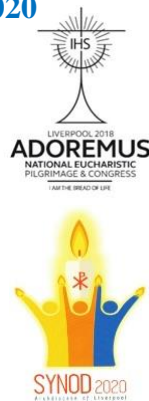


The Office of Readings for Tuesday 6th February.
The Feast of St. Paul Miki and his Companions.
An account of their martyrdom by a contemporary writer.
You shall be my witnesses

The crosses were set in place. Father Pasio and Father Rodriguez took turns encouraging the victims. Their steadfast behaviour was wonderful to see. The Father Bursar stood motionless, his eyes turned heavenward. Brother Martin gave thanks to God's goodness by singing psalms. Again and again he repeated: *"Into your hands, Lord, I entrust my life."* Brother Francis Branco also thanked God in a loud voice. Brother Gonsalvo in a very loud voice kept saying the Our Father and Hail Mary. Our brother, Paul Miki, saw himself standing now in the noblest pulpit he had ever filled. To his *"congregation"* he began by proclaiming himself a Japanese and a Jesuit. He was dying for the Gospel he preached. He gave thanks to God for this wonderful blessing and he ended his "sermon" with these words: *"As I come to this supreme moment of my life, I am sure none of you would suppose I want to deceive you. And so I tell you plainly: there is no way to be saved except the Christian way. My religion teaches me to pardon my enemies and all who have offended me. I do gladly pardon the Emperor and all who have sought my death. I beg them to seek baptism and be Christians themselves."* Then he looked at his comrades and began to encourage them in their final struggle. Joy glowed in all their faces, and in Louis' most of all. When a Christian in the crowd cried out to him that he would soon be in heaven, his hands, his whole body strained upward with such joy that every eye was fixed on him. Anthony, hanging at Louis' side, looked toward heaven and called upon the holy names – *"Jesus, Mary!"* He began to sing a psalm: *"Praise the Lord, you children!"* (He learned it in catechism class in Nagasaki. They take care there to teach the children some psalms to help them learn their catechism). Others kept repeating *"Jesus, Mary!"* Their faces were serene. Some of them even took to urging the people standing by to live worthy Christian lives. In these and other ways they showed their readiness to die. Then, according to Japanese custom, the four executioners began to unsheathe their spears. At this dreadful sight, all the Christians cried out, *"Jesus, Mary!"* And the storm of anguished weeping then rose to batter the very skies. The executioners killed them one by one. One thrust of the spear, then a second blow. It was over in a very short time.

Prayer for the Eucharistic Congress 2018 and Synod 2020

We thank you Father for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
 As we are fed by you, so now send us out to share what we have received with our hungry brothers and sisters.
 We humbly ask your help to become the Church that you are calling us to be:
 a community that listens, that trusts,
 that lives with courage and that puts out its nets into new waters.
 May the gentle presence of Christ in our hearts be a source of healing,
 of new life and of a deeper trust in you.
 We ask this in faith through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



ST. JOSEPH'S,
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A loop Induction System has been installed in this Church.
 Please turn hearing aid to 'T' setting.



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 4th February 2018

HOLY MASS & SERVICES

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Sunday (Sat) | 6.00pm Rhys (A) & Mary Morris (RIP) |
| | 8.30am Jim and Joan Madden (RIP) |
| | 10.30am Wilfred and Phillip Howarth (RIP) |
| | 4.30pm Parishioners |
| Monday | 8.30am Owen Smith (RIP) |
| Tuesday | 8.30am Beatrice Wallbank (B) |
| | 1.30pm Holy Souls (Mass at Holy Cross HS) |
| Wednesday | 8.30am Josephine Lavin (B) |
| Thursday | 8.30am Florence Masterson (RIP) |
| Friday | 8.30am Baby Ava Marie Flavell (Sick) |
| Saturday | 9.00am Rita Hale (A) |
| Sunday next | 6.00pm Theresa Elizabeth Fairhurst (A) |
| | 8.30am Parishioners |
| | 10.30am Irene (A) and James Snape (RIP) |
| | 4.30pm Geraldine Hegarty (A) |



Confessions: Saturday 10.30am – 11.30am

Please Pray For The Following Who Are Sick:

Canon Albert Shaw, Bert Smith, Eileen Snape, Jean Thurston, Sister Francis, Bert Meakin, Grace Fernando, James Desmond Gorman, Teresa Todd, Doreen Moss, Martin Kavanagh & Baby Ava Marie Flavell (aged 2 months).
 We also remember to pray for all those in Chorley Hospital, Derian House Children's Hospice & our Nursing Homes. Eucharistic Ministers visit the Wards every Sunday morning with Holy Communion.

Y. Heal Thy Servants, O Lord, who are sick, and who put their trust in Thee.
R. Send them help, O Lord, and comfort from Thy holy place.

IMPORTANT – Please contact St Joseph’s Presbytery, if any member of your family is admitted into Chorley Hospital and would appreciate a visit.

In an emergency the hospital switchboard will contact the on-call Catholic Priest. Please request this from any member of Staff on the Ward. Patients transferred to The Grange Rehabilitation Centre, The Grange, Oakbridge Drive, Buckshaw Village, PR7 7EP, please contact Euxton St Mary’s on: 262655 or email: mail@stmarys-euxton.com

Please include in your Prayers: All those who have **Recently Died** and all those whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time: Fr. James Beirne, Rhys Morris, Rita Hale, Theresa Elizabeth Fairhurst, Irene Snape and Geraldine Hegarty.

Children’s Liturgy – “Little Church” every Sunday morning at the 10.30am Mass for children up to First Holy Communion age.

“Little Church” TODAY: Paula and Julie

“Little Church” NEXT week: Catherine and Christine

If you would like to help as a volunteer with Children’s Liturgy on a Sunday would you make contact with Father Stanley. Thank you.

Mother & Toddler Group: Meet on a Wednesday morning in the Primary School, Cedar Road from 9.00am until 11.15am.

St Joseph’s Retirement Club: New members welcome over 55 years of age. Every Thursday afternoon at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre. Admission 50p including Tea and Biscuits, Bingo, Artists and Outings. All welcome.

Faith Sharing Group: NO MEETING Wednesday 7th February. Recommences Ash Wednesday 14th February from 7.15pm until 8.30pm in the Sacristy of the Church. ALL welcome. Tea/coffee provided.

This is an ideal opportunity to develop your Faith Journey.

St. Joseph’s Parish Bulletin: Would you like to receive the weekly parish bulletin by email? If you would, then please send a blank email to: stjosephchorleybulletin@gmail.com. Please, **ONLY** use this email to request the bulletin – the parish general email remains the same.

St Joseph’s Parish Centre – Members Notice: Available for all types of social events. Receptions for Christenings, Weddings & Funerals, Birthdays, Anniversaries & Christmas Parties. A meeting room is also available.

Large Screen TV for LIVE Sports events. For bookings please contact the Parish Centre Manageress: 01257 275137

E-mail: StJosephsChorley@apcmc.co.uk Website: www.st-josephs-chorley.co.uk

Readers Today: 4th February

6.00pm Gerard Riley
8.30am A Nolan/S Francis/J Weldon
10.30am J O’Leary/T Dugdale/O O’Leary
4.30pm Laura McLoughlin

Next Sunday: 11th February

6.00pm Sr. Cecilia
8.30am W Gildert/G King/M Eccles
10.30am Scouts and Guides
4.30pm Richard Hunt

Eucharistic Ministers Today:

6.00pm Clare Kinnaird
8.30am E Whitney/R Turner/C Carter
10.30am K Hart/V Christie/A Christie
A Titterington
4.30pm Michael Anderton

Next Sunday:

6.00pm Patricia Evans
8.30am M Redshaw/E Whitney/J Weldon
10.30am R Hart/K Hart/T Schofield
P Hilton
4.30pm Christine Farnworth

Collection: Gift Aid: £802.02p Loose Plate: £541.58p Total: £1,343.60p

Thank you as always for your wonderful generosity.

Counters Today: S & M Craven, C Jenner **Next Sunday:** G Massey, J & A Nolan

Altar Server this week: Jaden

Church Cleaning: Friday 9th February at 9am:
A Nolan, M Eccles, C Corthorn, E Turner, S Lamb.

Lourdes Mass with Anointing: St. Mary’s, Saturday 10th February at 12 Noon.

Ash Wednesday 14th February – 2 Masses – 8.30am and 6.30pm

8.30am Readers: Chris Jenner/ Joan Maynard/ Anne Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers: M Redshaw/M Anderton/C Farnworth
Ashes: Andrew King

6.30pm Readers: Tricia Dugdale/Paul Southworth/G Riley
Eucharistic Ministers: I Love/G Kenyon/C Kinnaird
Ashes: Patricia Evans

Forthcoming Dates for 2018

Ash Wednesday: (A Day of Fasting & Abstinence) 14th February
Palm Sunday: (Start of Holy Week) 25th March
Good Friday: (A Day of Fasting & Abstinence) 30th March
Holy Saturday: 31st March
Easter Sunday: 1st April
First Holy Communions: 9th June
Annual Solemn Exposition: (Blessed Sacrament Procession) 10th June - 12th June