

**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.

**COLLECTION FOR ST CATHERINE'S HOSPICE:** The staff at St Catherine's rely on charity funding as their main annual income with a little support from NHS. They also have to pay for all the medications they use. **It costs £7 million pounds per year to fund the hospice.** Therefore, in memory of the Late Fr Peter Crowther and his generous and devoted love of his priestly ministry and his support of St Mary's, we are collecting donations for St Catherine's Hospice. Please send donations in a marked envelope – St Catherine's Hospice. The collection will end this Sunday although donations may still be given after the weekend. Thank you.

**SPRING SVP GATHERING:** Holy Cross High School are hosting a SVP gathering on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April. Please see the notice on the notice board and sign the sheet if you would like to attend.

**COVERING OF STATUES AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** during these last two weeks of Lent, please make every effort to come to church for the Stations of the Cross (Friday 11.30am) and Holy Hour today and Palm Sunday at 15.00. Please make greater time for the Lord as we approach Holy Week soon.

**COULD YOU HELP?** Would you like to meet and greet people when they come to Mass and also give out Mass books and hymn books? Further information is available at the parish office.

**CLOCKS GO FORWARD** next weekend 29<sup>th</sup> March. Spring is here and the daffodils look very pretty in the church grounds. Thank you to Alison for planting 100 new spring bulb flowers and plants.

**IF YOU SEE** something that needs the attention of the police or needs reporting in the parish office – please do not hesitate. Thank you.

**POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH:** *For disarmament and peace. We pray that nations move towards effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.*

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden

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

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

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

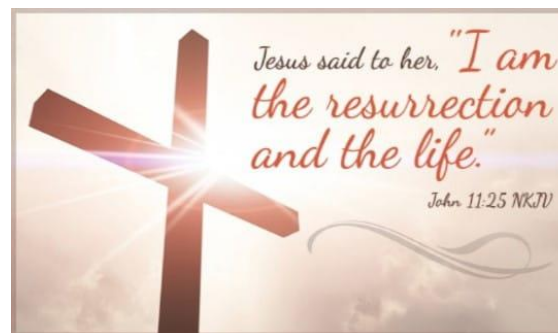
Parish Centre: 270122 or 07377 341969 (Manager – Heather Cheyne)

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL Registered Charity No. 1199714

# St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2026



**Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went**

**and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.'**

**When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?'**

**Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the**

**sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?’ So, they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.’ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out.’ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’**

**Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him. John 11:1-45**

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup>**  
16.15-16.45 Confessions  
17.00 Mass – Eileen Waterhouse (birthday remembrance)

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
09.30 **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
15.00 Mass – Janusz (A), Zosia and Leon Neisser RIP  
Holy Hour – Evening Prayer at 15.40

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
09.00 Mass – Fr Marsden (Special Intention)

**Tues 24<sup>th</sup>**  
12.00 Mass – Successful operation (MF)

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup>**  
09.00 Mass – Private Intension (NJA)

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup>**  
12.00 Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup>**  
11.30 Stations of the Cross  
12.00 Mass – Roger Street (LD)  
12.30-13.00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup>**  
16.15-16.45 Confessions  
17.00 Mass – Parishioners

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup>**  
09.30 **PALM SUNDAY**  
15.00 Mass – Kathleen Jackson (A)  
Holy Hour – Evening Prayer at 15.40



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)

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Janusz Neisser, Kathleen Jackson, Geoffrey Yates, George O’Melia

**READERS:** Sat 21 17.00 Eileen McCarrick Sun 22 09.30 Dr Jane Eccles  
Sat 28 17.00 Kinga Grzeczynska Sun 29 09.30 Simon Eccles

**EASTER AND TRIDUUM READERS:**

2<sup>nd</sup> April: 19.30 The Last Supper Mass - Eileen McCarrick  
3<sup>rd</sup> April: 15.00 The Passion of Our Lord – Gillian Sharples and Richard Gillett  
4<sup>th</sup> April: 20.00 The Easter Vigil – Simon Corser, Gillian Sharples, Kinga Grzeczynska, Chris Thorpe.  
5<sup>th</sup> April: 09.30 Easter Sunday – Richard Gillett

**GOODBYE AND GOD BLESS** to our friends from St Laurence’s Parish who go back to their lovely church after this weekend, and enjoy Holy Week and Easter at ‘home’. We have enjoyed your visit and wish you all the very best for Easter. God Bless.

**SCHOOL EASTER HOLIDAYS:** the children start the Easter holidays on Friday. We wish Mr Smyth, his staff and all the children and their families a happy and holy Easter. We look forward to seeing you at Mass.

**VOTE TO DECRIMINALISE ABORTION: Report from the Bishop’s Conference:**

An amendment to the Crime and Policing Bill tabled to prevent a change to the law that would decriminalize abortion up to birth in a number of circumstances has been voted down in the House of Lords by 185 votes to 148.

The Archbishop of Southwark, the Most Reverend John Wilson, has described the legislation as “frightening” and that it not only ignores the unborn child, but also raises “serious concerns for the safety of women”. Archbishop Wilson said: “This is a truly tragic moment for our nation. How can this frightening legislation, which, following Royal Assent, will permit the abortion of children right up until the moment of birth for any reason, have any place in a civilised society? We can never underestimate the challenges that women and men encounter facing difficult decisions.

***Please remember in your prayers women that have to make very tough and difficult decisions. Please ask Our Lady of Good Counsel to guide them.***

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND:** Audrey Holden, Rosemary Hough, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Theresa Martin, David Monks, Vasil Olijniczuk, Molly Redhead, and parishioners in the Adelphi, Westwood, and