

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. Please ask the ward staff to call the 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.

DONATION LINK FOR ST MARY'S CHORLEY PARISH FUNDS:

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

NURSERY PLACES Are you looking for a nursery place for September 2023? Did you know we have nursery provision at our school for 3 and 4 year olds? Led by a qualified teacher supported by highly experienced Teaching Assistants. See our website for more details <https://chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/nursery> or contact Mrs Wilson at school on 01257 262811 or office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk

BAPTISMS: First Sunday of the month at 10.45 (following the 10.00 am Mass). Please attend Mass and speak to Fr Marsden or Deacon Norman after Mass. Thank you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Fr Peter Crowther on 31st January. Thank you for your support to St Mary's. Ad multos annos.

CANDLEMAS DAY is on Thursday 2nd February. Please note there will be a Mass at 12.00 noon in view of the importance of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Candlemas brings to a close the entire Advent - Christmas – Epiphany cycle. The Christmas Crib and any remaining Christmas decorations will be removed after the Feast of the Presentation.

JOB ADVERT: Pause For Hope, National Development Manager, Part-time starting at 6hrs/week Location: Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation Office (Liverpool) Salary: £15.00 per hour. We are seeking a National Development Officer to work under the leadership and direction of Professor Ray Donnelly, Founder of Pause for Hope. We are looking for someone to assist in the growth of Pause for Hope throughout the UK and Ireland. Responsibilities will also include supporting Pause for Hope services, handling telephone, internet and mail enquiries and maximising opportunities in the media and enquiries and maximising opportunities in the media and social media. Please send applications to Professor Donnelly via pauseforhope@gmail.com www.pauseforhope.org.uk

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2023

Next Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday, a day the church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. The theme for Racial Justice Sunday this year is: 'All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church.

Let us walk together, pray together and work together'. For more information go to:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/>

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

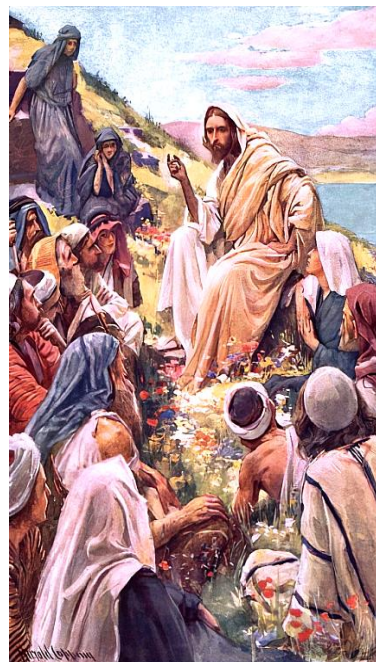
Parish Centre: 270122 or 07377 341969 (Manager – Heather Cheyne)

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL Registered Charity No. 1199714

St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

29th JANUARY 2023



Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Blessed those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Blessed those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Blessed the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Blessed the pure in heart: they shall see God. Blessed the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.' Matthew 5:1-12

Sat 28th

16.15 -16.45

17.00

Sun 29th

10.00

11.30

Mon 30th

09.00

Tues 31st

12.00

Wed 1st Feb

09.00

St Thomas Aquinas

Confessions

Mass – H.E. Cardinal George Pell RIP / Parishioners

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (p.130)

Mass – Dilip and Nina (Thanksgiving)

Mass – St Joseph's Anderton

Mass – Sp Int (JM)

St John Bosco

Mass – Rosemary Hough (80th birthday)

St Brigid of Kildare, St Henry Morse

Mass – For a daughter (blessings)

Thurs 2nd 12.00 13.30	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, St Lawrence of Canterbury Mass – Mary Melling (LD) <i>Teresa O'Malia funeral at Sacred Heart</i>
Fri 3rd 12.00	St Blaise, St Ansgar, St Werburgh of Chester Mass – Pam Thornton (LD)
Sat 4th 16.15 - 16.45 17.00	St Gilbert of Sempringham <i>Confessions</i> Mass – Mary Carter (A)
Sun 5th 10.00 11.30	FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (p.133) Racial Justice Day Mass – George and Wilhelmina Carter RIP / Parishioners <i>Mass – St Joseph's Anderton</i>

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, 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, Agnes Young and parishioners in *The Adelphi, The Gables, Westwood, Gillibrand Hall.*

Please let us know if you want your name removed from the above list.

RECENTLY DECEASED: **Teresa O'Malia**, funeral at Sacred Heart on Thurs 2nd February at 13.30. **Ivy Barlow** (91), funeral at St Joseph's Anderton on Tuesday 31st January at 09.45. **H.E. Cardinal George Pell** (81) who died suddenly in Rome following surgery, on 10th January. Requiem Mass on Thursday 2nd February, St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, Australia. (Note that Sydney is +11 hours) You Tube from the Cathedral available. **Joanne Hardyman** (77) who died on 21st January in Gillibrand Nursing Home. Requiem Mass at St Gregory's Weldbank. **Fr David Melly** (76) who died on 23rd January. Funeral arrangements to be announced. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord....**

ANNIVERSARIES: **Maria Lavrič, Mary Carter, Albert Harvey,**

READERS: **Sat 28th 17.00** Kinga Grzeczynska. **Sun 29th 10.00** Dr Jane Eccles. **Sat 4th 17.00** Gillian Sharples. **Sun 5th 10.00** Tracy O' Neill.

A REFLECTION ON THE BEATITUDES

In the readings since Christmas, Jesus has been revealed as the new royal son of David and Son of God. He is sent to lead a new exodus that brings Israel out of captivity to the nations and brings all the nations to God. As Moses led Israel from Egypt through the sea to give them God's law on Mount Sinai, Jesus too has passed through the waters in baptism. Now, in Sunday's Gospel, He goes to the mountain to proclaim a new law—the law of His Kingdom.

The Beatitudes mark the fulfilment of God's covenant promise to Abraham—that through his descendants all the nations of the world would receive God's blessings. Jesus is the son of Abraham. And through the wisdom He speaks today, He bestows the Father's blessings upon "the poor in spirit." God has chosen to bless the weak and lowly, those foolish and despised in the eyes of the world, Paul says in the Second Reading. The poor in spirit are those who know that nothing they do can merit God's mercy and grace. These are the humble remnant in today's First Reading, taught to seek refuge in the name of the Lord.

The Beatitudes reveal the divine path and purpose for our lives. All our striving should be for these virtues—to be poor in spirit; meek and clean of heart; merciful and makers of peace; seekers of the righteousness that comes from living by the law of Kingdom. The path the Lord sets before us today is one of trials and persecution. But He promises comfort in our mourning and a great reward. The Kingdom we have inherited is no earthly territory but the promised land of heaven. It is Zion where the Lord reigns forever. And, as we sing in the Psalm, its blessings are for those whose hope is in the Lord. Dr Scott Hahn

NORTHERN LIGHT: FINDING HOPE IN SUFFERING. A one-day theological conference here in Chorley. **Saturday 18th February 10 am -4 pm** at St George's, with speakers Rt Rev Philip North, Anglican Bishop of Burnley and Bishop-Elect of Blackburn, Mrs Sarah Clarkson, Rev'd Dr Michael Lloyd, Principal of Wycliffe Hall Oxford, and Rev. Dr George Westhave, Principal of Pusey House, Oxford. The day will tackle the problem of theodicy: How can a good God allow such suffering in the world? **FREE** tickets: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pusey-house/t-eajqmo> You need to register if you wish to attend. No charge. For more information please contact the Rev'd Michael Print, Vicar, St George's, Chorley, 01257 263064 vicar@stgeorgechorley.co.uk

QUOTATIONS FROM ST JOHN BOSCO, FOUNDER OF THE SALESIANS

- Serve the Lord joyfully! ... [Servite Domino in laetitia!]
- "If young people are educated properly, we have moral order; if not, vice and disorder prevail. Religion alone can initiate and achieve a true education." ...
- Be cheerful, do good, and let the sparrows chirp.
- Not with violence, but with words.
- I'll wait for all my young people in heaven.
- Those who pray take care of the most important of all.
- With the works of charity we close the doors of hell and open ourselves to the sky.
- Do not try to excuse your faults; try to correct them
- Enjoy yourself as much as you like - if only you keep from sin.
- We do not go to Holy Communion because we are good; we go to become good.



A 'COME AND SING' CHOIR is a group of individuals (or sometimes an established choir/singing group) that joins together with other like-minded people to form a special choir for a day. On Saturday 25 March, all of our singers will come together for the first time in the afternoon, rehearse together, and then perform in the evening!

YouTube rehearsal links are provided to all participants so that they can practice and familiarise themselves with their parts ahead of the day. Reading music is not a prerequisite as music can be learnt with the YouTube links.

