



*NEWSLETTER*  
ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
CLIFTON STREET, LYTHAM, FY8 5EP  
Parish Website [www.stpeterslytham.co.uk](http://www.stpeterslytham.co.uk)  
FOR



Sunday 22nd January 2023, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year 'A'  
Parish Priest: Rev Peter D. Clarke - 01253 737037  
Deacons: Rev Michael Harrison - 01253 730508 & Rev William Riley (Retired)

**Weekend 21st / 22nd January, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sat 21st 6:00pm St. Joseph's Golden Wedding Anniversary

Sun 22nd 9:15am St. Joseph's Richard Smith

**Sun 22nd 10:30am St. Peter's People of the Parishes**

**Mon 23rd 9am St. Peter's Brian Matthews followed by Confessions & Exposition till 10am**

2.45pm Lytham Crematorium Service for Maralyn Gilmour

3.30pm Lytham Crematorium Service for Christopher Norman

Tues 24th 10am St. Joseph's William & Mary Murray followed by Confessions & Exposition till 11am

**Wed 25th 9:00am St. Peter's Mary O'Reilly**

Thurs 26th 10.00am St. Joseph's Intentions of Clare Critch

**Weekend 28th / 29th January, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sat 28th 6.00pm St. Joseph's Samantha Rawstron

Sun 29th 9:15am St. Joseph's People of the Parishes

**Sun 29th 10:30am St. Peter's Ciro Buono**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition this week:**

**Mon 9:30 - 10am @ St. Peter's, Tues 10:30 - 11am @ St. Joseph's**

Confessions also available by arrangement with Fr. Peter. Tel: 737037.

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time A** - Just as Jesus called his first disciples by name, so he calls us personally and individually. We gather to celebrate the Eucharist because, like them, we want to receive him and to follow him.

**First Reading Isaiah 8:23-9:3** - The prophet Isaiah foretells of when the tribes of Israel would be released from the domination of the Assyrians.

**Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-13** - St Paul urges the Christians of Corinth not to fall into factions, but to be united in preaching the Good News of Christ crucified.

**Gospel Matthew 4:12-23** - St Matthew tells of how Jesus began his ministry with the call to repentance and faith in the closeness of God's kingdom. His first disciples left everything and followed him.

**MESSAGE FROM FR. PETER:** January seems almost like a little quite quiet break before we move on to February, with the start of our First Holy Communion Course as well as the beginning of Lent. All of our Sacramental Courses are some of the most hugely important gatherings in our parishes, and we are blessed with wonderful catechists, parents and teachers who week in and week out share the faith with our children (as did St. John Bosco, whose Feast is next week, and is patron saint of Young People in our Church). As forms become available for our children to be enrolled, let us pray for all our young people, and continue to strive to make our Churches welcoming places for all our families. We are also blessed to have people making the final preparations to be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday at the end of Lent. Talking of Lent, tickets for the Pancake Gathering are also available, an opportunity for a little get together, a pre-Lent treat and a bit of a laugh. *Why did the waffle not go to the Pancake Party? He was too square. I'll get my coat...*

**Wednesday January 25th is the Feast of The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle.** 'God grant before we die we all, May see the light, as did St. Paul.' That's a quote from the poet John Benjamin, as today we celebrate the Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle. I'm sure we are all familiar with the story of Saul of Tarsus, who, whilst on the road to Damascus, where he was journeying to persecute Christians, was stopped in his tracks by a blinding flash of light. He heard the words 'Saul, Saul! Why are you persecuting me?' bringing about his conversion, where he became the most fervent of Apostles to the Gentiles. His conversion is recorded throughout the New Testament by Paul himself, and today we marvel at God's wisdom and power in being able to turn around the life of a man who had approved of the killing of Saint Stephen, the first martyr, and who was willing to eventually give up his own life, after diligently and without fear, preaching and teaching the Gospel of Christ, who, he said he called him by name to be an Apostle. *"God our Heavenly Father, As today we honour the Conversion of St. Paul, We ask, through his preaching and teaching, And through the intercession of one who bowed his head to your will, That each of us may be filled with a spirit of repentance. That we may turn around our lives so as to live solely for you. We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen."*

**Pancake Celebration:** well Lent will soon be upon us, but before that we will be holding a **Pancake Evening in the Presbytery at SJ's on Tuesday 20th February, from 6pm - 8pm.** Pancakes will be ready from 6pm, with time to mingle and chit chat, with a quiz, raffle and children's game (the ancient Lancastrian art of Cheese Rolling) from 7pm. Tickets to gauge numbers and cover costs are available after Masses. **All welcome.**

**First Holy Communion:** our First Holy Communion Course will be starting towards the end of February, and to that end, if you have a child in Year 4 or above, and you would like them to prepare for this important stage in the sacramental life, please take and complete an Enrolment Form. Forms are now available before and after Masses at SJ's & SP's, and should be returned to Father Peter by the 5th February. Many thanks and looking forward to a lovely course.

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**TODAY there will be coffee after Mass in the Hall.**

**'Thank You'**

Collection Sunday 15th January: **£751.60.**  
Further donation - Diocesan Poor Missions: **£40.00.**  
SVP Sudan Baby Feeding Appeal: **£388.50\***  
\*Final Total : **£2045.50.**

**SVP Sudan Baby Feeding Appeal 2022**

The appeal closed last Sunday and the final total was a magnificent £2045.50. Your generous response at a time when everyone's finances are being hit by inflation has been quite overwhelming.

On behalf of some of the world's poorest people, a huge 'THANK YOU' for giving their babies and children the means of survival. This sum will now be sent off to the SVP.

"Then they also shall answer him, saying: Lord when did we see thee hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to thee ? Then he shall answer them, saying: Amen I say to you, as long as you did it not to one of these least, neither did you do it to me." *Matthew 25: 44-45 (Douay-Rheims)*

**The very essence of what it means to be a Christian !**  
God bless you for your kindness, Deacon Michael.

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**MESSAGE FROM ALISON CROFT**

We are looking to put together a social group within the parish to plan some future events. If you are interested in joining this group or would just like to contribute with some ideas for future events, either come along to our coffee morning after Mass on 29th January or contact **Alison Croft: 07732182051.** **Many thanks.**

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**FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:**

Please continue to pray for: Frank Loftus, Jennie Antoine, Anne Jones, Graham Bentley, Fred & Mary Wylie, Ruth Whiteside, Anne Smith, Kath Hywel-Buckley, Joe Ainsworth, John Lavelle, Margaret Fearn, Jean Bolton, Tony Bolton, Phoebe Rowlings, Patrick Gilligan, Robin Upton, Michael Golowicz, Brian Craig, Stephanie Wilson, and all those in the Hospice, Hospital, Rest Homes & Convents. **May God give them His healing grace.**

**Sanctuary Lamp Booking - Red Lamp**

*"Yvonne Gale"*

**Blue Lamp Our Lady - 'Phoebe'.**

To book email Sue on info@stpeterslytham.co.uk (or speak to her). Suggested **minimum** donation - £5 each lamp. Sue is taking bookings for this year.

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**Message from Chris McIndoe**  
**THE BIG LENT WALK**

CAFOD'S Lent walking challenge is back, and this year its the Big Lent Walk ! The challenge is to walk 200km over the 40 days of Lent. Every £1 raised will be used to fight extreme global poverty. If you would like to join St. Peter's Team, all contributions, big or small will be appreciated.

Please contact Christ McIndoe **07738 366336**

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**Please pray** for all who have died recently especially Maralyn Gilmour and Christopher Norman and those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:

Robert Lupton, Marie Brown, Mary Neall, Thomas Gill, John Boyle, Eric Jamieson, Clare Armer, John Wilding, Susan Hedley, Fergus Gerrard, Betty Parker, Robert Greaves, Nora Hynes, Joan Hobson, Charlotte Wilson, Fr. Tom Ward, Harold Cross, Edward Catterall Fr. Stephen Cross, Norman Mather, Robert Barton, Esme Stimpson, Maureen Isherwood, Ciro Buono, Eddie Hollis. **May they rest in peace. Amen.**

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**CRIB OFFERINGS**

The Bishop has asked that our Crib Offerings this year benefit the charity "Friends of the Holy Land" (FHL). FHL help the most deprived Christian Families, especially those living around Bethlehem, in Gaza, Israel and Jordan. With pilgrimages only slowly returning and little income for almost 3 years, many families in and around Bethlehem are increasingly calling on FHL for vital help. There are a lot of calls on our generosity at present, but please help these Christian families if you can.

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**Responsorial Psalm for 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*and the response is:*

**THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY HELP.**