



NEWSLETTER

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
CLIFTON STREET, LYTHAM, FY8 5EP
Parish Website www.stpeterslytham.co.uk



Sunday 11th February 2024, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year 'B'
Parish Priest: Rev Peter D. Clarke - 01253 737037
Deacons: Rev Michael Harrison - 01253 730508, Rev David Pope 07950844747
& Rev William Riley (Retired)

Weekend 10th / 11th February - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 10th 6pm St. Joseph's Ted Gillett

Sun 11th 9:15am St. Joseph's Margaret Saum

Sun 11th 10:30am St. Peter's People of the Parishes

Mon 12th 9am St. Peter's Roque Francisco D'Cruz followed by Exposition & Confessions till 10am

Tues 13th 10am St. Joseph's Shaw Family

Wed 14th Ash Wednesday

9am St. Peter's Moira Wood (Mass & blessing & distribution of ashes)

St. Joseph's 10am Tony Quigley (Mass & blessing & distribution of ashes)

7pm St. Joseph's Joseph Hawkins (Mass & blessing & distribution of ashes)

Thurs 15th 10am St. Joseph's Joan Green

Weekend 17th / 18th February - 1st Sunday in Lent

Sat 17th 5-5:50pm St. Joseph's Lenten Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat 17th 6.00pm St. Joseph's People of the Parishes

Sun 18th 9.15am St. Joseph's William & Mary Murray

Sun 18th 10:30am St. Peter's Michael King

4-5pm St. Peter's Lenten Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition this week:

Monday 9:30-10am at St. Peter's. Tues no exposition at SJ's due to Deanery Conference

Confession is also available by arrangement with Fr. Peter. Tel: 737037

This Week's Readings: We gather as followers of Jesus our Lord, who showed special concern for sick and vulnerable people.

1st Reading Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 - Once a priest has diagnosed a person with leprosy, that person is regarded as unclean and must live apart from the community.

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1 - Think about others, imitate Christ and glorify God in all that you do.

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45 - Jesus touches and cures a leper - regarded as an unclean person - and in so doing breaks a serious religious taboo.

Message from Fr. Peter: Well, we only put the crib away in our churches last Friday, and just twelve days later we bring out the purple vestments as this Wednesday we begin the season of Lent; six weeks of prayer, fasting and almsgiving in preparation for our great celebrations of the death and resurrection of Christ at the end of March. And, after sharing pancakes at St. Peter's on Tuesday evening, we celebrate **Ash Wednesday**. The tradition of Ashes goes right back to the earliest days of Christianity (and actually even before) when penitents, or those preparing for entry into the Church, would wear ashes, and traditionally sackcloth, throughout Lent, right up until Maundy Thursday. When the tradition died out, the beginning of the season of Lent was marked with the whole congregation acknowledging their sinfulness, their mortality, and their need and gratefulness for the forgiveness, and way to heaven, which is celebrated at Easter, through the very public sign of Ashes on our forehead, a symbol of sharing in Christ's cross of love and suffering. The Ashes, made from the burnt blessed Palms from last year's Palm Sunday, will be blessed and distributed at all our masses on Wednesday (as well as Mass I'll be celebrating at Stella Matutina in the afternoon, and next Monday at School, when the children return from their half term holiday). Ash Wednesday is also one of the two days of Fasting & Abstinence (the other being Good Friday, of course) when we are called not to eat meat, and have only one full meal and two snacks (which together should not constitute a full meal). This personal sacrifice is a reminder of how we should share in Christ's suffering, and express our desire for forgiveness. After Ash Wednesday we have a whole programme for Lent, with Stations of the Cross in each of our Churches, as well as Lenten talks on Wednesday evenings, extra time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and reconciliation, as well as opportunities for charitable giving, and our own personal Lenten observances. The Church describes Lent as a joyful season - joyful preparation for Easter - so together let's make the most of these next six weeks, and look forward to a joyful Eastertide. *Incidentally, For Lent I'm giving up procrastination. Well, I might, I'll see how it goes, maybe will, maybe won't. I'll get my coat. Possibly.*

'Thank You'

Collection Sunday 4th February:- **£448.40.**

Crib Offerings:- **£6.10.**

Standing Orders and online donations
received in January:- **£1516.00.**

Many thanks to all who contributed.

CRIB OFFERINGS - The Crib Offerings came to a total of **£291.20.** This sum has now been sent to the Bishop, as requested, for the work of the Holy Family Parish in Gaza. Thank you for your generosity.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024:

Application forms for the Sacramental Course which will be beginning in February, for children in year 4 and above, are available from Fr. Peter before/after Sunday Masses. **Forms must be returned by Sunday February 18th.**

ST. PETER'S CHOIR - Do you enjoy singing? No audition required!! We need more choir members. Come and see us upstairs any Sunday - occasional short practises after Mass.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY -

13th February, 6pm - 7pm in St. Peter's Parish Hall.

Everyone welcome for a pancake and refreshments, a children's game, a raffle and general chit chat and mingle! Please add names and numbers to poster at back of church so we know how much batter to whisk up!

This year's "**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**" will be hosted by St. Annes URC in St. Annes, Clifton Drive. **Friday 1st March 2024 at 2pm.** Women and men welcome.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!

If we are to continue having tea and coffee in the hall after Sunday Mass, we urgently need more people to volunteer to make this happen. The more people who volunteer, the easier it is for everyone, as your turn will come round less frequently. If you are able to help please put your name against the date(s) of your choice on the notice board list located near the kitchen door in the hall.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Please continue to pray for: Jennie Antoine, Anne Jones, Graham Bentley, Fred & Mary Wylie, Anne Smith, Kath Hywel-Buckley, John Lavelle, Jean Bolton, Tony Bolton, Patrick Gilligan, Michael Golowicz, Brian Craig, Greta Turner, Anne Hayes, Deacon William Riley, Dorothy Riley, Winefred Byrnes, Judith Cross, Red Wood Farago, and all those in the Hospice, Hospital, Rest Homes & Convents. **May God give them His healing grace.**

CAFOD : Message from Chris McIndoe

Are you looking for a different Lenten challenge this year?...

...Why don't you join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk? The aim is to walk approximately 5km per day for 40 days of Lent and raise money to help people fight against poverty.

You don't have to walk the full 5km every day - SP's & SJ's are joining together as a team so any contributions, however big or small, will be appreciated both in steps and donations. See notice board for more details or contact Chris McIndoe.

Please pray for all who have died recently -
and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

James Simpson, Kate Gaskell, Mary Simpson, Olga McHell, Margaret Creaser, Tony McNulty, June Dillon, Arthur Baker, Greta Harding, Mollie Southworth, Sister Vincent CP, Carol Sprigg, Michael Armer, Vincent Platt, Catherine Mullen, John Wright, Edith Clarke, John Hothersall, Joan Hutchinson Hilda Mann, Maureen Isherwood, Alicia Holroyd, Peter Davies, Alan F. Ashton. **May they rest in peace. Amen.**

FOOD BANK UPDATE:

January Returns given to St. Cuthbert's Blackpool, Street Life Blackpool, Dock Road Lytham and SP's School, Lytham:

77kg Food Stuffs & Toiletries
£160 Cash Donation

Many thanks as always to those who have kindly donated.
Pete & Ellen Rickards.

Sanctuary Lamp Bookings -

Red Lamp: *"In loving memory of Jean" and*
"For health & well being"

Our Lady *"In loving memory of*
Gabriella Spedding-Hobbs"

Sue has room in her diary for new bookings. To book, email Sue on info@stpeterslytham.co.uk (or speak to her). Suggested **minimum** donation - £5 each lamp.

Social Events: Last Tuesday a group from SP's & SJ's met together to discuss social events and fund raising gatherings. As well as our Pancake Evening 6pm Tues at SP's, we can look forward to a St. Patrick's night, a Bingo, a BBQ and lots more. If you have any suggestions for an event to bring us together in fellowship, please do let us know! Many thanks to everyone who organises and supports these great events.

Trinity Hospice Fundraising February 2024:

The Hospice Fund Committee are delighted to announce that we collected £430.21 for Trinity Hospice last weekend. We would like to say a sincere 'Thank You' to everyone who has donated to our 2024 Appeal up to this point. We will be collecting again after the masses this weekend and our 'Just Giving' page will continue to accept voluntary donations - large or small - throughout the month of Feb 2024. This page can be found at: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/dennis-duignan-1706701337238>.

Trinity Hospice needs £11m each year to provide their services. Please donate to this very worthy cause if you can. Taxpayers can boost the amount of their donation by choosing to add Gift Aid to the value of their donations. All monies raised go directly to Trinity Hospice. **If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Duignan on 07432602753.**

Lent 2024 at St. Joseph's & St. Peter's

Ash Wednesday 14th February

Masses 9am at SP's, 10am and 7pm at SJ's.

Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all Masses.

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

Saturdays in Lent at SJ's 5pm - 5.50pm and

Sundays in Lent at SP's 4pm-5pm (on certain weeks confession will be available in this hour: details as advertised each week).

Stations of the Cross & Benediction:

Mondays SP's at 7pm & Tuesdays at SJ's at 7pm
(starting next week)

Lenten Talks

Wednesdays at SP's at 6.30pm - 7.30pm
(starts February 21st).

Weekday Masses, Adoration and Confession continues at the usual weekday times.

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Patroness of the Diocese, is transferred to this Monday 12th February; please pray for the Bishop and all our Congregations on this day as we ask Our Lady's intercession for the mission of the Church in Lytham & Ansdell, and this Diocese of Lancaster. **The 2024 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** details & application forms are available at the back of Church.

Responsorial Psalm for 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
and the response is:

"YOU ARE MY REFUGE, O LORD;
YOU FILL ME WITH THE JOY OF SALVATION"