

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

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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.



2nd Sunday of Christmas - 3rd January 2021

Below is a List of the Mass Intentions being Offered this week,
Publicly, Privately, & Livestreamed.

Sunday

6.00pm Richard Parkinson (A)

Privately Edward & Elizabeth Johnson (A's)

10.30am Tony Aspinall (A)

Privately Parishioners



Monday

8.30am John Clarke (B)

Tuesday

8.30am Sally Swingle (RIP)

10.30am REQUIEM: John James McQuillan (RIP)

Vigil for the Holy Day

6.30pm Parishioners

Epiphany of the Lord - Wednesday 6th January 2021

8.30am Joe Fox (A)

Thursday

8.30am Cecily Nowell (A)

10.30am REQUIEM: Doreen Palmer (RIP)

Friday

8.30am Michael Lowde (Get Well)

12.00am REQUIEM: Eileen Brimley (RIP)

Saturday

9.00am Helen Strange (RIP)

Sunday next

6.00pm John Cowdall (A)

Privately Ursula Felton (B)

10.30am Mary Olive Schofield (A)

Privately Christina Ball (A)



Please Pray For The Following Who Are Sick: Canon Albert Shaw, Eileen Snape, Jean Thurston, James Gorman, Doreen Moss, Mark Rimmer, Anna Hennessy, Willie Pike, Mary Hanson, Simon Milner, Eddie Lacey & Elmo Allan (8 months old). We also remember to pray for all those in Chorley Hospital, Derian House Children's Hospice, our Nursing Homes & all those affected by Covid-19.

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 – During the current Pandemic, Eucharistic Ministers will not be going into the hospital with Holy Communion. The Hospital, via the Ward, will contact St. Joseph's or the On-Call Priest for any visits to patients. Only priests who have been Mask Trained & Clinically Instructed via Royal Preston Hospital will be allowed into the hospitals.

Please include in your Prayers: All those who have **Recently Died:** John James McQuillan, Doreen Palmer, Eileen Brimley & all those whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time: Richard Parkinson, Edward & Elizabeth Johnson, Tony Aspinall, Joe Fox, Cecily Nowell, John Cowdall, Mary Olive Schofield & Christina Ball.

Keeping in touch: Would you like to receive the weekly parish bulletin by email during these uncertain times? If you would, then please send a blank email to: stjosephchorleybulletin@yahoo.com. Please, **ONLY** use this email to request the bulletin – the parish general email remains the same. We will continue to send out any information as and when it becomes available. Also, e-mails are sent out on a daily basis with reflections and information, so please, if you would like to receive this then request it by the above bulletin email address. **PLEASE NOTE THIS EMAIL ADDRESS HAS CHANGED.**

Collection: You can still make your weekly Offering to the Parish when you are out for your daily exercise by putting it through the Letterbox at the Presbytery. Thank you for your continuing & wonderful generosity & support to the parish.

Mass Online at St. Joseph's: Mass will be Live-streamed from St. Joseph's: **6pm Vigil Mass** on Saturday and **10.30am Mass** on Sunday. On Weekdays Mass will be televised at **8.30am** Monday to Friday, & **9am** on Saturday. Some Masses will be said Privately in the Presbytery.

The Link for St. Joseph's is: <https://www.churchservices.tv/chorleystjosephs>

Churches Together in Lancashire: www.ctlancashire.org.uk/

Spiritual Communion – Prayer of St. Alphonsus

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things and I passionately desire to

receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you

now and forever. *Amen.*

The Epiphany of the Lord

Christmas cards and carols, nativity plays and paintings, all have three kings coming to worship the Lord. But in Matthew's Gospel they are called not kings but wise men. And although tradition tells us that there were three of them, the Gospel never states that this was so. The traditional number of wise men, three, comes from the three gifts that Matthew tells us were given to the child Jesus: ***“Gold and Frankincense and Myrrh”***. So who were they really, these mysterious visitors from the east, and why did they come? They are also sometimes called ***“magi”***, from a Greek word which is the origin of our word ***“magic”***. They were pagans, magicians, astrologers, readers of the stars, rather than crowned monarchs. Two thousand years have passed since those magi travelled to Bethlehem, searching for the light. Their journey cannot have been easy. The journey to Christ often isn't. They no doubt had to give up a great deal to find him, but nothing was more important to them than their spiritual quest. Moreover, they grasped the truth that, while they were searching, God had been leading them. It was God who lit the star, and God who encouraged them to set out, because God loved them, and God wanted to be found by them. One of the things that the wise men's journey gave them was time. They reflected, they thought, perhaps they prayed. That is one great benefit of a spiritual journey or pilgrimage. There is time to ponder fundamental questions; and to realise, like the wise men, that deep down, whether we are Catholics or not, Christians of other churches, members of different faiths, or people who are still searching to find faith, there is always something more to seek and find. It was a very significant moment when the magi fell down to worship Jesus and give him their gifts, and it is a similar moment when a person is baptised, comes into the Church or takes a new step in faith. At least once, Matthew tells us, the magi were lost on their journey, first arriving in Jerusalem rather than Bethlehem; but then they were wise enough to ask the way. May our parish community always be ready to welcome, encourage, provide opportunities, and show the way to those who are seeking, that, like the magi, they may find Christ, the light of the world. He is not far from those who seek him, for, as he himself has told us:

“The one who searches always finds”.

NEW YEAR HOUSE BLESSING

For the start of the New Year, “**House Blessing Stickers**” are available for your homes for 2021. They have been blessed. The Blessing of homes on, or around the Feast of the Epiphany (Celebrated this year on Wednesday 6th January) enjoys a long history. It is an old custom to chalk an inscription on the front of your home: 20 * C+M+B+21

Christus Mansionem Benedicat:

“Christ Bless This House”

The C+M+B are also the Initials of the Three Wise Men: Caspar (of India), Melchior (of Persia), and Balthasar (of Arabia).

20 * C+M+B+21

Christus Mansionem Benedicat

“Christ Bless This House”

This signifies the numerals of the New Year, three crosses and initials of the Latin phrase. As you place this sticker on your front door you may wish to say a prayer together with those who live & visit your home:

ALL: In the name of ✠ the Father, & of the Son, & of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CELEBRANT: Peace be to this house and all who dwell here.

ALL: Blessed be God for ever.

READING: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be . . . And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory, the glory of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth. (*John 1:1-3,14*).

ALL: *Our Father*

CELEBRANT: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**