NEWSLETTER.



ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CLIFTON STREET, LYTHAM, FY8 5EP

Parish Website www.stpeterslytham.co.uk



Sunday 21st January 2024, 3rd 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 20th / 21st January - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 20th 6pm 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

Mon 22nd 9am St. Peter's Margaret Fearn followed by Exposition & Confessions till 10am

Tues 23rd 12.30pm St. Joseph's Requiem Mass for Cliff Walsh

Wed 24th 9am St. Peter's Donor's Intention

Thurs 25th 10am St. Joseph's Intentions of Grace and Archie Hill 11am Stella Matutina Requiem Mass for Sr. Anne O'Connor

Fri 26th 11am St. Peter's Requiem Mass for Frances O'Connor Weekend 27th / 28th January - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 27th 6.00pm St. Joseph's William and Mary Murray Sun 28th 9.15am St. Joseph's Tony Waters

Sun 28th 10:30am St. Peter's Audrey McSherry

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

This Week's Readings: God calls us together to hear his word and to invite us to renew our discipleship. As we call on the Lord's name, let us renew our commitment to work for God's kingdom.

1st Reading Jonah 3:1-5, 10 - Reluctantly, Jonah finally agrees to deliver God's message of repentance to Nineveh, and the people respond.

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 - Paul encourages the people of Corinth to live in the knowledge that the kingdom of God is close at hand, so they should respond without delay.

Gospel: *Mark* **1:14-20** - In a very concentrated passage, we hear the core of Jesus' message and the beginning of Jesus' ministry, with the call of the disciples.

Message from Fr. Peter's SISTER (from Australia, who along with her husband and children are spending their summer holidays here in Lytham and Ansdell). I moved to Australia on April 2nd 2009, almost fifteen years ago. Since then many births and deaths on both sides of the world have given me both joys and sadness and a keen sense of how distance changes, but happily does not and cannot erase bonds of love and family. I left my brother and mother and became part of a (much larger) family I had only ever met on brief holidays. Coming home (England is still home) leads me to reflect on how the meaning of family and love develops. You remind yourself that people have long memories and experiences with you, and to quote my father, 'your heart just gets bigger'. Professionally I have worked with people forced into familial separation by war and poverty, and it makes me realise how, although the Clarke family spans the globe (our brother and his family have lived in Hong Kong for over thirty-five years) we have, as a gift from our parents, a strong bond of love and laughter which hasn't broken. We are also always made welcome by Peter's Parish 'Family', and being here for Christmas masses always brings me 'home'. At the end of the month I will return to Australia more fully 'me'. My family and colleagues down under always notice my sense of renewal (and retuned accent!) having had my top up of love from my extended Northern-Hemisphere family - which will see me through the Australian winter (yes, we do have one!) to my next visit.

This Week is Christian Unity Week: and at the 10.30am Mass at St. Peter's this Sunday we welcome members of the Churches in Lytham Group, formally Lytham Ecumenical Partnership, on the 40th anniversary of the original partnership and 25 years since St. Peter's joined. Let us echo the words of Jesus 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.' (John 17-20)

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.

'Thank You'

Collection Sunday 14th January:- £485.70. SPUC:- £144.30. Crib Offerings:- £52.30. South Sudan Appeal:- £65.00 (Running total 869.30). *Thank you for your generosity.*

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 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.

THIS APPEAL CLOSES NEXT SUNDAY, 28TH JANUARY 2024

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.

St. Vincent de Paul

Message from Teresa Mallabone

As a result of our coffee morning, and donations from BAE Systems and St. Bede's School, we were able to help 14 families in the St. Peter's Community with Hampers and Vouchers assisting them over the Christmas period.

We thank everyone for their generosity.

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.**

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

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

"LORD, MAKE ME KNOW YOUR WAYS"

Sanctuary Lamp Bookings -

Red Lamp: "Macie Mary Lilley-Richards"

S. "Tina - B"

Our Lady's Lamp: " $\mathcal{D}r\mathcal{S}.\mathcal{M}$ ".

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 - Cliff Walsh, Sr. Anne O'Connor & Frances O'Connor and those whose anniversaries occur at 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, Ralph Roberts, Frank Cottam, Esme Stimpson, Maureen Isherwood. May they rest in peace. Amen

FOOD BANK RETURNS FOR DECEMBER 2023 Totals:-

150kg food stuffs. £400 cash donations. Bags of Christmas Decorations.

The above donations were distributed between St. Cuthbert's Blackpool, Street life Blackpool, St. Peter's School Lytham and Dock Road Lytham.

I am certain that the contributions made by the parishioners of our parish of St. Peter's made some people's Christmas just that little bit better, which is a great thought.

Thanks everyone, Pete & Ellen Rickard.

Trinity Hospice Fund Raising:

St. Peter's and St. Joseph's Parishes have been long-time supporters of Trinity Hospice. Indeed a Hospice Fund 200 Club was run for over 30 years at St. Joseph's until Covid restrictions stopped this. In 2024 we plan to co-ordinate our support and launch a joint fundraising appeal in both parishes to run during the month of February. This will feature a 'Just Giving' page and bucket collections at the end of masses in both parishes for the first two weekends in February. More information will be provided next week. If anyone would like to volunteer with the Trinity collections, please contact Dennis Duignan on 07432602753.

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.