

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.



**LOURDES AT HOME
DURING THE ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE**

Tuesday 28th July:
6pm Adoration & Benediction
7pm Mass of Our Lady
followed by
Recitation of the Rosary
Candlelit Procession
Refreshments afterwards
St Teresa's Church,
Queensway, Penwortham PR1 0DS
www.penworthamcatholic.org.uk

JOSEPH CAMPBELL: We say 'Au Revoir' to Joseph this weekend. He has been with us four weekends and is now having a short break before he continues with his studies and seminary work. Good luck,

Joseph, it's been great having you at St Mary's.

SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAYS: We wish Mr Smyth, his staff, the children, parents and carers a happy and healthy summer holiday. The staff and children have worked very hard all year. The school did well in the OFSTED Inspection in January. First Confessions and Holy Communions were in May. The Yr 6 Leavers' Mass was very moving and there are many other achievements throughout the year. The staff have been wonderfully supportive to all the children and the results show a happy and joyful school with very good results. Well done everyone and enjoy the summer.

NEW NOTICE BOARDS: There are two notice boards erected for our church. The old ones were disintegrating with time and weather. They were very expensive and I would be grateful if parishioners could contribute to the cost. If possible, please put donations into an envelope and mark it 'contribution to notice boards'. Thank you. Fr FM.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY: For respect for human life
Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19th JULY 2026



At that time: Jesus put another parable before the crowd, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So, when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And

the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?" He said to them, "An enemy has done this." So, the servants said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he said, "No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, 'Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'

He put another parable before them, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable. 'The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.'

All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.'

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is

the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. Matthew 13:24-43

Sat 18th

16.15-16.45 Confessions
17.00 Mass – Anne Colette Bury RIP

Sun 19th

09.30 **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** (St John Plessington)

Mass – Parishioners

Mon 20th

09.00 St Apollinaris of Ravenna

12.00 **Mass** – Maura Brown

Requiem at St Joseph's Anderton – Rosemary Hough

Tues 21st

12.00 St Laurence of Brindisi

12.30 -13.00 **Mass** – Fr Marsden – Ordination Anniversary (1984)

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Wed 22nd

12.00 **St Mary Magdalene**

Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Thurs 23rd

12.00 **St Bridget of Sweden, Co-Patron of Europe**

Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Fri 24th

12.00 St Sharbel Makhluf

12.30 – 13.00 **Mass** – John (A) and Florence Akers

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Sat 25th

16.15-16.45 **St James the Greater, Apostle**

17.00 Confessions

Mass – Herbert Blakemore (A)

Sun 26th

09.30 **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

Mass – Margaret Arrowsmith RIP

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Joseph Forshaw, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Theresa Martin, David Monks, Molly Redhead, Fr Hubert Strowbridge and parishioners in the Adelphi, Westwood, and Gillibrand Hall.

ANNIVERSARIES: Joan Scott, John Akers, Herbert Blakemore, Mgr Charles Jackson (1991)

READERS: 18th Sat: 17.00 Eileen McCarrick

25th Sat: 17.00 Chris Thorpe

01. Sat: 17.00 Kinga Grzeczynska

Sun: 19th 09.30 Dr Jane Eccles

Sun: 26th 09.30 Charlotte Eccles

Sun: 02. 09.30 Richard Gillett

PRIESTS IN RETIREMENT COLLECTION will be held this weekend. There are 33 retired priests and 30 retired deacons in our Archdiocese. The priests can receive a pension of about £6,000 p.a. from the George Andrew Fund. Thank you for your generosity.

ST GREGORY'S WELDBANK are holding their Annual Beer Festival on 21 -23 August. Tickets to the Beer Tent are available from their parish office. Please ask for Alison. Cost is £5.00. The times of the Beer Festival are; Friday 21.00 – 23.00, Saturday 14.00 – 23.00. Hot pies are also available. On Sunday 24th August there will be the annual Family Festival Day with free admission. Please bring a picnic and enjoy the wonderful gardens of St Gregory's. This is a Deanery event and everyone is most welcome.

LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026.

Message from Mr Ben McMullen – Leader of Coach 5 (our local coach).

This year 38 young people, aged between 15 and 21, will travel to Lourdes on Coach 5 for a ten-day pilgrimage. This coach takes young people from the Wigan, Chorley and Lancashire areas and whilst in Lourdes they will be assisting our sick, elderly and disabled pilgrims. If you would like us to take prayer petitions to leave at the Grotto of Our Lady, or to light a candle on your behalf, then please send them to **Ben McMullen, Coach Leader, St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA.**

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE NOVENA : _As the Archdiocese prepares for its annual Lourdes Pilgrimage, parishes are invited to join in praying a nine-day Lourdes Novena, available in the church foyer. Let us pray together for the pilgrimage and all those who will travel to Lourdes this year.

MGR CANON CRANK'S BLUE PLAQUE has been placed on the Archway, facing Market Street. Please have a look at it. Canon Crank has deservedly been recognised for the many things he has done for St Mary's and for the people of Chorley. He obviously worked very hard and achieved considerable appreciation from the poor and orphaned children after The Great War and the parishioners of St Mary's. May God grant rest to his soul.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Stay Connected – Join Our WhatsApp Channel: Keep up to date with the latest news, events and announcements from the Archdiocese of Liverpool by joining our WhatsApp Channel. Receive regular updates direct to your phone and never miss what's happening across the archdiocese. Join our WhatsApp Channel here: <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb8B5Hu2f3EJJwDzn72z>

CAFOD are running a petition to call on the Prime Minister to tackle the **GLOBAL DEBT CRISIS**. Many low income countries are being pushed further and further into debt, paying ever higher interest rates to wealthy lenders. The petition asks for the passing of a UK Debt Justice Law, requiring wealthy banks in the City of London to participate in debt relief, so that they can no longer profit from countries struggling with unsustainable debts. The UK's G20 Presidency in 2027 could be used to bring governments together internationally to fix the broken global debt system.

ASSISTED SUICIDE PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILL has been reintroduced to Parliament seeking to legalise assisted suicide - the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. There will be a crucial vote on **Friday, 11 September**. Please contact your MP to make your voice heard to oppose this Bill. You can read Archbishop Sherrington's statement on the reintroduction of this bill on the CBCEW website.