



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

Parish News

Christmas Day 2021



Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk and
www.stchads-southhill.org

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

Masses are streamed several times each week on this page.

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

Parish Office 01772 335209

The office is open this week on Thursday 10-3pm and Friday 10-3pm

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Beattie 01257 460154

Dear friends, once again the message of Christmas brings light and hope to us and to our world. The baby in the manger is our Father's beautiful Word spoken to us: He tells us that He is with us. Our prayers have been answered. He is at our side through everything we meet on our journey through life.

On behalf of us all, I want to thank all our generous parish volunteers who make it possible for the life of our parishes to continue year after year, no matter how our circumstances may change.

This week dedicated teams of helpers have cleaned and decorated our churches, put up our cribs and signed up to assist at our Masses as stewards, readers and special ministers. We owe them our thanks this week and all through the year. Our musicians and singers skilfully help us to worship God with our music and we are very grateful to them all. Thank you to those who visit the housebound members of our parish to offer prayerful and friendly support. We also have a team who care for the church grounds and cemeteries keeping them so well maintained. Our thanks go also to our catechists who help prepare our young people and adults for the celebration of the sacraments and who run our Little Church groups. We look forward to being able to do more for our young people when that's possible. Thanks also to everyone who has been able to keep on donating money each week for the upkeep of our churches and to those who count what is given and keep our records up to date. Any money collected at our Christmas Mass goes to the support of your parish. Your help is much appreciated. Thank you.

Mass will be offered for all our parish volunteers in both our churches in the coming week as a small gesture of gratitude for their generous service.

We continue to keep in our prayers each day all who are suffering from the Covid-19 pandemic in our parishes and across the world. We pray for all who are sick and those caring for them, and for all who are anxious about what the New Year will bring. We pray for too everyone for whom Christmas can be a sad time, missing someone dear to them.

There was no room for Jesus in Bethlehem, but today we can ask Him to make His home in us and to fill our hearts with His patience, His love and His mercy, so that we can each play our own small part in making the world the place He wants it to be.

Thank you for the many cards, gifts and kind words I have received this week. I'm very encouraged by your kindness. Over the past couple of years priests, like everyone else, have had to do their best to work out how to deal with the changing circumstances that have faced us all, often just having to make it up as we go along. I know I haven't got it right all the time. Thank you for your continuing support. Please keep me and our parish communities in your prayers. May God grant to you and your families the peace of Christmas, now and through the coming year.

God bless,

Fr Mark

Thank you to all the staff in our parish schools who have done so much to support our children and their families throughout the year and have worked hard to run excellent nativity plays and carol services. We pray they will have a great celebration of Christmas and enjoy a very well-earned break over the next couple of weeks.

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

Invite the children to colour in the accompanying illustration of Jesus in the Temple, and on the back to draw their own family. Encourage them to write what they like most about being part of a family. Remind them that although each person is different, we are all part of one global family and so we should try to treat each other with love, kindness and respect.

https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/7319/60553/version/6/Prayer_children-liturgy_Holy-Family-pic-C.pdf

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.

Thank you to everyone who helped so generously with our Advent appeals.

SVP Chorley Buddies would like to say a massive thank you to our parishioners for the fantastic response to the Christmas Joy New Toy Appeal. You and others donated over 4,000 toys with a value of between £15 – £20K! Everyone involved in receiving the toys donated has been overwhelmed with the generosity shown by you. Chorley Council has now distributed the toys to the families who might need help this Christmas - through 20+ services and organisations, supporting around 500 children and families, along with being able to support other local groups who are also helping families this Christmas. Once again thank you from SVP Chorley Buddies for your generosity and we wish you all a peaceful joyful Christmas.

Poinsettias at Christmas: Thank you to everyone who made a donation to help us decorate our Churches for Christmas with Poinsettias. A card of dedication has been placed by each plant donated. You are invited to take away the plant with the dedication you requested after 6th January.

Christmas cards to the Holy Land and Garth & Wymott Prisons: We have sent 45 cards to the Holy Land and 47 cards to our local prisons. Thank you for your support for our fellow Christians living in difficult circumstances and the many prisoners who get great solace from this act of kindness.

We have had a great response to the appeal by **Chorley Help the Homeless** 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.

Thank you to everyone who help towards this appeal. Donations are always welcome. Just leave them at the back of church. Thank you.

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners

Syd Newton, George Morris, Peter Deacon, Amy Greenhalgh, 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.

And we commend to God's mercy all who have died, especially members of our families and our parishes.

***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.***

Masses this week



Friday 24 th December	Christmas Eve	
5pm	St. Bede's	Agnes Paul (RIP)
6.30pm	St. Chad's	Hughes Family
8pm	St. Bede's	In loving memory
Saturday 25 th December	Christmas Day	
9.15am	St. Chad's	Darcie Tillotson
11am	St. Bede's	Parishioners
Sunday 26 th December	Feast of the Holy Family	
9.15am	St. Chad's	Elizabeth (Betty) Monk
11am	St. Bede's	Brian Torevell (Anniversary)
Monday 27 th December		
11am	St. Chad's	Rita & Rosemary Carty
Tuesday 28 th December		
9.15am	St Bede's	Parish Volunteers
Wednesday 29 th December	No Mass	
Thursday 30 th December		
9.15am	St. Chad's	Special Intention
Friday 31 st December		
9.15am	St. Bede's	Delia Oates
Saturday 1 st January	Mary, Mother of God	
Midday	St Chad's	Parish Volunteers
6pm	St. Bede's	Parishioners
Sunday 2 nd January		
9.15am	St. Chad's	Parishioners
11am	St. Bede's	Barbara Cranshaw (RIP)