



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



Sunday 7th April 2024, 2nd Sunday of Easter - 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 6th / 7th April - 2nd Sunday of Easter (Day of Divine Mercy)**

Sat 6th 6pm St. Joseph's People of the Parishes  
 Sun 7th 9:15am St. Joseph's Mary, Arthur & Kathleen Horton

**Sun 7th 10:30am St. Peter's Olive Wood**

**Mon 8th 9am St. Peter's William Holland** followed by Exposition & Confessions till 10am  
 Tues 9th 10am St. Joseph's Gregory Leonard followed by Exposition & Confessions till 11am

**Wed 10th St. Peter's 9am William & Mary Murray**

Thurs 11th 7pm St. Joseph's Mr & Mrs North & Family

**Weekend 13th / 14th April - 3rd Sunday of Easter**

Sat 13th 6pm St. Joseph's People of the Parishes  
 Sun 14th 9.15am St. Joseph's Margaret Hammond

**Sun 14th 10:30am St. Peter's Ian Spedding Birthday Remembrance**

Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition this week:  
 Monday 9:30-10am at St. Peter's. Tues St. Joseph's 10:30-11am  
 Confession is also available by arrangement with Fr. Peter. Tel: 737037

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**This Week's Readings:** We come to a loving Father who understands our weaknesses and who calls us to trust him and hold to him even when it's easier to doubt.

**1st Reading Acts 4:32-35** - The first Christians were so filled with love and gratitude towards God that they were willing to share everything they had.

**2nd Reading 1 John 5:1-6** - The apostle reassures struggling Christians that by loving God they have the strength to love each other and remain faithful to God.

**Gospel: John 20:19-31** - The risen Jesus brings a message of peace to the frightened disciples, and a special reassurance to Thomas who struggled with doubt.

**Message from Fr. Peter:** This Monday we are celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord. Isn't that usually March 25<sup>th</sup> - exactly nine months before Christmas? Well, yes it is, but as that day was in Holy Week and couldn't be celebrated either then or in Easter week, it has been moved to the first available date - this week. When the Blessed Virgin Mary said 'yes' to the Angel Gabriel, the Word became Flesh, and dwelt in her womb for nine months. In the new missal the Church describes the Annunciation as the 'prologue' to the mysteries of Holy Week: the incarnation occurred so that we could be redeemed; the child conceived on this day was born to die for our sins and conquer death. Indeed, having been through Holy Week it's easy to look back and reflect on the events that took place thirty-three years earlier. We think of Mary meeting Jesus on the road to Calvary, and the prophecy of Simeon that a sword would pierce Mary's heart and the sorrows she would experience. We think about Jesus being taken down from the cross and placed in the arms of his mother, just as thirty-three years earlier she had held her new born son in her arms in the stable of Bethlehem. Because Mary said 'yes' to God she experienced the deepest of sorrows. But at the end of Holy Week, on Easter Sunday, she was to experience the greatest of all joys. And as her son was the first born from the dead, so, because of her swift and speedy response to the Angel, she would receive the first fruits of her son's resurrection when she was assumed body and soul into heaven. All because she said 'yes' to God at the Annunciation. Just as we went through the cross with Jesus to the resurrection, let us also journey with the sorrows, and the many, many joys of Mary, as she journeyed along life on this earth with her Son, till her Assumption. *Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.*

**A Continued Huge Thank You** to everyone involved with the wonderful services we have celebrated over Lent and Easter: our deacons, the altar servers and sacristy organisers, the readers and ministers and organizers; the choirs and instrumentalists; the flower people; the welcomers; the collectors; the children's and sacramental catechists, teachers and parents; the refreshment makers and social organisers; our Church Cleaners and those who prepared the Churches; and all those who keep the Parishes, the Churches, the House and grounds running; those who *have* supported me in my ministry here; and everyone who comes along throughout the year to ensure that our Paschal Candles are kept burning brightly. A very Happy Eastertide to all!

**'Thank You'**

Good Friday - Holy Places:- **£274.50.**  
 Standing Orders & online donations  
 received during March:- **£1376.00.**  
*Many thanks to all who contributed.*

**Congratulations to Wren, Isaac, Laura and Kelly,**

who were received into full communion with the Church at our Easter Vigil last weekend. May God grant them many blessings on their faith journey.

**FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY  
TODAY the 7th April**

This is a great feast and Jesus has promised "the soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion ( on that day ) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins".

Everyone wants to wipe their slate clean! Jesus said:  
*"I do not want to punish you for your sins  
but I want to heal your wounded heart".*

To gain the graces & blessings associated with this great feast, as promised by Jesus to St. Faustina, you need to:

- \* Go to Confession (*see note below*).
- \* Attend Mass and receive Holy Communion.
- \* Say the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3.00pm
- + **If you are unable to get to Confession, make an Act of Contrition ( see below ) with the intention to go back to the Sacrament as soon as possible.**
- + **If you are unable to attend Mass, make a Spiritual Holy Communion ( see below ) asking God to come into your heart, and again, having the intention of going to Holy Communion when possible.**

**How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition**

Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making your act of contrition: "My God, grant me perfect contrition for all my sins".

1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of a crucifix and say to yourself: "Jesus, my God and my Saviour, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins".
2. Contrition is 'perfect' if you repent of your sins because you love God and are sorry for offending Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have brought our Lord to His sufferings on the Cross. Promise him, that with His help, you will not sin again.
3. Recite, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focused on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: "O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you and by the help of your grace I will not sin again. Amen".
4. Make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as practically possible.

**How to make a Spiritual Communion**

Desire, with earnest longing, to receive our Lord present — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity — in the Blessed Sacrament. Say this prayer of St. Alphonsus de' Ligouri: "My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You are already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen. "

**Responsorial Psalm for**

**2nd Sunday of Easter** and the response is:

**"GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS  
GOOD, FOR HIS LOVE HAS NO END"**

**Sanctuary Lamp Booking - Red Lamp:**

*"Chris - Training for Ministry".*

**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.

**First Holy Communion 2024:** Sessions resume next Monday 15th at SJ's Hall at 6pm.  
Please keep our candidates in your prayers.

**Please pray** for all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Pope John Paul II, Veronica Slater, James Slater, Gerard Connolly, Ted Parker, Stan Fenton, Lucy Simpson, John Worden, Alfred Sinclair, John Smith, Hanneke Sharp, Bernard Craig, William Sinclair, Mary Nolan, Hilda Check, Bernard Costigan, Mary Hall, Pauline Noblet, William Holland, Richard Moss. **May they rest in peace. Amen.**

**Social Events**

**Message from Alison Croft**

**1.** Family Bingo 10th April here at St. Peter's. 6.30pm start, tickets available for £3 adult and £1 child, 6 games of bingo. Please could I call upon your generosity for some donations towards raffle prizes for our Bingo night - many thanks in advance.

BYOD (bring your own drinks!), there will be tea and coffee available on the night and we will run a raffle. All proceeds to be used towards Club Day for both parishes.

**Advance Notice:**

**2.** Race Night Friday 10th May - more details to follow.

**FrP's Saxophone Boat Challenge:** Well, apologies for my dodgy saxophone playing last week, but it does mean that you gave me the staggering sum of £3230 to go towards not one boat, but, as several people have come forward with some extra donations, we most definitely now have enough to get four boats, which is completely amazing when you think I was hoping to raise £850 for one. Huge huge thanks to everyone who donated, and I will give you some more information as to how the money is being used as time goes on. Many blessings to you all.

**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, "baby Isabelle", King Charles and the Princess of Wales, and all those in the Hospice, Hospital, Rest Homes & Convents. **May God give them His healing grace.**