



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

Parish News

**4th Sunday of Easter
26th April 2026**

This weekend, 26th April, is Good Shepherd Sunday, the annual day of prayer for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Religious Life. There will be a retiring collection to support the training men for ordination to the Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Liverpool after all Masses.

In 1964, Pope Paul VI, launched the first Vocations Sunday, which since then, has been celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Easter, also called Good Shepherd Sunday. Today marks the 63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations which gives us an opportunity to reflect on our own vocation as a baptised member of the Church but also gives us an opportunity to pray that others may find their vocation. We know that God has a plan for each of us. He is calling us to grow in holiness and to live in His love. Some are called to live their baptismal calling through married life, some are called to the priesthood, the diaconate or religious life and others to live as single people. Everybody is called! It is good to have these conversations to stir hearts and minds, especially with the young to help them respond generously to the Lord. What is God calling you to today?

Vocations Sunday Prayer

God our Loving Father, you called each of us by name through the Sacrament of Baptism to holiness. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, you made us the temples of the Holy Spirit. Help us to listen to the cry of our Lord Jesus from the Holy Cross 'I thirst' and respond to the call 'Go out to the whole world and proclaim the good news to all the nations'. Guide us in every step we take in life and lead us in every decision we make in responding to your call. Make us and mould us into the living images of Christ your Son, who was always close to those in need. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Tea and coffee will be served in St. Chad's Parish Centre after the 9.15am Mass on Sunday 26th April and in St. Bede's Parish Hall after the 11am Mass on Sunday 3rd May. Everyone is invited to come along.

St Bede's Prayer Group will meet on **Monday 20th, 27th April & 11th May** in **St Bede's Presbytery** at 1pm – 2.30pm. Everyone is very welcome to come along.

St Chad's Craft Group will meet on **Tuesday** from 1.30pm to 3.30pm in **St. Chad's Parish Centre**. Everyone is welcome, no skills or previous experience required.

St Chad's Reading Group will meet on **Monday 11th May**, 1pm to 3pm in **St. Chad's Parish Centre**. Books are provided from the County Library service and are available to borrow at each meeting. New members are very welcome.

Thank you to all our **Mission Red Box holders** for handing-in your donations over the past few weeks. Your Missio boxes/brown envelopes are now available at the back of **St Bede's Church** for you to collect. The

envelope contains the Missio Spring Newsletter and your receipt for your recent donation. Your donations are always greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.



The **Red Admiral Brass Band Spring Concert** is on **Sunday 10th May at 2.30 – 4.30pm in St. Chad's Church**. Light refreshments are included. Please ring Angela 07761 983041 or Ann 07708 992621 to put your names down for this fabulous concert.

The **Spring SVP Gathering** will take place on **Wednesday 29th April at 1.30pm in Holy Cross Catholic High School, Chorley. PR7 3LS**. Join us for an afternoon of bingo, crafts, prizes, musical performances by our school choir and afternoon tea will be served. **To book a place please telephone St Bede's Parish Office by Tuesday morning.**

Receiving the weekly newsletter by email. Please fill in one of the parishes contact forms and tick the box indicating you would like to sign up for our weekly newsletter.

Any adults in the parish who would like to be Baptised, received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church or receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are very welcome to get in touch and we will be happy to help. Please talk to Fr Mark or Sr Dorothy and we can look at how we can best support your decision.

SVP Chorley Buddies will hold their monthly social on **Wednesday 13th May at St. Chad's Parish Centre from 12 until 2pm**. A hot lunch & an activity or entertainment are provided. Transport is available. The social is free but we accept donations towards the cost of lunch. Call 01257 542367 to book.

Chorley Help the Homeless at The Gateway is very grateful for all the generous contributions from our parishioners. Unfortunately, there is an ongoing need for food, especially, rice, tinned meat e.g. Corned Beef, Spam, Cordial, Hotdogs, Weetabix and chocolate cereals. Any donations can be placed in the box in the porch at St. Chad's. At The Gateway we provide, not only food parcels but a free breakfast and lunch every week, Monday to Friday and a warm space for those in need. Thank you.

Beginning from 6 May until 27 June, a **General Catechist Course** will be provided by the archdiocese. The course will be taking place over 8 weeks at St John Fisher Church, Widnes. We will talk about the key elements of Catholic faith and how they can be explored through Catechesis. If you are considering being a catechist or are existing catechist (e.g. RCIA, first holy communion, confirmation etc) looking to refresh your knowledge, this course is for you. For more information or to register for the sessions please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

Our Family of Parishes will be holding a time of prayer and reflection for all our Special Ministers of Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church, Harpers Lane, Chorley on Sunday 24th May at 3pm. Time to pray together and recommit to our service of the Lord in this important ministry.

Mass Intentions. If you would like to request a Mass to be offered for your intentions e.g. for a deceased loved one or for someone who is ill, you can use one of the envelopes at the back of church and put them through the door of the presbytery or hand it into the sacristy. If you are part of our parish Gift Aid Scheme, we can claim back the Gift Aid on your donation if you write your Gift Aid envelope number on the Mass Intention request. Thank you.

Masses and Services this Week

Saturday 25 th April	6pm	St. Bede's	Parishioners
Sunday 26 th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter (PW4)		
	9.15am	St. Chad's	Whittle, Thompson & Slater families
	11am	St. Bede's	Thanksgiving & forgiveness
Monday 27 th April	9.15am	St. Chad's	Whittle families
Tuesday 28 th April	9.15am	St. Bede's	Parishioners
Wednesday 29 th April	No Mass		
Thursday 30 th April	9.15am	St. Chad's	Special Intention
Friday 1 st May	9.15am	St. Bede's	Parishioners
	2.30pm Mass in Honour of St Joseph the Worker at St Joseph's Primary School. Everyone is very welcome to come along.		
Saturday 2 nd May	6pm	St. Bede's	Michèal Lennan (RIP)
Sunday 3 rd May	Fifth Sunday of Easter (PW1)		
	9.15am	St. Chad's	Parishioners
	11am	St. Bede's	Fr. Lawrence Mayne (RIP)

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Beattie Tel. 01257 460154

Deacon: Rev Simon Gilbertson

St Bede's Church. 598, Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods. PR6 7EB **01772 335209**

St Chad's Church. 237, Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods. PR6 8AJ.

St Chad's Parish Hall 07719718523

St Bede's Parish Hall 01257 271818

Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk,

www.stchads-southhill.org

www.brindlestjosephs.org.uk

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

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

or to Fr Mark privately m.beattie@rcaol.org.uk

The parish office is closed this week. Our administrator Clare is on holiday.

If you don't get an answer on the phone, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Thank you.

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners:

Kath Yates, Jim Holmes, Paola De Sanctis, Eileen Ainscough, Agnes Moss, Agnes Martland and the residents of Highcliffe, Greenways, Brookside, Willow Bank, Meadow Bank Nursing Homes and Brookhaven.

Confessions are heard in the confessional at St Bede's each Saturday at 5.30pm-5.50pm or at any time on request. You can call Fr Mark to arrange a convenient time. If you are unable to get to church Fr Mark can arrange to visit you at home.