



# The Parish of St William *served by* the Churches of St John & St Patrick

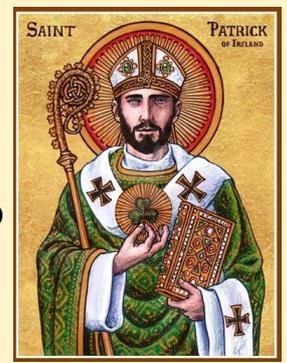
Parish Priest: Fr Ian O' Shea

Residing: St John's Presbytery, 13 Powell St, Wigan, WN1 1XD

Tel: 01942 247561

St Patrick's Postal Address: 67 Hardybutts, Wigan, WN1 3RZ

Email: stwilliam@rcaolp.co.uk Web: www.stwilliamparishwigan.org



## Sunday 31st January 2021 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Mark 1:21-28



### Diary for the week ahead including Mass Intentions

Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	<b>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Mass <b>St Patrick's</b> 9.15am Mass <b>St John's</b> 11.00am Confessions <b>St John's</b> 3.45-4.15pm Mass <b>St John's</b> 4.30pm Parish Rosary via Zoom 6.30pm	Peter Higham Betty Lloyd Parishioners
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	<b>4th Monday in Ordinary Time</b>	Mass <b>St John's</b> 8.30am	Marie Cusani (A)
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b>	Confessions <b>St Patrick's</b> 6.45-7.15pm Mass <b>St Patrick's</b> 7.30pm	Thomas O'Leary (A)
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	<b>Saint Blaise</b>	Mass <b>St John's</b> 10.00am	Brian Rignall
Thur 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>4th Thursday in Ordinary Time</b>	Mass <b>St Patrick's</b> 9.15am	Theresa Casey (LD)
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr</b>	Mass <b>St John's</b> 10.00am	Special Intention (BS)
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>Saint Paul Miki and his Companions, Martyrs</b>	Mass <b>St Patrick's</b> 9.15am	Thanksgiving
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Mass <b>St Patrick's</b> 9.15am Mass <b>St John's</b> 11.00am Confessions <b>St John's</b> 3.45-4.15pm Mass <b>St John's</b> 4.30pm Parish Rosary via Zoom 6.30pm	Mary Atherton (LD) Parishioners Carole Hart

**Please remember in your prayers our sick relatives and friends:** Paul Fairhurst, Karen Parry, A Sick Person, Michael Pitcher, Tim Moran, Michael Cunliffe, Arthur Harrison-Scott & Michael Nieland

**Please remember in your prayers all who have died recently:** Thomas Cullen, Rosalind Richardson, Theresa Casey —*May they Rest In Peace*

**Anniversaries: St John:** Marie Cusani, Thomas O'Leary

**Anniversaries: St Patrick:** Catherine Brown, Catherine Bennett, Paul Cunliffe. Thomas O'Leary

**Mass intentions received:** Marie Cusani (A), Theresa Casey (LD), Doris Barker (A), Fr James Lappin (A), Mary Anderson (LD), Thomas O'Leary (A), Teresa Casey (LD).

**TODAY IS RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY:** At the beginning of his public ministry Jesus outlines his Mission in the synagogue in Nazareth: *'He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour'*

His ministry was one of compassionate involvement, concern for the disadvantaged. Aware of obstacles, including those of the Law, which limited joy and fulfilment Jesus acted. He confronted, sometimes angrily, what undermined a person's dignity. The theme of Racial Justice Sunday 2021 is A Time to Act.

Racial issues and inequalities were identified nationally and internationally in 2020 generating awareness, emotion and outrage. In light of this Racial Justice Sunday 2021 is particularly significant. Action is needed to further the cause of racial justice. What can we do? In recent years Pope Francis has repeatedly used four verbs encouraging positive and direct action in relation to migrants and refugees, **'Welcome, Protect, Promote and Integrate'**. These same words are essential to advancing the cause of racial justice. None can be omitted, it is as necessary to have plans to Promote and Integrate as it is to Welcome.

*Bishops' Conference of England and Wales*

**WEEKLY PARISH ROSARY VIA ZOOM:** Using the free, downloadable platform 'Zoom', we will pray the Rosary each Sunday at 6.30pm, starting Sunday 31st January. A 'beginner's guide' to using Zoom is available so please don't be deterred from joining due to technology. If you would like to sign-up for this exciting new initiative, please send your email address to the Parish email (stwilliam@rcaolp.co.uk) and the information and link will be sent to you - all are welcome. It's not too late to sign up—you can join for any week.

**LENTEN SPIRITUAL READING:** Many people love the Narnia Chronicles by C.S. Lewis. He also wrote many books explaining and defending the Christian Faith. The Times Literary Supplement said: 'He has a quite unique power for making theology an attractive, exciting and fascinating quest.' 'Mere Christianity' is one of his books, in which he gives a clear and inspiring account of the beliefs that all Christians have in common. He wasn't a Catholic. There are things we would disagree about. But nonetheless this is a great book which would be an excellent preparation for Easter. If you would like Fr O'Shea to order you a copy, pop £8 in an envelope and hand it in as soon as possible. On the outside of the envelope please write your name and telephone number and indicate from which of our two churches you would like to collect your book when it arrives.

**REMOTE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT ST PATRICKS SCHOOL:** During this period of Remote Learning, Father O'Shea will lead a weekly Collective Worship for Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School. The children, who are currently learning remotely online, watch and listen to Fr's reflections and spiritual challenges at the start of each week. All children and families in the parish are warmly invited to watch and participate too. You can view last week's reflection on 'Holy Communion' on St Patrick's Facebook Page or via the school website.

**THANK YOU TO ST PATRICK'S RECEPTION CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:** As part of their current RE topic, the Reception children at Saint Patrick's Catholic Primary School have been learning about Fr O'Shea's role in our community. To thank Father for his work, they made and decorated cards and posted these through the presbytery door. There is a thank you video, from Father, on St Patrick's Facebook Page to those involved.

**ST PATRICK'S STEWARD'S ROTA:** The rota for Sunday Morning's 9:15am Mass is now available from Josh. Please take your copy.

**ST PATRICK'S '2020: YEAR IN REVIEW':** raised £175 for the Refurbishment Fund. Thank you for your support.

**THE DRAMA DISPLAYED: A JOURNEY OF SALVATION:** A free series of online talks offered by the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst. A range of excellent speakers will examine the key moments of salvation history, with the aid of great works of art. At 7:30pm every second Thursday:

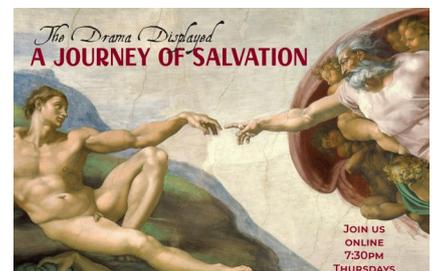
11th February—**A Great Love Song**—Fr John Hemer

25th February—**The Greatest Gift**—Dr Caroline Fairey

11th March—**Signs of Passion**—Pam Moon

25th March—**The Life to Come**—Sr Emanuela Edwards (of Wigan!)

See the poster on the 'news' page of our website: [www.stwilliamparishwigan.org/news.html#](http://www.stwilliamparishwigan.org/news.html#)



**KEEPING SAFE:** Social distancing guidelines must be observed at all times; follow the stewards' directions; wear your face covering CORRECTLY at all times; do not leave anything on the bench when you leave; move away from the church doors quickly after Mass. If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home and follow NHS instructions.

**Thank you for keeping our churches a very safe place to be!**



'St John's RC Church, Standishgate, Wigan'  
'St Patrick's Catholic Church, Wigan'

'St Patrick & St John Wigan'

