



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



Sunday 14th January 2024, 2nd 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 13th / 14th January - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 13th 6pm St. Joseph's Norah Shortt & Richard Sisson
 Sun 14th 9:15am St. Joseph's Michael Cookson

Sun 14th 10:30am St. Peter's Deceased of Worsley Family
NO MASSES ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Wed 17th 9am St. Peter's Maurice Mason
 Thurs 18th 10am St. Joseph's Fr. Billy Bootle

Weekend 20th / 21st January - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 20th 6.00pm St. Joseph's Samantha Rawstron (Birthday Remembrance)
 Sun 21st 9.15am St. Joseph's People of the Parishes

Sun 21st 10:30am St. Peter's Deceased of the O'Dea Family

This Week's Readings: Just as the young Samuel and the first apostles were called, so are we. We are invited to become the body of Christ in the world, offering his message and presence to all we meet.

1st Reading 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 - Samuel is called by the Lord and learns to respond so well that no word of the Lord falls to the ground.

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20 - We are one in the spirit with the Lord because our bodies are the members that make up his body.

Gospel: John 1:35-42 - Jesus invites his first disciples to come and see where he lives. So they go and stay with him. Jesus renames Simon.

Message from Fr. Peter: The Sunday Reading Cycle for this liturgical year is 'B', which means that throughout 2024 we shall be reading the Gospel of St. Mark on Sundays. However, before we begin Mark, next week, we move towards the end of Christmastide with St. John's account of the calling of the first Apostles. For such a short Gospel reading there is actually a lot happening. Firstly, the first apostles were previously disciples of John the Baptist, who actively points them towards Jesus, the Messiah who they are looking for, and they stay with Jesus for the whole day. What wonderful catechesis from the mouth of Jesus himself as they start their great journey. It obviously is wonderful for them as, secondly, immediately they want to tell other people; John, who is writing this account, goes to tell his mate Andrew, who goes on to tell his brother Simon, who becomes Peter, 'Cephas', the rock on which the Church is to be built. There may be a lot of people in this world - in our own town - who are 'looking' for the Messiah, looking for fulfilment, and if we are to take on the mantle of apostles then it is up to us to point people to the Messiah, by our words and by our actions. And perhaps we might look to the Apostle John and actually invite someone to meet Jesus in our Churches and in our liturgies. They may have just been waiting for an invitation to discover Jesus - they may just be waiting for us to say, 'come and see'. And let whoever comes into St. Joseph's and St. Peter's, for whatever reason, be assured of a great welcome. Perhaps, like the first Apostles, they may want to stay longer and learn a lot more, and begin their wonderful journey to becoming a member of God's family, and the family of St. Joseph's and St. Peter's.

Unwanted Christmas Presents: If you have any extra presents or something which you might not be using, please bring them in to Church so that if suitable they can be distributed to those in need, or used as fund raising prizes for our parish gatherings. Even socks from Aunty Brenda are welcome (unworn)! (I won't tell Aunty Brenda.) Incidentally, *sharing socks is a very Christian act: it's good for the sole.* I'll get my coat... and put the crackers in the bin...

Message from Gemma Rowlings

St. Joseph's & St. Peter's Burns Night Social
 St. Joseph's Church Hall
 Saturday 20th January - 7pm
 £8 Adults, £3 Children - Ceilidh Band
 Fr Peter's Ukulele Band
 Scottish themed food + Raffle
 Tickets will be on sale after Mass on Sunday, or call
 Gemma 07918 027632 to book
 (Tickets are very limited!)

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. Vincent de Paul Society
South Sudan Baby Feeding Appeal 2023**

We have now launched our annual appeal on behalf of the SVP for your help for the people of South Sudan and in particular for the feeding of destitute babies and children. South Sudan, independent from Sudan since 2011 after its own gruesome and long civil war has a population of 11.5 million. With 70% of the population experiencing shortages, the SVP Baby Feeding Centres provide daily meals to babies and young children in some of the poorest communities, but they need our help to fund this vital lifesaving work. Over the years you have generously supported the SVP in this work and we cannot thank you enough. Sadly, these poor people continue to need our help to keep their babies and young children alive, so once again we raise our voices on behalf of them and ask for your support. SVP members will be handing out donation forms as you leave church today. These can be returned with your kind donations up to Christmas and into the New Year. Cheques should be made payable to 'Twinning - South Sudan Appeal' and please do Gift Aid your donation if you are a taxpayer. Thank you and God bless, Deacon Michael.

Mass Intentions for the year ahead: If you would like a mass said for a relative or friend for a particular date in the coming year now is the time to make your request. We have the diary ready in the parish office to save the date. There are 3 masses per week available at each church. Please put mass intentions in an envelope and state a preference of where you would like the mass to be said if necessary. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

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.**

2024 Diocesan Directories are available from Bill Whiteside at the back of Church priced £6.

CRIB OFFERINGS

Bishop Paul has asked that our Crib Offerings this year be donated to the work of the **Holy Family Parish in GAZA**. Please be as generous as you can be. **Thank you.**

**Responsorial Psalm for
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
and the response is:
"HERE I AM LORD!
I COME TO DO YOUR WILL"**

Blessing of Calvary: The new Statue of Jesus on the Cross of Calvary outside St. Peter's which has come from the closed Carmel Convent in Preston will be officially blessed on Feb 2nd, the Feast of the Presentation, following a service of Evening Prayer, and torchlight procession to the statue at 7pm, followed by refreshments. All welcome. It will also be a chance to pray in thanksgiving to the people who generously donated to the movement of a statue, for which are all very blessed.

'Thank You'

Collection Sunday 7th January (Epiphany):- **£514.30**.
Crib Offerings:- **£115.40**.
South Sudan Appeal:- **£100.00**
(Running total **£804.30**).

Many thanks to all who contributed.

Sanctuary Lamp Bookings -

Red Lamp: *"Andy - B"*

Our Lady's Lamp: *"For Nanny Zoo"*.

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.

Please pray for all who have died *recently* — **Frances O'Connor** and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Tom Strange, Mary McDaid, David Dummigan, Mary Forshaw, Thomas Eccles, Thomas Smith, Ethel Pearson, Joan Waring, Laura Turner, Herbert Turner, Margaret Hosker, Martha Farrow, Nicholas Posting, Barbara Rigby, John Lenehan, Christine Airey, Alice Howard, Rosemary Marsden, Michael Cookson, Eric Simpson, Stanislaus Hodson, Florence Dransfield, Nan Battersby, Pauline Johnson, Josephine Fleming, Christine Battersby, Joan Hutchinson, Sister Carmela Wallace SCIM (Stella Matutina), Rosemary Turner-Melia, Ralph Roberts, Mary O'Reilly, Sr. Patricia O'Neill SHCJ, Frances E. Courtney. **May they rest in peace. Amen**

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

A reminder that if you or a relative are admitted to hospital and would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplain, it is necessary these days to specifically inform the Catholic Chaplain directly. Ring the Catholic Chaplain on 01253 956299** giving the person's name as recorded by the hospital and the ward. If the Chaplain is required urgently, please ask the ward staff to contact the **on-call RC Chaplain**.

***Please note that the telephone number above relates only to people admitted to Blackpool Vic. Quite a number of people are sent to The Royal Preston Hospital where it will be a different number, and if they go to Clifton Hospital.*

TODAY IS THE DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE