



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

Parish News

Second Sunday of Advent

5th December 2021

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Beattie 01257 460154

Parish Office 01772 335209

The office is open Tuesday 10-5pm, Thursday and Friday 10-3pm

Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk and

www.stchads-southhill.org

Facebook page Look for "Parishes of St Chad and St Bede"

E-mail: stbedesclaytongreen@rcaol.org.uk or stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk

Tea and Coffee after Mass

We hope to serve tea and coffee after Mass on the 3rd Sunday in Advent (12th December) in St. Chad's and St. Bede's. We need volunteers to help setting up before Mass and people to serve and clear away after Mass. The more the merrier. Cakes very welcome! Thank you.

St Bede's Prayer Group

Our prayer group will meet again in the New Year. Thank you.

Poinsettias at Christmas

St Chad's and St. Bede's will be decorating the Churches for Christmas 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. Place your donation and dedication in an envelope and put it in the collection tray at the back off the churches or put it through the door of either Presbytery. Thank you.

Please have a look at your Parish Piety Stall after Mass.

Advent Calendars, Christmas Cards and other religious items are available after weekend Masses in both our Churches. Any profits made at our piety stalls go to support your parish. Please have a look and see if there is anything you need.

New Deaneries

As part of the response to our Synod it has been decided to move to larger deaneries across the Archdiocese. For us, that means that the former deanery of Chorley has now merged with the former deanery of Leyland. Fr Graeme Dunne of St Gregory's parish has been appointed as the Dean. You probably won't notice any change right away but this decision will allow for priests to work together in greater numbers and have more support in times of illness or rest. Also, the priests, deacons and lay people across the new deanery will work together to implement the ideas and proposals in our Pastoral Plan in the coming years. It is proposed that there will be a Deanery council of lay people and clergy some time next year to share ideas and arrange events for our people. Some events, such as Services of Reconciliation and Confirmation Programmes will still be organised locally in the Chorley area.

The parishes in our new Lancashire Deanery are now: Sacred Heart, St Bede, St Chad, St Gregory, St Joseph Anderton, St Joseph Brindle, St Joseph Chorley, St Joseph Withnell, St Mary Chorley, St Oswald Longton, Our Lady, Help of Christian's Tarleton, St Agnes Eccleston, St Catherine Farrington, St Mary Euxton, St Mary Leyland, St Teresa + St Mary Magdalen Penwortham, St Oswald Longton, SS Peter and Paul Mawdesley. Please ask for God's blessing on this new venture in your prayers.

This week we received the following Covid-19 guidelines for Christmas in our Churches from the Archdiocese

"We are still living with the Pandemic – in spite of the actions of many it has not gone away (and may even get worse.) We, therefore need to be both cautious and welcoming in our guidelines for Christmas 2021. We want people (and especially families) to feel welcome to celebrate Christmas in church. Face coverings are still expected to be used in church – this may be difficult to enforce but given the vulnerability of some who will come to church we need to do our best to keep them safe. Try to keep the building well ventilated. Ensure that people are not inside the church for too long. Other suggestions: Extra Masses on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day may encourage safer numbers. Attending Mass on Sunday 26th December could be encouraged rather than Christmas Eve or Christmas Day."

We will have three in on Christmas Eve. Booking a place will not be necessary.

There will be no Vigil Mass for Sunday on Christmas Day.

Christmas Eve: Friday. 5pm St Bede's: 6.30pm St Chad's: 8pm St Bede's

Christmas Day: Saturday. 9.15am St Chad's: 11am St Bede's

Boxing Day: Sunday. 9.15am St Chad's: 11am St Bede's

Launch of our new Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan

Last weekend we received the pastoral plan. As the Archbishop has said: “This is to chart the way forward for the archdiocese in the years to come.” The Plan will be available at <https://liverpoolpastoralplan.org.uk/> There is a summary document and a postcard for you to take home containing details of how to access the pastoral plan online. You can attend a meeting online explaining our new Pastoral Plan. Thursday 9th Dec 7.00pm – 8.30pm on Zoom. The link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421512557?pwd=SVd5cFhtQ0dwUFJzQjhLSlQ5VjJlJT09> . Meeting ID: 864 2151 2557 Passcode: 132667

THE NEW PASTORAL PLAN AND ADVENT MONDAYS

The Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan, the fruits of our Synod journey, was promulgated by Archbishop Malcolm on the First Sunday of Advent, just as we start a new liturgical year. As a prayerful way into some of the areas, we are combining our Advent Mondays’ reflections with some aspects of the Pastoral Plan. Even if you are not familiar with the synodal path we have journeyed, the highly topical four themes we picked are *accompaniment, youth and young people, synodality, and structures and property* in service of the mission of the Church. After a very brief input, we will listen to some spontaneous reactions to the questions we have asked our young people at St Julie’s Catholic High School, Woolton. Some of the responses are frankly priceless and worth pondering! We will also invite you to share your own reactions to the themes in break-out rooms, and end with a time of prayer and reflection based on a scripture passage linked to the theme and to Advent. We will close each session in a prayerful mood to allow you to continue praying and pondering should you wish to do so even after the hour is over.

If you would like to join us for any of these sessions, please sign up for the

zoom link at: <https://forms.gle/ygGnFTySdvNZZ2776>

or through the website

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/Advent-Mondays

Calling all First Holy Communion Catechists.

Early next year, the Pastoral Development Department of the Archdiocese are planning a series of conversations with the With You Always Catechists **to discuss the way forward in the light of the forthcoming Pastoral Plan**. If you are one of the catechists and would be interested, please email pd@rcaol.org.uk with your *name, deanery, parish, and email* address so we can make sure any further information reaches you directly and on time. Thank you!

Altar servers. Any young people in Year 4 or older who would like to help at Mass as altar servers are very welcome. We will try and give proper training and help you learn as you go along. Please let Fr Mark know after Mass if you would like to get involved. There is a short consent form which we will ask parents to sign and return to us. Altar servers are asked to arrive in good time before Mass starts if they can. Thank you.

St Chad's Parish Centre

Some of our parishioners have kindly volunteered to form a group to help us run our parish centre as an important resource for our community. We need to arrange key-holders, cleaning, keeping a diary of bookings, small repairs and grounds maintenance, what groups we will be able to accommodate etc. We hope to start hiring out the parish centre to groups in the New Year. More volunteers are very welcome to get in touch. Thank you.

Live Simply

Thank you to everyone who attended one of our meetings to see if as parish communities we are able to try to live more simply, more sustainably and more in solidarity with those who are in need of help both at home and across the world. The response has been very positive and we will go ahead in the New Year to work towards the Cafod Live Simply award. Both groups have agreed to work together across our two parishes where they can, to share resources and ideas. If you would like to know more about what this might involve and some of the things we might try in 2022 please visit

[cafod.org.uk/ Campaign/Livesimply-award](http://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Livesimply-award)

Christmas Joy New Toy Appeal

Last week for Donations!

As part of The Christmas Joy Project, co-ordinated by Chorley Council, most of the Catholic schools and Parishes in Chorley, have committed to donating new toys for distribution to families in Chorley.

If you want to donate new toys, then please

- bring them into church or to either presbytery **unwrapped!**

From w/c Monday 6th December, SVP Chorley Buddies will collect the toys from the church, take them to St Laurence's for storage and distribution by Chorley Council to families who might need some help this Christmas. The last collection will be on Friday 10th December. Chorley Council will organise their distribution to families who might need some help this Christmas.

Chorley Help the Homeless Winter Appeal

Much work was done at the beginning of the pandemic to make sure that everyone had a safe place to sleep at night but now the numbers of those sleeping rough is rising again. Chorley Help the Homeless are appealing for:

warm clothes, men's underwear, waterproof clothing, socks, sleeping rolls, sleeping bags, toiletries including shaving foam and razors, and tinned meat and microwaveable food.

We will pass on anything donated through our parishes. Please have a look through your cupboards and see if there is anything that you don't use that might make a real difference to someone who has to sleep rough in our community. Donations can be left at the back of church or handed in to either presbytery.

LGBTQ+ Catholics Liverpool Archdiocese Prayer and Support Group.

Our next Mass will be at All Saints Church, Anfield, on Sunday 5th December at 12.30pm followed by a social gathering. This is an open invitation to our LGBTQ+ Catholics, their families and friends, but also to anyone who would like to come along. It would be helpful to know who might attend for catering purposes. If you are intending to come along you are very welcome but please do let us know: You can phone Canon Stephen Maloney 0151 287 8787 or email on frsmaloney@aol.com. More information is given on our church notice boards.

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Proclaiming the Word of God.

Thank you to the parishioners who have offered to volunteer to read at our weekend Masses. If you have already spoken to Fr Mark or if you would like to become a reader, **please let us have your name and contact details** so we can put a new rota together. Thank you.

Holy Communion whilst in hospital.

Please contact St. Joseph's Presbytery if any of your family is admitted to Chorley Hospital 01257 262713.

In Preston Hospital, please inform the chaplain on 01772 522435.

In Wigan Infirmary, please inform the chaplain on 01942 822324.

Liturgy of the word for children: Resources for this week.

Share the accompanying activity sheet with the children. Invite them to decorate the bauble by writing or drawing what change they will try to make this Advent, cut it out and hang it on their tree once it is up. Remind them to do, try to do, at least one thing differently in the coming week to change their life, or the life of someone else for the better.

https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/7312/60519/version/5/Prayer_children-liturgy_2nd-Sunday-Advent-C-illustration.pdf

The Universe Catholic newspaper is now only available on-line. Go to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk to read the latest edition.

Please continue to be careful in church, maintaining a safe distance from other people when moving around the building and not 'leaning in' to talk quietly to someone. ***Hand sanitising remains necessary as people arrive. Face coverings remain mandatory for all those coming to a church service. (Exemptions for medical reasons excluded.) At the time of Holy Communion please wait to be called forward by a steward and give people lots of room to pass if you can.***

CAFOD are delighted to say that our Fun Run is back after a year of being virtual like everything else in 2020, and we would love for parishioners from your parish to join if possible! The event takes place on **Bank Holiday Monday 27th December 2021** at **Wavertree Athletics Centre, Wellington Road, L15 4LE**. Registration is from **10am for an 11am run/walk/toddle 3k or 5k!**

If you can't make it on the day, we'd love for people to participate virtually and run wherever and whenever they like! Sponsorship and donations can be made via www.justgiving.com/campaign/cafodchristmasfunrun

You can also sign up for our daily Advent reflections: These reflections have been very popular and offer an opportunity to pause and reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas. Visit our interactive Advent calendar here cafod.org.uk/Pray/Advent-calendar for more details.

Send a card to someone who needs our support this Christmas.

Christmas Cards to the Holy Land.

For many years now St Bede's have supported, the Archdiocese of Liverpool Justice and Peace Commission in sending greeting cards to show solidarity with people, parishes and schools in the Holy Land and Jordan. Greeting cards provide a simple but effective way to offer our encouragement, support and prayers to fellow Christians who are suffering isolation or persecution. Knowing that they are not forgotten is very important to them particularly at Christmas. Once again St Bede's has been paired with: St Saviour Church in Jerusalem, Fr Amjad Sabbara and the church of Saint James in Beit Hanina, Rev Nerwan Al-Banna, O.F.M

If you would like to take part, the procedure is quite simple:

1. Please use the Christmas cards provided, or your own if you prefer, making sure that any cards you send are religious and not secular.
2. Write your own personal message in the card, insert one of the Arabic/English greeting slips (if you wish). Write on the envelope either St Saviours or St. James depending on who you have chosen. There is no need to address the envelope. The quickest and surest way to get the cards delivered to the Holy Land is for them to be parcelled up and mailed out together.
3. Please seal the envelope but do not put a stamp on it. Please bring your completed cards to Church and put them in the box in the porch by no later than **Sunday 12th December**.

If you would like to make a small contribution towards postage costs, please leave it in the box with your card. Many thanks for your support.

Christmas cards for Prisoners in Garth and Wymott Prison.

We have received a request for religious Christmas cards for the prisoners. Envelopes must not be sealed and only sign with Christian name (not surname). Please can cards be returned to St. Bede's Church by **12th December 2021**.

Christmas Cards for Christians in danger of torture and death.

Anyone wanting to do something that might give some hope to Christians in danger of torture and death can visit this website:

ukacat@gmail.com (Action By Christians Against Torture). ACAT supply a list of deserving cases to send a Christmas card to, to give them some hope. If a prisoner gets many cards, this focuses attention on them and can result in better treatment, even release. Postcards are also acceptable. A simple message could read: "You are not forgotten - keep strong - we care about you."

Masses this week

Sat 4 th Dec	6pm	St. Bede's	Thanksgiving
Second Sunday of Advent (PW2)			
Sun 5 th Dec	9.15am	St. Chad's	Parishioners
	11am	St. Bede's	Fr. Louis (Somerset)
Mon 6 th Dec	9.15am	St. Chad's	Bernard Raby (RIP)
Tue 7 th Dec	9.15am	St Bede's	Tom McGill (RIP)
Wed 8 th Dec	No Mass		
Thur 9 th Dec	9.15am	St. Chad's	Frank Billington. In memory
Fri 10 th Dec	9.15am	St. Bede's	Jean Marsden (RIP)
Sat 11 th Dec	6pm	St. Bede's	J & P
Third Sunday of Advent (PW3)			
Sun 12 th Dec	9.15am	St. Chad's	Tony Glynn (RIP)
	11am	St. Bede's	Parishioners

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 Miller, Tony Morris, Elizabeth Cook, Helen Witte, Gabrielle Myerscough, Connie Foy, Katherine Yates, Marie Rose Sanderson, Mark Smith, Marie Coleman, Lawrence Phillips, Anna Howard, Jenny Campbell, Hazel Melling 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.

Agnes Paul and Barry Hiccox. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.**