

**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.

**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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:** **St Patrick's** Feast Day – 17<sup>th</sup> March. Solemnity of **St Joseph** – 20<sup>th</sup> March (Monday). Solemnity of **The Annunciation of The Lord** – 25<sup>th</sup> March. Holy Week starts with **Palm Sunday** on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Sacred Triduum – **Holy Thursday** 6<sup>th</sup> April. **Good Friday** 7<sup>th</sup> April and **Easter Sunday** on 9<sup>th</sup> April. **Divine Mercy Sunday** on 16<sup>th</sup> April.

**WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR LENT?** As a parish we warmly invite you to Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 11.30 am. Also, each Sunday of Lent we will hold a Holy Hour with Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 15.00. Each Tuesday we will pray the Holy Rosary after Mass. Please could you pray for peace in the Ukraine and other war zones in the world.

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES:** We are now in the process of reordering your Gift Aid envelopes. Please remember that your envelope is a **monthly offering**; e.g. One envelope per month, apart from the special collections which will be a different colour to the monthly collection. There is also the option of donating BACS via your bank. If you donate via your bank, please consider making your donations monthly.

**If you would like to donate your offerings and would like to Gift Aid the monies, please ask at the Parish Office for a form. You must be a UK Tax Payer and the amount that you offer must not exceed the amount of Tax you pay to HMRC on a annual basis.**

We are always grateful for any donation. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to be a Gift Aid contributor to St Mary's. It is a tremendous help to the parish, and it does not cost you more that you contribute. We receive 25% per pound for donations given where Tax has been paid by you.

**DONATION LINK FOR ST MARY'S CHORLEY PARISH FUNDS:**

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

**ROSARY DURING LENT:** On Sundays in Lent, we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries.

**SCHOOL MASS:** Well done to all the children from Yrs 3-6 for being so good in church on Ash Wednesday. The answers they gave to Fr Marsden were excellent and the questions were not easy! Thank you to Mr Smyth and his staff. The Infant children received ashes in school and the staff and volunteers also.

**Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden**

**Deacon Norman Arrowsmith**

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: 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

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023



*Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture*

*says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'*

*The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'*

*Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him. Matthew 4:1-11*

**Sat 25<sup>th</sup>**

16.15 -16.45

17.00

**Sun 26<sup>th</sup>**

10.00

15.00

Confessions

Mass – Norah Carter (A)

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT** (p.151)

Mass – Francis Calderbank (A)

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



<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup></b> <b>09.00</b>	<u>St Anne Line</u> <b>Mass</b> – John Paul Joyce (A)
<b>Tues 28<sup>th</sup></b> <b>12.00</b> <b>12.30</b>	<u>St Oswald of Worcester</u> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass</b> – Elizabeth (A) and Patrick Riordan
<b>Wed 1<sup>st</sup> March</b> <b>09.00</b>	<b>ST DAVID, PATRON OF WALES</b> <b>Mass</b> – Christina Mosscrop (LD)
<b>Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>12.00</b>	<u>St Chad of Mercia</u> <i>Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion</i>
<b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>11.30</b> <b>12.00</b>	<i>Women's World Day of Prayer</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i> <b>Mass</b> – Rita and Alfred Almond RIP
<b>Sat 4<sup>th</sup></b> <b>16.15 - 16.45</b> <b>17.00</b>	<i>Confessions</i> <b>Mass</b> – Jim Simmons (LD) / Parishioners
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup></b> <b>10.00</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b> (p.155) <b>Mass</b> – Kathleen Watmough (A)

**N.B. Please note the change of Mass time on Tuesday.** This is to allow Fr Marsden to attend the Deanery Meeting.

**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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** **William Morris** (69) who died in Chorley Hospital on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Funeral details to be announced.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** **Francis Calderbank, John Paul Joyce, Kathleen Watmough, Elizabeth Riordan.**

**READERS:** **Sat: 25<sup>th</sup> 17.00** Eleanor Jenner. **Sun: 26<sup>th</sup> Tracy O'Neill.** **Sat: 4<sup>th</sup> 17.00** Gillian Sharples. **Sun: 10.00** Simon Eccles.

**LENTEN ALMS COLLECTION** throughout Lent for is via St Anthony's Box. Thank you.

**A TRAGIC ANNIVERSARY:** Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February marked exactly one year since Vladimir Putin started his wicked and unprovoked invasion of peaceful Ukraine. He thought his forces could capture Kyiv within three days! He wanted to go down in history like Tsars Ivan Grozny, Peter I and Catherine II, restoring the Russian Empire. Instead he has made Russia a pariah state, and wasted the lives of about 145,000 of his own soldiers to no purpose. Over a million of Russia's dissidents, objectors to the war, and younger, more talented citizens have fled abroad, many to avoid mobilization.

Ukraine has suffered appallingly: the bombing of its cities, its critical infrastructure, schools, hospitals, dwelling places. In the Russian-occupied territories there has been mass murder, rape, targeted killing of the leaders of Ukrainian society and culture, deportations and abduction of children and orphans. Putin aims at the

genocide of the Ukrainian nation and people. The UNHCR recorded 8,087,952 refugees from Ukraine across Europe as of 21 February 2023: amounting to ≈20% of the Ukrainian population. The total number of Ukrainians who fled is estimated at 18,843,973, but 10,438,840 have since returned to the country.

The war could end tomorrow, if Putin ceased fire and withdrew his troops from all Ukrainian territory. Let us continue to pray for the Ukrainian people and their brave defenders. May God punish all who start and continue such wicked wars.

### **COLLECTION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE TÜRKIJE – SYRIA EARTHQUAKE**

A collection will take place this weekend. The monies will be sent to the Disaster Emergency Committee. Please continue to pray for the people, their loved ones and for the rescuers, who have come from all over the world to join together and help in this tragedy. A few days ago, there was a second quake on the same border. People have lost their lives and more people are homeless. Thank you.

### **A LENTEN PRAYER – THE PASSION**

Dear Lord Jesus,  
by Your Passion and Resurrection  
You brought life to the world.  
But the glory of the Resurrection  
came only after the sufferings of the Passion.

You laid down Your life willingly  
and gave up everything for us.  
Your body was broken and fastened to a Cross,  
Your clothing became the prize of soldiers,  
your blood ebbed slowly but surely away,  
and Your Mother was entrusted to the beloved  
disciple.

Stretched out on the Cross,  
deprived of all earthly possessions and human aid,  
You cried out to Your Father that the end had come.  
You had accomplished the work given You,  
and You committed into His hands,  
as a perfect gift,  
the little life that remained to You.

Lord, teach me to accept all afflictions  
after the example You have given.  
Let me place my death in Yours  
and my weakness in Your abandonment,  
Take hold of me with Your love,  
that same foolish love that knew no limits,  
and let me offer myself to the Father  
with You so that I may rise with You to  
eternal life.

