

**CHORLEY HOSPITAL CLERGY:** if you or a family member/friend need a Catholic Priest while in **Chorley Hospital** please ask the ward sister to bleep the on-call priest. The duty chaplain for Chorley Hospital is Fr Peter Stanley at St Joseph's Church on Harpers Lane. 01257 262713. If you are in **Royal Preston Hospital**, please ask the ward sister to bleep the duty Catholic Chaplain who lives in St Clare's Church Fulwood.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?** An ALPHA course is starting in **September, leading into** the RCIA course which enables you to be received into the church at the Easter Vigil 2027. The Alpha **Course** is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life through the lens of the Christian faith, in a relaxed environment. **Alpha** is for anyone who is curious to find out more about faith, those who are exploring and questioning; cynics, sceptics and the open-minded. **This Alpha Course, run in the Catholic tradition, begins on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026** and then every Thursday for 10 weeks. Please pass on this information to family members and friends who you think might be interested in coming along. For further information or to register your interest please contact: **Phone: Sr. Dorothy - 07530 238222 or Julie - 07943 874257 Email: dorothyhindle234@gmail.com or [julie-st-bedes@hotmail.com](mailto:julie-st-bedes@hotmail.com)**

**BELL RINGERS:** If anyone would like to become a bell ringer, please let the parish office know. We would like to form a team and need 3 or 4 more people. Training will be given and you will be very welcome.

**LOCAL CHURCHES WALKING DAY** is **today**. Please consider representing St Mary's in the walk-through town and the Service in Astley Park. We meet at 11.50 on Cunliffe Street. Our representing Marshalls are Gillian Sharples and Michael Maher.

**ST OLIVER PLUNKET** was the last Catholic to be martyred for the Faith in England, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1681. Born 1624, ordained priest in 1654. It was impossible to return to Cromwellian Ireland at first. He lectured in theology at the Irish College in Rome, He was made Archbishop of Armagh in 1669. He ministered to his people often on the run and in danger of arrest. Falsely accused by perjured witnesses of plotting to bring French troops into Ireland, he was hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn.

**ROTA FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AT WEEKEND**

**MASSES:** A list has been left in the Sacristy and we would ask Eucharistic Ministers to sign on dates when they are available and would like to distribute Holy Communion at the Saturday 17.00 and Sunday 09.30 Mass, so that every EM gets the chance to officiate. However, if you sign for a specific date but then plans change and you can't attend, it is your responsibility to contact another Minister to fill your place.

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: 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

### SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

28<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2026



*When Jesus had revealed himself to his disciples and they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' He said to him a second time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I*

*love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.' (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, 'Follow me.' John 21:15-19*

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>**  
16.15-16.45  
17.00

St Cyril of Alexandria  
Confessions  
Mass – Sp. Int (PK).

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup>**  
09.30

**SS PETER AND PAUL**  
Mass – Peter Doherty (birthday remembrance)

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**09.00** No Mass –  
**10.00** Requiem Mass for Kenneth Catterall at St Joseph's Anderton

**Tues 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**12.00** The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church  
**Mass** – Gerard and Agnes Carter RIP  
 12.30 -13.00 Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> July**  
**09.00** St Oliver Plunket  
**No Mass** –  
**10.00** Requiem Mass for Mary Brophy at St Joseph's Anderton

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**12.00** *Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion*

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**12.00** **FEAST OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE**  
**Mass** – M.L. (poorly)  
 12.30 – 13.00 Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup>**  
St Elizabeth of Portugal  
 16.15-16.45 *Confessions*  
**17.00** **Mass** – Christine Wright (LD)

**Sun 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**09.30** **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**Mass** – Parishioners

**Please note the changes this week due to funerals in Anderton.**

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Ince, Elizabeth Touhey, Thelma Pomeroy, Peter Boyle, Keith Iddon.

**READERS:** **27<sup>th</sup> Sat: 17.00** Chris Thorpe      **Sun: 28<sup>th</sup> 09.30** Charlotte Eccles  
**04<sup>th</sup> Sat: 17.00** Kinga Grzeczynska      **Sun: 05<sup>th</sup> 09.30** Simon Eccles  
**11<sup>th</sup> Sat: 17.00** Gillian Sharples      **Sun: 12<sup>th</sup> 09.30** Paul Lennon

**FOUNDATION GOVERNOR:** There is an exciting opportunity for a parishioner to become a Foundation Governor at St Mary's Catholic Primary and Nursery School. Foundation Governors are parishioners of this parish who represent the Catholic principles in the governance of the school. The school has very recently received a good OFSTED report and also an outstanding report on RE Education. Further information is available from the school office. Please ask to speak to Mrs Wilson. 01257 262811.

**WELCOME** to Joseph Campbell, a seminarian at Allen Hall in London for our Liverpool Archdiocese, who will be with us on a parish placement for three weeks. It is good that we as a parish are asked to play a part in the formation of future priests. I am sure that you will make him very welcome.

**YEAR 6 LEAVERS:** There are only a few weeks remaining of this academic year. Yr 6 will be having a Leavers' Mass in school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July. Please pray for the children and their parents / carers who will be leaving our Primary School and joining local High Schools in September.

**BBC YOUNG CHORISTER OF THE YEAR 2026 - A SONGS OF PRAISE SPECIAL**  
 Songs of Praise and BBC Radio 2 invites any parishioner to a very special recording of BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2026 from the iconic Hallé St Peter's in Manchester. **Tickets are free to our parishioners. Please contact James; Lost in TV audience services 020 8530 8154.** The times and days for BBC recordings are:  
**Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Junior Semi-Final (doors open 10:30am) Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Senior Semi-Final (doors open 4:00pm) Thursday 9th July 2026 - Grand Final (doors open 11:30am)**

**ST PETER AND ST PAUL APOSTLES**



The Lord asks big questions of St Peter. Is it a test that St Peter has to go through, or is our Blessed Lord giving him a little nudge to make him realise his feelings, his Faith and his strength in difficult moments? The first Leader of the Christians, or what we would now say – the first Bishop of Rome and the first Pope - is asked by Jesus – ‘do you love me?’ Three times the same question is asked and three times the same answer comes back. St Peter is adamant that his Faith and love is great for Our Lord. However, when asked by the woman before The Crucifixion, if he knew Jesus the Nazarene, St Peter had denied three times that he knew his God, Master and Teacher. How those words of denial must have lay heavy on his heart and mind. Our Blessed Lord chose St Peter for a reason; Peter the Rock, Peter the Leader, Peter who held the keys to heaven. The sins he forgave were dissolved, the sins which he would not forgive became a burden on the soul of the penitent. The Lord also says ‘feed my lambs and tend to my sheep’. Jesus the Good Shepherd wants St Peter and his successors in the Apostolic Church to look after His flock and their souls and to provide the Holy Eucharist in the consecration of the bread and wine in holy Mass, feeding spiritual nourishment into His flock for centuries. Nero ordered the death of St Peter by crucifixion.

St Paul had a challenging mission to fulfil. He was a Greek speaking Pharisee Jew born in Tarsus (now Türkiye). He was born around the time of Jesus' birth and died in Rome in his mid 60s. His earlier years were spent persecuting Christians in Jerusalem until the day came that changed his life.. Following the revelation on the road to Damascus that Jesus is the true Son of God, the promised Messiah and the Resurrection of Jesus, now St Paul's mission was to travel and write letters about Jesus. One quarter of the New Testament stems from St Paul and the people who read his written testimony. St Paul founded church communities in Corinth, Syria and Cilicia. When St Paul went back to Jerusalem it was decided that St Peter would be the Leader and principal apostle to the Jews and St Paul would be the Leader and principal apostle to the Gentiles. St Paul spent decades preaching the Gospel message. He was arrested and went through several trials. As a Roman citizen he took advantage of his right to appeal to Rome. At first released, he later returned to the city, but this time Nero had him beheaded. The skulls of both saints are kept in the Roman basilica of St John Lateran.

***Ora pro nobis.***