

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

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 3rd January, 2021



Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Beattie

St Bede's Parish Office opens again on Tuesday, 5th January, 10am to 3pm and on Thursday and Friday. Telephone: 01772 335209.

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

Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk and 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 or stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk

Dear Friends,

This week we moved into the new tier 4 of restrictions. Thankfully, services in church can continue to be celebrated for those who feel comfortable joining in. For those who are being careful about mixing with other people there is still no obligation to attend Mass. **When we do attend church please continue to be very careful about social distancing.** It's easy to forget to keep our distance when we meet a friend and lean in for a private conversation. It's a very natural thing to do. With the new variant of the virus we need to redouble our efforts to keep everyone as safe as we can. Use the hand gel when entering and leaving church and make sure the exits are clear at the end of Mass. **We need to treat the back of church as a corridor, not a place to gather.** We are only allowed to sit in a bench with other members of our family bubble so please do not sit in the end of a bench if someone is already in it. Face coverings must be worn **over the mouth and nose**. Thank you for continuing to do what you can to keep everyone safe in our churches.

I would like to thank everyone who sent a card or gift over Christmas. It was very good of you and meant a great deal to me. I'm sorry that with the way things are in church I might not get the chance to thank you personally. When I arrived at the end of February there was little time to settle in before everything was changed by the coronavirus. At the start of this New Year and with the prospect of widespread vaccination over the next few months I'm starting to hope that before too long the normal life of our parishes might start up again. It is a great thing to find some hope in these difficult days when the news is not good. Hope is a precious gift of God – a gift to be held onto and allowed to bring us some light and peace on hard days. We are always in God's hands so we do not need to be afraid.

May God grant us all a peaceful and healthy New Year.

I keep you and those who are dear to you in my prayers each day.

God bless,

Fr Mark

Masses this week

Sunday 3rd January, 2021 Second Sunday after Christmas

Saturday 2 nd January	6.00pm	St. Bede's	Private Intentions
Sunday 3 rd January	9.15am	St. Chad's	Parishioners
	11.00am	St. Bede's	Private Intentions
Monday 4 th January	9.15am	St. Chad's	David Howarth (Anniversary)
Tuesday 5 th January	9.15am	St. Bede's	Cyril & Richard Moss
Wednesday 6 th January		Feast of the Epiphany	
	10.00am	St Chad's	Maroun Mourani (RIP)
	Midday	St Bede's	Parish Volunteers
Thursday 7 th January		No Mass	
Friday 8 th January	9.15am	St. Bede's	Barry Hiccox (RIP)
Saturday 9 th January	6.00pm	St. Bede's	Maria Fowler
Sunday 10 th January	9.15am	St. Chad's	Eddie Donegan (RIP)
	11.00am	St Bede's	Elizabeth Monk

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners:

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

Please keep in your prayers those who have died recently and their families.

Barry Hiccox, Josie Noblet and Teresa Roe. ***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.***

The funeral for Teresa Roe will take place at St Bede's on Friday 8th January. Due to Covid-19 restrictions attendance is by family invitation only. Please keep Teresa and her family in your prayers.

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.**

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'.

Follow this link to find resources to help children pray along with the readings for Sunday. Printed copies are also available at the back of our churches.

https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/54371/756236/version/1/Prayer_childrens-liturgy_2nd-Sunday-Christmas-B-illustration.pdf

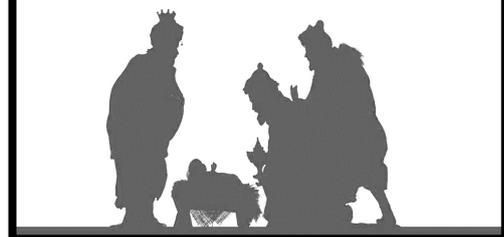
Search for “Epiphany” on this Cafod website and you can find worksheets to help our children pray on the feast of the Epiphany this week.

The Archdiocese of Liverpool Directory for 2021 has arrived. We have been sent ten copies for our two parishes. It contains contact details for all the parishes, Catholic Schools and organisations in the Archdiocese and current Mass times. 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.

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

Jesus, receiver of the wise men and their gifts, help us to follow the light in the midst of our dark world. Fix our eyes and hearts on your light, that we might be bearers of that light to all those who walk in the dark. *Amen.*



Sunday 3rd January 2021. Second Sunday after Christmas. Year B. Readings at Mass.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself. She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One; 'Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent. He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain. I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion. In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority. I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R/ The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates
he has blessed the children within you.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.

He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved. That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to

remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.
The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans. Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. 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. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

