuesday and Friday after the 12.00

noon Mass, until 13.00.

ROSARY- please can you offer a daily decade for world peace, especially in Ukraine.

CONFESSIONS - every Saturday at 16.15 until 16.45. or upon request after the weekday Masses.

PRAYERS FOR FR PETER CROWTHER: Please continue to pray for Fr Crowther during his last days of life on this earth. He remains comfortable and asks about everyone. His rosary is always in his hand. Fr Marsden is using at each Mass the chalice given to Fr Crowther by his beloved parents for his Ordination in 1971.