

Parishes of St Bede, Clayton Green and St Chad, South Hill

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 13th December 2020



Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Beattie

Telephone: 01257 460154

St Bede's Parish office is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00 – 14.00

Telephone: 01772 335209

St Chad's telephone (to speak to Fr Mark) 01257 460154

Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk

www.stchads-southhill.org

Facebook page Look for "Parishes of St Chad and St Bede"
and request to join the group.

E-mail: stbedesclaytongreen@rcaol.org.uk

stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk



Christmas Masses

As places in our churches are still restricted, **we are asking people to reserve places at our Masses over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day this year.** It is sad that we have to do this, but we want to keep everyone safe and to avoid disappointing anyone. There will be as many Masses as are needed, provided we have enough volunteer stewards and cleaners to open our churches for Mass safely.

We are currently not obliged to attend Mass, and we understand that many people may not wish to be in a large group in Church at the moment. It is hoped that some people might attend Mass and visit the crib at some time when things are quieter during Christmas week to spread out our numbers attending over more than one day. **Please let others who normally attend Mass at Christmas know that we are asking them to reserve their place this year or they may be disappointed.**

Bookings will be taken from Tuesday 8th December. To reserve a place please telephone Clare at St Bede's office on 01772 335209. She will be taking bookings for Masses at both our churches between 10am and 3pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Please call during these times.

Clare will need a contact telephone number for someone in your group and to know how many people will be with you. You can only sit in a bench with someone who is in your "bubble" over the Christmas holiday.

Mass times will be as follows.

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Christmas Eve: | 5pm St Bede's | 6.30pm St Chad's | 8pm St Bede's |
| Christmas Day: | 9.15am St Chad's | 11am St Bede's | |
| Boxing Day: | Midday at St Chad's | Vigil Mass 6pm at St Bede's | |
| Sunday 27th Dec: | 9.15am St Chad's | 11am St Bede's | |

Masses this week 13th December 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent Year B.

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| Saturday 12 th December | 6.00pm | St. Bede's | Damian Tierney (RIP) |
| Sunday 13 th December | 9.15am | St. Chad's | Parishioners |
| | 11.00am | St. Bede's | Parishioners |
| Monday 14 th December | 9.15am | St. Chad's | Jack, Margaret & David Nolan |
| Tuesday 15 th December | 9.15am | St. Bede's | Barbara Cranshaw (RIP) |
| Wednesday 16 th December | NO MASS | | |
| Thursday 17 th December | 9.15am | St. Chad's | Jack, Margaret & David Nolan |
| Friday 18 th December | 9.15am | St. Bede's | Therese Roe |
| Saturday 19 th December | 6.00pm | St. Bede's | Cramford & Heys Families |
| 4th Sunday of Advent | | | |
| Sunday 20 th December | 9.15am | St. Chad's | Parishioners |
| | 11.00am | St. Bede's | Ormisher Family (RIP) |

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners:

Syd Newton, George Morris, Peter Deacon, Amy Greenhalgh, Vincent Cahill, Margaret Gray, Thomas Hesse, Ray Briant, Pat Johnson, Robert Rainford, Brenda Wrightson, Maria Reynolds, Eileen Ainscough, Tony Morris, Marie Barnish, Helen Witte, Connie Foy, Katherine Yates, Marie Rose Sanderson, Therese Roe and Mark Smith, Clare Yarwood and the residents of Highcliffe, Greenways, Brookside, Meadow Bank Nursing Homes and Brookhaven.

We pray too for those who have died recently: Barry Joseph Hiccox and Josie Noblet. The funeral service for Barry will take place at St Bede's on Thursday and for Josie and St Chad's on Friday. Attendance is by family invitation only due to Covid-19 restrictions. Through the mercy of God, may they rest in peace. Amen.

COVID-19 Regulations: Holy Communion may not be taken to people in their homes at the present time. Please ring Fr. Mark on 01257 460154 if you would like to keep more in touch with the parish. It would be great to hear from you even if just for a chat on the phone.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: At present due to Covid 19 restrictions we are not permitted to celebrate this sacrament in the confessional. If anyone would like to make their confession, please telephone Fr Mark on 01257 460154 and we can arrange to meet outside one of our churches.

Live streaming of our Masses

Mass from our parishes is being streamed on our Facebook page. Go to Facebook and look for "Parishes of St Chad and St Bede" and request to join the group. **Mass will be streamed on this page at the Mass times shown above.**

If you don't use Facebook or if you fancy a bit of a change now and again you can use this site <https://www.churchservices.tv/county/lancashire/> to find lots of other Masses being streamed. Follow the link to see Mass streamed from St Joseph's, Chorley, St Gregory's, Leyland St Mary's, and Brownedge St Mary's.

Helping us pray: At www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk you will see other churches in our diocese which are streaming their services. Each week the Archdiocese provides good resources to help us to pray with the readings used at weekend Masses. Go to www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/ and click on 'Prayer and Other Resources'.

If you go to this website, you will find resources to help our children pray with the bible readings for Sunday.

<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21503/13-dec-2020-childrens-sheet.pdf>
<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21547/13-dec-2020-colouring-sheet.pdf>
<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21941/13-dec-advent-at-home-activity-sheet.pdf>

The Archdiocese of Liverpool Directory 2021 has arrived. We have been sent ten copies for our two parishes. If anyone would like to buy one for £3.50 please let us know and we can get one to you.

Christmas joy appeal: SVP Chorley (of which Chorley buddies is a part) are offering a phone call over Christmas to anyone who is lonely. All volunteers are DBS checked. For more information, please email chorleybuddies@hotmail.com or telephone 01257 542367.

St Chad's and St Bede's will be decorated for Christmas this year with Poinsettias. If anyone would like to dedicate a plant in memory of someone, please make a donation of £5 towards the cost. A card of dedication will be placed by each plant, which you are able to take away with you in the New Year. Please place your donation and dedication in an envelope and put it through the door of either St Chad's or St Bede's Presbytery or you can put it in the collection basket at any Mass. Thank you.

Brownedge Christians Together Food Bank the volunteers and recipients of the foodbank wish to thank all the parishioners for their continuing support in providing a wide range of good quality food. **Donations can still be made at Morrison's in Bamber-Bridge.** Your generosity enables us to deliver essential food items to nearly thirty families. We are now in a good position to offer help to more families and individuals in need. We cover Bamber Bridge, Clayton Brook, Lostock Hall and Walton-le-Dale. If you need food or know of anyone who needs support with food, please contact tony.bctfb42@gmail.com or telephone 07751361960

The December issue of the Catholic Pic is now available in print and online. The latest edition is available to download at the following web address: <https://bit.ly/3n0XQj2>

We have now begun a year dedicated to St Joseph

On Tuesday of last week, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter to open a "Year of St Joseph". The letter is entitled "Patris Corde" (With a Father's heart). In this year we can continue to enjoy the help and protection of this great saint who is the Patron of the Universal Church and we can learn and find encouragement from his example. The letter is a lovely summary of why St Joseph is such an important figure in the life of Christians today and it isn't too long! You can find it easily by searching on a computer and some copies have been left at the back of our churches. Let's hope we will be able to mark this year dedicated to St Joseph together later in the New Year. Here is the prayer that Pope Francis gives at the conclusion of the Apostolic Letter.

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*



3rd Sunday of Advent. 13th December 2020. Readings at Mass.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

My soul rejoices in my God.

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

My soul rejoices in my God.

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy.

My soul rejoices in my God.

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.
Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.
May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel John 1:6-8,19-28

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.