



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



Sunday 29th January 2023, 4th 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 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*

Mon 30th 9am St. Peter's For Recovery of Tracey Copley Neil

followed by Confessions & Exposition till 10am

Tues 31st 10am St. Joseph's Michael J. Cross *followed by Confessions & Exposition till 11am*

Wed 1st February 9:00am St. Peter's Wilma Bealey

12:30pm St. Joseph's Funeral Service for Annie Vine

Thurs 2nd 10.00am St. Joseph's Doreen Lee

Fri 3rd 3pm *Lytham Crematorium Service for Brian Lenten*

Weekend 4th / 5th February, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 4th 6.00pm St. Joseph's Brian Delaney

Sun 5th 9:15am St. Joseph's People of the Parishes

Sun 5th 10:30am St. Peter's Alfred Harrison

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.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time A - Be still before God and wait patiently, for God will appear. Be happy with God, for God will come into your world and satisfy your hunger. Call upon God and God will answer you.

First Reading *Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13* - The Lord says he will guard and care for the humble.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:26-31* - Paul stresses how the Lord chooses those the world considers to be weak.

Gospel *Matthew 5:1-12* - The way of God is quite different from our way. He turns the world's values upside down.

MESSAGE FROM FR. PETER: When it was announced that I was coming to St. Joseph's and St. Peter's, a friend of mine from Brentwood Diocese, Fr. Phil, who is a keen bell-ringer and campanologist (which apparently are two separate things), texted me to say that I was the only Catholic Parish Priest in England with two working bell towers. And what a joy it is to hear the sounds of those bells every weekend. And over the past two weeks especially the bells have been wondrously rung. Last week at St. Joseph's a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung (in F sharp) to celebrate all the work of Richard Jones who is standing down as Tower Captain, having tirelessly organised the renovation and ringing of the bells, as well as training multitudes of people over the years. We thank him for his great ministry over the years, as he hands on his captains rope to James and Stacey Wormleighton. And this weekend at St. Peter's an extra special three hour peal was rung, dedicated to the People of the Parish, only the second time this particular peal has been rung in over one hundred years, led by the president of the Lancashire Association of Change Ringers. (I do hope I've got all the terminology correct here.) Let's ring a huge cheer for all our bell ringers, who remind people in the most glorious way of the presence of our Churches in this world. *Grant, O Lord, that the ringing of these bells may be to your honour and glory, and as we, through their music, send out a call to worship, may we also worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* And if you would like to join our teams in this important and enjoyable ministry have a word with them on Sunday mornings or pop up on their practise nights: Mon at SP's and Thurs at SJ's. *Last time I went up to the bell tower all I saw was a tiny Edam cheese at the top of a rope. It must have been a baby bell. I'll get my coat.*

Thursday February 2nd we celebrate 'Candlemas', the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, recalling the day when eight days old, Jesus was brought by his mother Mary and his foster-Father Joseph, to be 'presented' to the Lord, as recorded in chapter two of the Gospel of St. Luke. It was here that the Prophet Simeon proclaimed Jesus as 'The Light of the Gentiles'. It is on this day that we bless the Candles which will be used during our liturgical services throughout the year so that, as the prayer of blessing goes, 'we may reach that light which never fails'. Today marks the end of our 'extended' Christmastide, so if we have kept our cribs on view until today, as we have in Church, it's time to put them away until next year, as we wait a few short weeks until we begin the Season of Lent. We should remember that even at the Presentation of the Lord, the Passion of Christ, which we prepare to celebrate in Lent, is already referred to as Simeon

spoke of Jesus being 'a sign that is destined to be rejected' and how a sword of sorrow would pierce the soul of our Blessed Lady. *God our Heavenly Father, True Light and creator of Light, At the Presentation of your Son Jesus, He was proclaimed the Light to the Nations. May we live our lives bathed in his glorious light, And reflect that light to others in our words and deeds, That we may be worthy of being presented to You in Heaven, Through 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 21st 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.

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 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.

COFFEE IN THE HALL AFTER MASS TODAY
Please see Alison Croft's message below.

Tue: St. John Bosco, Priest (Memorial). Thur: The Presentation of the Lord Candlemas (Feast).
Fri: St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr & St. Ansgar, Bishop. (First Friday).

'Thank You'

Collection Sunday 22nd January: **£415.00.**
Envelopes via St. Joseph's: **£95.00.**
Many thanks to all who contributed.

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 the coffee morning after Mass **TODAY** or contact **Alison Croft: 07732182051. Many thanks.**

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.**

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.

Sanctuary Lamp Booking - Red Lamp

"Special Intention of Kristine Murray"

Blue Lamp Our Lady - "In Thanksgiving to Our Lady".

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.

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 Chris McIndoe **07738 366336**

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

Rev. Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue, 5th Bishop of Lancaster, Anne Warburton, Alicia Holroyd, Colin Tierney, David Lavelle, Joseph Tomlinson, Helga Neilson, Margaret E. Eccles, Gertrude Beesley, Caroline Butt, George Grady Betty Waring, Philomena Smith, Harry Forshaw, Molly Killiner, William Sergeant, Gerald Turner, Val George, Sr. Rosalie CP, Sr. Pauline CP, Anton & Gloria Denye, Wilma M. Bealey, Alice Walsh. **May they rest in peace. Amen.**

Responsorial Psalm for 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
and the response is:

**HOW HAPPY ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT;
THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.**