

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 please ring 01772 522435. For the chaplaincy service at Wigan Infirmary T. 01942 822324.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

12th MARCH 2023



NOVENA PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask him to return the Kiss when I draw my

dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls – Pray for me. **Please note that the Solemnity of St Joseph will be celebrated on Monday 20th March.**

DONATION LINK FOR ST MARY'S CHORLEY PARISH FUNDS:

<https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-mary-chorley>

HEALTH & SAFETY You may be aware of the increase in numbers of the Norovirus and COVID virus. Please wash your hands frequently, especially after using baskets or trolleys in shops or getting petrol. If you have Norovirus or COVID symptoms – **DO NOT COME TO CHURCH.** Stay at home, seek medical help if needed, and get better. Thank you.

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden

Deacon Norman Arrowsmith

Tel: 01257 262537

E-mail: stmaryschorley@yahoo.co.uk

Parish website: www.stmarys-chorley.org

Parish Office: 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



Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are

a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir,' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for

salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.’ John 4:5-42

Sat 11th

16.15 -16.45

Confessions

17.00

Mass – Derek Smith (birthday remembrance) / Parishioners

Sun 12th

10.00

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (p.158)

Mass – Christina Mosscrop (LD)

15.00

Holy Hour – Adoration and quiet prayer. Evening Prayer at 15.45

Mon 13th

09.00

Mass – Michael Carter RIP

Tues 14th

12.00

Mass – Audrey Smith RIP followed by burial of Ashes.

Wed 15th

09.00

Mass – Dorothy Darbyshire RIP

Thurs 16th

12.00

Liturgy of the Word with Holy

Communion

Fri 17th

11.30

ST PATRICK – Patron of Ireland

Stations of the Cross

12.00

Mass – Thomas (A) and Imelda Roscoe

Sat 18th

16.15 -16.45

Confessions

17.00

Mass – Janusz (A) Zozia (A) and Leon Neisser and deceased family members. / Parishioners

Sun 19th

10.00

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (p.165)

Mass – Kathleen Joyce RIP

15.00

Holy Hour – Adoration and quiet prayer. Evening Prayer at 15.45

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Emily Atkins, Kevin Bailey, Derek Birchall, John and Margaret Brown, Dorothy Burgoyne, John Campbell, Michael Collins, Kathleen Coyle, Hughie Daly, Colette Ellis, Rosemary Hough, Jacob Hughes, Mary Langton, Fr Laurence Mayne, Fr Barry McAllister, Debbie MacFarlane, Fr Michael O’Dowd, Molly Redhead, Denis Smith, Joan Smith, Eileen Snape, Terry Tingey, Mike White, Ann Woodruff, and parishioners in The Adelphi, The Gables, Westwood, and Gillibrand Hall.

ANNIVERSARIES: Janusz and Zosia Neisser, Thomas Roscoe, Dr Wladyslaw Gray – Grzeczynski.

READERS: Sat: 11th 17.00 Eileen McCarrick. Sun: 12th 10.00 Dr Jane Eccles. Sat: 18th 17.00 Richard Gillett. Sun: 19th 10.00 Simon Eccles.

LENTEN ALMS COLLECTION throughout Lent is via St Anthony’s Box. Thank you.

NUGENT COLLECTION: A retiring collection will take place next weekend of 18th and 19th March. Thank you.

HOLY HOUR ON SUNDAYS IN LENT: I invite you to come to your church and spend one hour, or as much as you can, and observe a Lenten tradition in this parish. The TV can wait, and the sofa will be relieved. Give your time to be with The Lord who gave us everything for our salvation. Thank you.

MARCH SERVICES: We will continue to have our Masses in the warmer sacristy for the next few weeks (by popular demand). However, Stations of the Cross and the Mass on Fridays will be in the main church.

LENTEN SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION : will be held at St Gregory’s Weld Bank, on Sunday 26th March at 15.00, and at St Mary’s Leyland on Wednesday 29th March at 19.00. Confessions here are available on Saturdays from 16.15 – 16.45.

ROSARY DURING LENT Please could we have volunteer leaders for the Rosary on Tuesdays after Mass? Thank you. As we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries, could we pray for peace in the Ukraine, much needed aid to Türkiye and Syria and for the many teenager victims of the train crash in Tempí – Larissa (Greece).

BAPTISMS: Please come and see Fr Marsden or Dcn Norman after Mass to discuss the baptism details.

THE LIFE CHANGING CONVERSATION BETWEEN OUR BLESSED LORD AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

In a very bold move, Our Blessed Lord asks the Samaritan woman for a drink of water. This is the start of a life changing conversation that this woman encounters.

This conversation is unique because in those times Jews did not speak to Samaritans who were considered to be heretics. It is also bold because a Rabbi would not normally speak alone with a woman. Our Blessed Lord can see that this woman has been searching for love many times – with 5 husbands to her name. Broken and disappointed, discouraged and rejected. Her search for love and belonging has taken years and was ongoing until this very meeting with Jesus Christ. At this meeting she feels love and hope like never before and it fills her with great joy. We all want to be loved and love someone. Sometimes human love evades us, and we feel left out or lonely. Perhaps we are looking for perfect love in imperfect creatures. Where can we find unconditional love – perhaps a Mother for her child or children? Perhaps love and loyalty from our pets? Indeed, love is there and there are strong bonds between members of our families and friends. Our Blessed Lord offers to us – free of charge – unconditional love and mercy, limitless compassion, healing and understanding. God offers us happiness, peace and unconditional love. It is all given to us as a gift from God to each and every one of us, filling us with hope and love for The Holy Trinity, Our Blessed Lady and the Saints.

By sharing and caring for others, we look upon friends and strangers as we would look upon Our Blessed Lord, perhaps disguised as beggar or a person in need. Perhaps as a person from another country or far across the world or a neighbour that needs a leak fixing or lawn mowing. There are some wonderful people in this parish who work quietly and do what they do in helping others, without sounding any trumpet. They are doing God’s work with love and compassion, and we thank them for this.

