

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.

PRAYER FOR ST. JOSEPH'S PROTECTION

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

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 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. Amen.

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. It is not charitable to spread infectious diseases to others, putting their health and even their lives at risk!

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

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

ST LUCY'S MEDALS: Fr Marsden brought several St Lucy's medals with prayer cards from Walsingham. They are available in the Office.

LENTEN SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION will be held at St Gregory's Weld Bank, on Sunday 26th March at 15.00 and St Mary's Leyland on Wednesday 29th March at 19.00.

CHRISM MASS will be at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Wed 5th April at 19.30.

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 LENT (LAETARE)

19th MARCH 2023



As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So, the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the

man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied, 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied, 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38

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) **Mothers' Day****Mass** – Kathleen Joyce RIP**15.00****Holy Hour** – Adoration and quiet prayer. Evening Prayer at 15.45

19.30

Lisieux Hall – St Thérèse's Chapel. Latin sung Vespers

Mon 20th**09.00****ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY****Mass** – Sp. Int. (Jane)**11.00 - 17.00****Exposition and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**
St Joseph's Anderton, Patronal Feast.**Tues 21st****12.00****Mass** – Tom Seed RIP**Wed 22nd****09.00****Mass** – McCrory Family RIP**Thurs 23rd****12.00***St Turibius of Mongrovejo**Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion***Fri 24th**

11.30

*Stations of the Cross***12.00****Mass** – Pauline Fairhurst RIP**Sat 25th**

16.15 -16.45

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD*Confessions***17.00****Mass** – William Morris (LD) / Parishioners**Sun 26th****10.00****FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT** (p.170) **Passiontide begins****Mass** – Andrew Waddington 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 Neisser, Edith Pearson, Marie Worden, Jane Woods, Fred Hunt.

READERS: Sat: 18th 17.00 Kinga Grzeczynska. **Sun: 19th 10.00** Simon Eccles. **Sat: 25th 17.00** Gillian Sharples. **Sun: 26th 10.00** Tracy O'Neill.

QUOTATIONS ON SIGHT AND BLINDNESS

Blindness does not always mean ocular blindness. Sometimes a person does not see what is obvious to everyone else.

'Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see'.

'Will power is to the mind like a strong blind man who carries on his shoulders a lame man who can see'.

'Love is not blind, it sees more, not less. Because it sees more, it is willing to see less'.

'No matter what cause one defends, it will suffer permanent disgrace if one resorts to blind attacks on innocent people'.

'Be to their virtue – very kind. Be to their faults – a little blind'.

'Violence and racism are bad. Whenever they occur they are to be condemned and we should not turn a blind eye to them'.

"For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind." John 9:41.

"In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don't." Blaise Pascal

For the hearts of these people are hardened, and their ears cannot hear, and they have closed their eyes so their eyes cannot see, and their ears cannot hear, and their hearts cannot understand, and they cannot turn to me and let me heal them. "But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear." Matt 13:15-16

"The blind can see God, the deaf can hear Him, the mute can speak to Him, and the lame can run to Him." — Matshona Dhlwayo

"[Sin] is a blindness of the spirit, which prevents us from seeing what is most important, from fixing our gaze on the love that gives us life. This blindness leads us little by little to dwell on what is superficial, until we are indifferent to others and to what is good." How many temptations have the power to cloud the heart's vision and to make it myopic! How easy and misguided it is to believe that life depends on what we have, on our successes and on the approval we receive; to believe that the economy is only for profit and consumption; that personal desires are more important than social responsibility! When we only look to ourselves, we become blind, lifeless and self-centred, devoid of joy and freedom. What an awful thing! "Pope Francis:

The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision.

The eyes are useless when the mind is blind.

MOTHER'S DAY: God bless you all and we hope you have a lovely day. For our Mothers, who have gone to receive their eternal reward, pray for us and look after us. We pray for all Mothers who have lost a child due to illness or being born asleep. May Our Blessed Lady give you some comfort and help you in the difficult moments.

A Mother's love is always with us. The gentle hands that made our scraped knees better, the kisses and cuddles we received, the smell of Mum's scent. The food on the table that was cooked with care and love. The extra treats that we received. All these memories are very special and fondly remembered, especially on Mother's Day.

