

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.

FROM NEXT MONDAY we will move back into the church for weekday Masses. Hopefully the weather will get warmer!

THANK YOU: We aim to start repainting the sacristy on Monday 20th April. Thank you to all the donators for this project. We had some very generous amounts gifted for the painting. Bless you all.

HOLY WEEK POSTERS are available at the back of the church. Please take one.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL: Let us pray for priests going through crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

ANNUAL ROSEMERE EVENT: Friday 24th April, 7.30pm, – Back in Time – sing-song at the parish centre. Tickets are £10.00, including Hot Pot supper or Butter Pie. Proceeds to Rosemere Oncology Centre, Royal Preston Hospital. It is the 24th annual event for this fundraising with singers Sean Leonard and Lindsay Howard. Tickets available from the parish centre.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY; HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF LIFE

Parishes and Catholic communities are asked to join with the Bishops of England and Wales to pray a Holy Hour for the dignity of all human life. The Holy Hour will be held at **15.00 on Sunday 19 April** as peers in the House of Lords continue to debate whether to make Assisted Suicide law.

GREAT NEWS! The Vatican has announced that the Ven. Archbishop Fulton John Sheen [1895 – 1997] will be beatified in St Louis, USA on 24th September. More information to follow after Easter. Archbishop Sheen was a great communicator in USA, hosting TV and radio programmes which attracted millions of viewers. He taught religion using media which was something very new. His homilies were excellent and he was very liked. Deo Gratias.

On www.fultonsheen.tv you can watch hundreds of his programmes and listen to his audio-talks. Some are free, for others you have to subscribe. . There is a set of 50 audio-talks which form a complete introduction to the Catholic Faith for enquirers, and for any Catholic who wants to improve their knowledge

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

PALM SUNDAY

29th MARCH 2026



When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord needs them", and he will send them at once.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Say to the daughter of Sion, "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.' Matthew 21:1-11

Sat 28th

16.15-16.45

17.00

Confessions

Mass – Parishioners

Sun 29th

09.30

15.00

PALM SUNDAY

Mass – Kathleen Jackson (A)

Holy Hour – Evening Prayer at 15.40

Mon 30th

09.00

Mass – Rosie Bolton (b'day remb) and deceased family members

Tues 31st

12.00

Mass – Peter Higgins (A)

Wed 1st April

09.00

Mass – Margaret Arrowsmith (LD)

19.30

Chrism Mass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

EASTER TRIDUUM

Thurs 2nd

HOLY THURSDAY

19.30

Mass of the Lord's Last Supper - Lauren Owen (A)

20.30- 21.30

Watching at the Altar of Repose and Compline

Fri 3rd

GOOD FRIDAY Day of Fast and Abstinence

10.30

Stations of the Cross

15.00

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Sat 4th

HOLY SATURDAY

16.15-16.45

Confessions

12.00

Święconka - Paschal Food blessing for Polish and Ukrainian Communities

20.00

EASTER VIGIL AND MASS – Carl Andrew Spear (A)

Sun 5th

EASTER SUNDAY

09.30

Mass – Kathleen Jackson (A)

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 Gillibrand Hall.

ANNIVERSARIES: Carl Spear, Kathleen Jackson, Lauren Owen, Peter Higgins

READERS: Palm Sunday Sat 28 17.00 Kinga Grzeczynska and Gillian Sharples
Sun 29 09.30 Simon and Jane Eccles

TRIDUUM AND EASTER READERS:

2nd April: 19.30 The Last Supper Mass - Eileen McCarrick

3rd April: 15.00 The Passion of Our Lord – Gillian Sharples and Richard Gillett

4th April: 20.00 The Easter Vigil – Simon Corser, Gillian Sharples,

Kinga Grzeczynska, Richard Gillett.

5th April: 09.30 Easter Sunday – Richard Gillett

WE WELCOME PAUL HODGE AND GILLIAN SHARPLES as new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Gillian was commissioned last Saturday, and Paul will be commissioned this weekend, following completion of the Archdiocesan Course.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF LIFE

Parishes and Catholic communities are asked to join with the Bishops of England and Wales to pray a Holy Hour for the dignity of all human life. The Holy Hour will be held at 16:30 on Sunday 19 April as peers in the House of Lords continue to debate whether to make Assisted Suicide law. For the full article please visit the CBCEW website: [Holy Hour for the Dignity of Life - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

NEWS FROM THE LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE

GENERAL CATECHIST COURSE 2026

Beginning from 6 May until 27 June, a General Catechist Course will be provided by the archdiocese. The course will be taking place over 8 weeks at St John Fisher Church, Widnes. We will talk about the key elements of Catholic faith and how they can be explored through Catechesis. If you are considering being catechist or are existing catechist (e.g. RCIA, first holy communion, confirmation etc) looking to refresh your knowledge, this course is for you. If you are interested, please sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/vXWAjbxJdc?origin=lprLink>. For more information, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS TO ASSISI (NOVEMBER 2026)

To celebrate the special jubilee year of St Francis of Assisi, the Archdiocese has organised a pilgrimage for young adults (aged 18-35) to visit Assisi from 29 November to 2 December 2026. Walking in the footsteps of St Francis during the 800th anniversary year, we will visit some of the key sites involving St Francis and St Clare as well as St Carlo Acutis. For booking received by 10 April, an advance booking price of £940 per person will be offered, saving £50 from the full tour price of £990. You are invited to an online information evening at 6.30pm on Tuesday 24 March. Click tinyurl.com/Young-Adult-Assisi-Trip to register for the info evening or to receive updates about this trip, even if you can't make the 24th. For enquiries, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

FCJ PILGRIMAGE TO LINDISFARNE, WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL – SUNDAY 12 APRIL 2026:

The FCJ Sisters invite young adults in their 20s and 30s to a walking retreat to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne. The pilgrimage includes two days on St Cuthbert's Way, the traditional pilgrim crossing to the island, a day on Lindisfarne, and a visit to St Cuthbert's Shrine at Durham Cathedral. Accommodation is in a simple bunkhouse on the mainland. Good walking shoes, a backpack, and waterproofs are essential. Daily prayer and opportunities for Mass are included. For more information, please visit [FCJ Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne - Faithful Companions of Jesus](#). To register, please [complete this form](#)

CALLED TO LOVE, SATURDAY 2 - SUNDAY 3 MAY 2026

The Christian Heritage Centre (Theodore House, Stonyhurst) is offering a retreat for singles, dating, and engaged couples who want to think more deeply about their relationships and the call to marriage. A relaxed weekend with input, prayer, discussion and social, as well as the opportunity to meet like-minded people! This year's retreat will have as its theme masculinity and femininity. Runs from Saturday 2nd to Sunday 3rd May, with the option of staying Friday night. For more information please visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/>

LEADERSHIP COURSES FOR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

Join the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst for 6 days in the beautiful Ribble Valley to explore themes linked to The Common Good (Year 12, 10-15 August) and to The Human Ecology (Year 13, 5-10 July). Meet new friends, discuss and share with peers, tutors and academics, learn new skills, develop your relationship with Christ, build your character. For more information please visit: www.christianleadershipformation.com.