

St Joseph's Parish Centre – Members Notice: For bookings please contact the Parish Centre Manageress: ☎ 275137 or 📠 07932 404447. E-mail: StJosephsChorley@apcmc.co.uk Website: www.st-josephs-chorley.co.uk

Christmas gives the Parish Priest an opportunity to thank publicly the very many generous people who give so much of themselves, their time & energy in building up the Church in our Parish Community of St. Joseph's; but also, in the many unseen good works done amongst the people of this community. I thank God for you all when you are remembered in my daily prayers. Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year when it arrives!

Fr. Peter G. Stanley

Christmas Message of The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool. This Christmas many people are living with uncertainty, yet this is nothing new. For centuries people have lived with worry and insecurity, but for over two thousand years we have lived with the truth which we celebrate each Christmas Day: the truth that God became man for us, for each and every one of us. The Christ child born in Bethlehem is our anchor, and our saviour. His coming brings us confidence so we can face the future with hope. We celebrate Christmas at the darkest time of the year, the days are short and the nights long, but our celebrations bring light to our darkness and hope to our lives. In these days we see incredible generosity as people reach out to others, especially to those in need. In a time of political instability, financial worries, foodbanks and poverty so many are daily supporting those who most need our help. In recent weeks donations to local foodbanks have increased as people give help to those most in need at this time of year. Those who have plenty supporting those with so little. Jesus was born in poverty, in a stable, in the dark, open to the cold. His first visitors were not friends and family or people that Mary and Joseph knew, they were strangers - shepherds from the surrounding hillside summoned by angels and wise men from the east who followed a star bringing gifts for the new born king. Stars don't just lead us but remind us of the creative power of God and his presence in our lives. God is with us in the star that shines in our hearts. God became one of us because we matter. Jesus, the true Light, has come in our lives to give us real hope because each one of us matters, this is not just wishful thinking. Jesus, the Light of the world shows us the way out of the despair of poverty, and of instability and of the gloom of the seasons to a brighter future ahead. We believe that the child born in Bethlehem will guide us and support us and that makes our festivities worthwhile. We buy presents for our families and friends; we decorate our homes, offices and churches; and we travel long distances so that we can be with the people whom we love most, reminding us of God's love for us. Let us then pray for peace in our world and in our lives echoing the song of the angels: *'Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to people of goodwill.'*

The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP Archbishop of Liverpool December 2018.

**ST. JOSEPH'S,
HARPERS LANE,
CHORLEY PR6 0HR**

☎ **01257 262713**

Liverpool R.C. Archdiocesan Trustees Inc. Registered Charity No 232709

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



4th Sunday of Advent – 23rd December 2018

HOLY MASS & SERVICES

- Sunday (Sat)**
- 6.00pm** Paul Whiteley (RIP)
 - 8.30am** Parishioners
 - 10.30am** Jack Waring (RIP)
 - 4.30pm** Patricia Margaret Holland (A)



CHRISTMAS EVE

- Monday**
- 8.30am** Vincent de Paul Brown (A)
 - (Vigil)* **6.00pm** Parishioners
 - (Midnight Mass)* **11.45pm** Gillian Bolton (B)
- (Midnight Mass is preceded by Carols at 11.15pm)*



CHRISTMAS DAY

- Tuesday**
- (Dawn)* **8.30am** Vincent, Pauline, Martin & Grandparents (RIP)
 - (Day)* **10.30am** Hugh Finlayson (RIP)

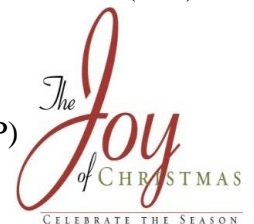
BOXING DAY

- Wednesday** **10.00am** Sean McConville (RIP)

- Thursday** **8.30am** Special Intention (PC)
- Friday** **8.30am** James Joseph & Elizabeth Alice Booth (RIP)
- Saturday** **9.00am** James & Mary Kellett (RIP)

- Sunday next**
- 6.00pm** Graham Tunstall (RIP)
 - 8.30am** Edmund & Ellen Whittle (RIP)
 - 10.30am** Paul Whiteley (RIP)
 - 4.30pm** Peter Burke (RIP)

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 10.30am – 11.30am



Please Pray For The Following Who Are Sick Canon Albert Shaw, Fr. Laurence Mayne, Bert Smith, Eileen Snape, Jean Thurston, James Desmond Gorman, Teresa Todd, Doreen Moss, Mark Rimmer, John Lee, Anna Hennessy, Hunter Halliday & Baby Troy Halls (9 weeks old). 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.

V. 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:** We also remember all those whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time: Patricia Margaret Holland, Vincent de Paul Brown.

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

“Little Church” TODAY: Catherine and Christine

“No Little Church” NEXT week.

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: Resumes Wednesday 9th January 2019.

School Christmas Raffle: Thank you for your generosity supporting our raffle which made £327.00. There is one unclaimed prize. Ticket Number 4258 - Pat. This can be collected from church.

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.

Readers Today 23rd December

Next Sunday: 30th December

6.00pm Paul Southworth
8.30am W Gildert/M Redshaw/J Weldon
10.30am O O’Leary/A Wetzstein/J Maynard
4.30pm Laura McLoughlin

6.00pm Sr. Cecilia
8.30am A Nolan/S Francis/C Jenner
10.30am C Clarkson/S Tierney/T Dugdale
4.30pm Richard Hunt

Eucharistic Ministers Today:

Next Sunday:

6.00pm Francesca Vause
8.30am J Weldon/C Carter/A Rabbitt
10.30am P Hilton/G Riley/A Titterington
Theresa Schofield
4.30pm Anne Marie Hegarty

6.00pm Clare Kinnaird
8.30am J Weldon/E Whitney/M Redshaw
10.30am G Riley/P Hilton/A Christie
Kevin Hart
4.30pm Anita Tunstall

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Eucharistic Ministers:

6.00pm Jean Marino, Geoff Kenyon
11.45pm Anna Rabbitt/Peter Cahill/Pauline Hilton/Andrew King
8.30am Lesley Clarkson/Winifride Gildert/Christine Carter
10.30am Kevin Hart/Gerard Riley/Pauline Hilton/Ruby Hart

Readers:

6.00pm Laura McLoughlin/Paul Southworth/Volunteer
11.45pm Laura Crowther/Francesca Vause/Gerard Riley
8.30am Sylvia Francis/Allan Wetzstein/Martin Craven
10.30am Stephen Tierney/Joan Maynard/Volunteer

Counters Today: C Carter/G Kenyon **Next Sunday:** J Simmons/T Schofield

Altar Boys (Wed, Thurs, Fri) Volunteer please!

Collection: Gift Aid: £745.18p **Loose Plate:** £439.12p **Total:** £1,184.30p
Thank you for your wonderful generosity.

CAFOD Fun Run - This year the 35th Annual Fun Run will take place on Thursday 27th December at Wavertree Sports Centre L15 4LE. Registration will be from 12pm and the 6k/3k run and 2k walk will begin at 1pm. Entry will be £5 for children, £10 for adults or £20 for a family. Posters and sponsorship forms and other information from liverpool@cafod.org.uk or 0151 228 4028.