



...a vision of faith ...formed in love ...lived in hope

Mass times this coming week:

(Vigil) Saturday 5pm and Sundays 9.30am & 11am
Weekday Masses – 9.30am
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
No Mass on Tuesday mornings
The church is closed at all other times

Mass Intentions for this coming Week

Saturday: 5.00pm Infirm Clergy
Sunday: 9.30am People of the Parish
11.00am Seamus Flynn R.I.P.
Monday: 9.30am Gordon Holmes R.I.P.
Tuesday: NO MASS
Wednesday: 9.30am Peter & Ann Shanagher R.I.P.
Thursday: 9.30am Tom Carter
Friday: 9.30am James Curley R.I.P.
Saturday: 5.00pm Special Intention
(Dominic & Hannah)
Sunday: 9.30am Mary Gwendoline Roberts R.I.P.
11.00am People of the Parish

Faithful Departed

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Anniversaries

Joseph McKenna, Amanda Muir, Peter Coyle, Laura Murphy, Robert Saddington, Annie Brennan, Peter Joseph Shanagher, James Curley, Robert Chatterton, Stephen Carlisle, John Myers, Shaun White, Bill Eaton.

Our Sick

Please continue to remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick and those who are anxious at this time – Norah Ince, Pauline Coleman, Norah Osborn, John Acton-Reid, Fr Harry Holden, Rosemary Saddington, Gerard Curley, Christine Read, Chris Horan, Sarah Bell, Dawn Robinson, Denis Parkinson, Anne Hepes, Rita Ambler, Sadie Everard-Walker, Phil Kay, Michelle Hinds, Violet Fishwick, Jane Hughes, Sheila O'Brien, Eileen Veevers, Michael Young, Catherine Dee, Sheila Harrison.

Confessions

Confessions will now be heard in the Confessional on Saturday 4.30 – 4.55pm. Also, by appointment.

Mobile phones

Recently there has been an increase in mobile phones ringing during Mass. Please either switch off your phone or at least turn it to silent mode during Mass.

Offertory envelopes

The new set on offertory envelopes are available in the church porch for those who use them for their contributions to the parish.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

This year's annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place 23rd – 30th July. The cost is from £899.00. If anyone is interested in going please speak to Fr Peter who has booking forms.

Parish Welcome

This Sunday we are delighted to welcome Chelsea Ladish and Eleanor Marshall into our parish family as they will, after spending a number of months on a journey of faith, be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. They will be formally received into the church and confirmed at the 9.30am Mass.

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Celebration is a wonderful occasion for the whole parish family as well as the family of the baby being baptised as we welcome a new member into our community. We would ask that families wishing to arrange a baptism for their child ring Fr. Peter to discuss available dates rather than trying to do so by email or through the parish website. As they say, "book early to avoid disappointment"!

Parish Social Events

Key Parish Family dates for your diary in April are the Coffee morning on the 19th and 28th April to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Canon Peter's ordination.

12 Apr Quiz Night – 7.30pm
19 Apr Coffee morning – 10.15am
28 Apr Event to celebrate Canon Peter 50th Anniversary of Ordination – Further detail to be provided nearer the time

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

It will be September (2nd – 6th) The Bishop is renewing the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, the National Shrine to Our Blessed Lady. The Bishop invites you to join him! This will be the first pilgrimage since the Pandemic, and we have so much to pray for, so much to give thanks for. Some of you are familiar with Walsingham. For others it will be your first visit.

In the Middle Ages the Shrine was one of the great ancient Marian places of pilgrimage in the whole of Christendom. It is known as England's very own Nazareth and is a place where the incarnation of Jesus is particularly remembered. Therefore, for the modern pilgrim, it is a place for all who would rejoice with Mary at 'the great joy of the Annunciation.' Like Lourdes in France, it is a place of reconciliation, conversion, peace and healing. Dependent on accommodation type the all-inclusive cost is no more than £500 per person. Coach collection/drop off will take place in Workington, Carlisle, Penrith, Lancaster and Preston. For more information and booking details contact the pilgrimage organiser Deacon Charlie Conner on 07895 742 732 or email charlie.conner@lrdc.org.uk
The places will be limited, so please book in good time.

Diocesan Directories

Copies of the Lancaster Diocesan Directory for 2024 are on sale in the Bookshop priced £6.00.

200 Club

The next draw will take place during the Coffee Morning at the Parish Centre on Friday 19 April. All are welcome.

Church Cleaning Rota

Copies will be available in the Sacristy from the weekend.

Red Mission Box Collection

The APR Red Mission boxes are due for collection. The collectors will be contacting box holders. Would all Red Box holders who do not have a designated collector please bring their boxes and leave them in the Sacristy as soon as possible. Please ensure that your name and address is clearly indicated on the box. A sincere thank you to everyone for your continued support and especially to the collectors who give their time so generously.

Parish Centre Bookings

Parish centre bookings can now be made online via: <https://hallbookingonline.com/ourladystarofthesea> or to discuss further please telephone Christopher on 07759144537 r email olssbookings@hotmail.com

Food Bank

Thank you for your generous donations which were extremely appreciated by the Wesley's Larder at the Methodist Church, please keep donating items shown on the list by the boxes. Wesley's Larder is open to local people to collect food Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 11.30am to 1.30pm while the associated community café is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am to 1.00pm to feed the community for free. Everyone's welcome and one of the Café's aims is to combat loneliness. More details on the Parish website.

St Vincent de Paul Society

The SVP wishes to express its grateful thanks to everyone for their continued and most generous support and for the many individual donations received which has enabled help to be provided to those in need. If you would like further information about the work of the SVP please contact Peter Donnelly 01253 721481.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April

Pope Francis' monthly prayer intention this April is for "the role of women." The Pope invited the Church to pray for this intention in this month's The Pope Video, which is entrusted to the entire Catholic Church through the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. In The Pope Video for April, the Holy Father insists on the steps today's society needs to take, and asks Christians to join him in prayer "that the dignity and worth of women be recognised in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world."

Pope Francis' denunciation

The Pope in his video illustrates the huge gap that exists between declared principles and actual practice. "In theory, we all agree that men and women have the same dignity as persons. But this does not play out in practice," he noted. The Pope provides concrete examples, citing "discriminatory laws" currently in force: mandatory dress codes, impediments to ongoing education, denial of assistance for job opportunities. And he recalls that "in many countries, genital mutilation is still practiced."

Thus, he said, "governments need to commit to eliminate" this discrimination and "work toward guaranteeing women's human rights." He asks us all to respect women, who unfortunately continue to be treated "like something to get rid of," and who are often victims of violence and abuse in many parts of the world, even in countries claiming to be more advanced. "And if we don't [respect women]," the Pope adds, "our society will not progress."

Contradictions still exist

According to a press release by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, contradictions are not lacking in today's world. Whereas in some countries, women have access to education and employment, and occupy leadership roles in businesses and organisations, many still do not enjoy the same opportunities as men. In the job market, less than one in two women in the world, work, and women earn 23% less than men. The same goes for education, when we consider that women who are literate are in the minority in some countries. For example, the rate is 23%; in Niger, 27%. Fewer opportunities translate into enormous economic difficulties. According to UN Women, it is estimated that by 2030 8% of women and girls will live in extreme poverty, and 25% of women will not have enough to eat.

Heroines of all times

Father Frédéric Fornos S.J., International Director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, reflected on this month's intention, recalling that "from the beginning, Jesus welcomed women as His disciples. This was a novelty in the society of that time. As the Gospels testify," he stressed, "Jesus' mother Mary held a prominent place among the Apostles and in the early community." He also observed that Jesus entrusted the mission of announcing His Resurrection to a woman, Mary Magdalene. Throughout history, Fr. Fornos reminded, women have contributed to the spiritual dynamism in the Church, citing in a special way Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Catherine of Siena, and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, all of whom are Doctors of the Church, along with countless other female saints.

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

The Pope Video is an official global initiative with the purpose of disseminating the Holy Father's monthly prayer intentions. It is carried out by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer). Since 2016, The Pope Video has had more than 203 million views across all the Vatican's social networks and is translated into more than 23 languages, receiving press coverage in 114 countries. The videos are produced and created by The Pope Video Prayer Network team, coordinated by Andrea Sarubbi, and distributed by La Machi Communication for Good Causes.

The project is sponsored by Vatican Media. The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network is a Vatican foundation, with the mission of mobilizing Catholics through prayer and action in response to the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church. These challenges are presented in the form of prayer intentions entrusted by the Pope to the entire Church.

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To book a room in the Parish Centre, please visit:
hallbookingonline.com/ourladystarofthesea
Enquiries: olssbookings@hotmail.com or 07759 144537

A Parish in the R.C. Diocese of Lancaster.
Registered Charity Number 234331.