

St Mary's Catholic Church, Chorley

PALM SUNDAY

2nd APRIL 2023

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.

HEALTH & SAFETY: Norovirus and COVID infections have increased recently. Please take appropriate hygiene measures. If you have Norovirus or COVID symptoms or a bad cold – **do not come to church.** Stay at home, seek medical help if needed, and get better. It is not charitable to spread infectious illnesses to others, putting their health and even their lives at risk! Please play your part in limiting the spread of infections.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: we wish Mr Smyth and the staff and pupils at school, a happy and safe Easter break. Please come to Mass and celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. You will be welcome.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: will be held as usual at Sacred Heart Church, Brooke Street PR6 ONG, on Sunday 16th April. The Novena starts on Good Friday and copies of the Novena are available in the Narthex. There is a poster with the Sunday devotions and Mass details at the back of the church. Please have a look.

CHRISM MASS will be held at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Wednesday 5th April at 19.30. This is an important occasion for the Archdiocese. Please car share if possible and make places available for fellow parishioners.

CONFIRMATIONS will take place on Friday 19th May with Bishop Thomas Neylon.

AUXILIARY BISHOP THOMAS WILLIAMS, upon reaching the canonical retirement age of 75, offered his resignation to Rome and it has been accepted. There will be an opportunity to thank Bishop Williams for all his hard work over many years.

WEEKDAY MASS RETURNS TO MAIN CHURCH; From Monday 3rd April, WEEKDAY Mass will be celebrated in the church nave rather than in the sacristy. Thank you for your understanding while we held Mass in the sacristy. We have greatly economised! It may still be cold in church, so please do wrap up warm. Thank you.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES have arrived and will be labelled with your name. Please come to the parish office to collect them. Thank you. Please remember that the envelope for each **month** is in the box. We do not have weekly envelopes anymore. You can hand in your gift aid envelope any time in the month. If anyone would like to use the bank transfer (BACS) to make a gift aid donation, please complete one of the forms on the books and newspapers table.

POPE FRANCIS: Please remember in your prayers Pope Francis who is being treated for bronchitis in the Gemelli Hospital in Rome.

Priest: Fr. Francis Marsden
Deacon Norman Arrowsmith
Tel: 01257 262537

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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)

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immediately.'

This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Sion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass.' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon.

Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.'
Matthew 21:1-11

Sat 1st April

16.15 -16.45

17.00

Confessions

Mass – Lauren Owen (A) / Parishioners

Sun 2nd

10.00

15.00

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (Mbook p.176)

Mass – Hilda Lopacinski RIP

Weather permitting, we will begin outside church with a procession.

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

Mon 3rd

09.00

Mass – Bernard and Alice Joyce

Tues 4th

12.00

Mass – Hughie Daly (LD)

Wed 5th

09.00

Mass – Pauline Fairhurst



SACRED TRIDUUM

Wed 5th

19.30

Chrism Mass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

Thurs 6th

19.30

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper (p.192)- Holy Souls - followed by watching at the Altar of Repose 20.30 and Night Prayer 21.30.

Fri 7th

10.30

GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross

15.00

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (p. 197)

Sat. 8th

12.00

HOLY SATURDAY

Blessing of the Paschal Food (Polish.)

20.15

EASTER VIGIL (p. 216)

Dr Wladyslaw and Leokadia (A) Gray-Grzeczynski

Sun 9th

10.00

EASTER SUNDAY (p.251)

MASS – Parishioners

11.15

Baptism – Tyler James Phillipson

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: Canon Brendan Alger, 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, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Mary Langton, Fr Laurence Mayne, Fr Barry McAllister, Debbie MacFarlane, 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: Fr Michael O' Dowd (76), retired Parish Priest of St Agnes' Eccleston, died on Wednesday 29th March in St Catherine's Hospice.

RETIRING COLLECTION this weekend is for the Church Restoration Fund.

ANNIVERSARIES: Lauren Owen, Fr Michael O'Neill (formerly PP St Bede's), Leokadia Gray-Grzeczynska, Canon Richard Firth (formerly PP of St Gregory's).

HOLY WEEK POSTERS are available in the narthex. Please help yourself.

BAPTISMS: Please see Dcn Norman or Fr Marsden after Mass to obtain the Baptism Application Form and Order of Service and discuss the baptism details.

READERS: Palm Sunday: 1st April. 17.00. Gillian Sharples and Kinga Grzeczynska
2nd April. 10.00. Dcn Norman and Simon Eccles

Holy Thursday: 19.30. Eileen McCarrick. **Good Friday: 15.00.** Dr Jane Eccles and Tracy O'Neill. **Easter Vigil: 20.15** Andrew Jenner, Eleanor Jenner and St Joseph's Anderton Readers **Easter Sunday: 10.00** Simon Eccles

UKRAINE: Thanks to the generosity of parishioners during the last few months, here at St Mary's, at St Joseph's Anderton, and at St Joseph's Withnell, last Tuesday I was able to send out the sum of £7400 to Bishop Hryhoriy Komar in Drohobych for humanitarian and medical help for refugees from the fighting and bombing in the east of the country. The money arrived safely later that day.

Bishop Hryhoriy's diocese of Drohobych and its parishes are housing thousands of refugees from the Russian invasion. There are many injured soldiers in their hospitals. Food and medicine are costly, and the Ukrainian Government can give the Church no help, because all its funds are expended on the war effort. Some funds also go to buy fuel for the trucks which ferry humanitarian aid coming in at the Polish border, to people in the danger zones of Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya and Kherson oblasts. The seminary students help in transshipping these supplies. Our Archdiocese is also sending out more trucks in early May. **I would urge you not to forget this is still an urgent and difficult situation, but to keep on being generous. There is a basket for donations at the back of church after each Mass.**

WITH THE CELEBRATION OF PALM SUNDAY, WE ENTER HOLY WEEK.

Hopefully, this will be a time of peace, reflection, penance and prayer for all Christians. **Here are 10 quotes for you to ponder as we prepare for the Passion of Christ.**

We give glory to You, Lord, who raised up Your cross to span the jaws of death like a bridge, by which souls might pass from the region of the dead to the land of the living. We give glory to You who put on the body of a single mortal man and made it the source of life for every other mortal man. – St. Ephraem of Edessa

Ultimately, in the battle against lies and violence, truth and love have no other weapon than the witness of suffering. – Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you – for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart. – St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Be assured of God's love for you. Seek by his grace to heal the damage of sin. Seek communion with him and with those who make up his Church and those who are not yet within. His love for all of us is unconditional. His joy is infinite. His mercy overflows. – Deacon Michael Bickerstaff

The washing of the feet and the sacrament of the Eucharist: two expressions of one and the same mystery of love entrusted to the disciples, so that, Jesus says, "as I have done... so also must you do" (Jn 13: 15). – St. John Paul II

"We adore you and we bless you, Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all the churches which are in the whole world, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world." – Stations of the Cross

Through the stark and solemn Liturgy of the Friday we call "Good", we stand at the Altar of the Cross where heaven is rejoined to earth and earth to heaven, along with the Mother of the Lord. We enter into the moment that forever changed – and still changes – all human History, the great self-gift of the Son of God, who did for us what we could never do for ourselves. In the words of the ancient Exultet, "trampling death by death". We wait at the tomb and witness the Glory of the Resurrection and the beginning of the New Creation. – Keith Fournier

No pain, no palm; no thorns, no throne; no gall, no glory; no cross, no crown.-Wm Penn
Awake, thou wintry earth – Fling off thy sadness! Fair vernal flowers, laugh forth Your ancient gladness! – Thomas Blackburn, "An Easter Hymn"