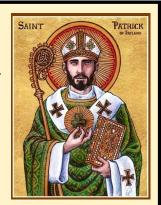


The Parish of St William served by the Churches of St John & St Patrick

Parish Priest: Fr Ian O' Shea Assistant Priest: Fr Hugh Donleavy Residing: St John's Presbytery, 13 Powell St, Wigan, WN1 1XD

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Sunday 31st March 2024 - Easter Sunday

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Victimae paschali laudes immolent Christiani. Wishing you all a Happy and Holy Easter! Fr O'Shea and Fr Hugh



J	Parish Diary	for the week ahead including Mass Intentions
Sun 31 March	Easter Sunday	Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am —Fr Ron McGivern (†B), followed by Coffee Morning in the Lappin Room Holy Mass St John's 11.00am —Birthday Thanksgiving, with Children's Liturgy Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm —Parishioners Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm
Mon 1 April	Easter Monday	Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —The Gaskell Family
Tue 2 April	Easter Tuesday	Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —Arun & Swany's Intentions Eucharistic Adoration St Patrick's 6.15-7.15pm Holy Mass St Patrick's 7.30pm —Elaine Harris (LD)
Wed 3 April	Easter Wednesday	Eucharistic Adoration St John's 8.45-9.45am Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —Christine Summers (A) Faith Refresher Course St John's Campbell Room 6.30pm Holy Mass St Patrick's 7.30pm —Edna Marshall (A)
Thur 4 April	Easter Thursday	Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am — Joseph & Mary Healy and Family St Patrick's Ladies Group The Lappin Room 7.30pm Traditional (Latin) Holy Mass St John's 7.30pm —Fr Barry McAllister (LD)
Fri 5 April	Easter Friday	Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —Harry Leyland (LD) First Friday Rosary St Patrick's Lappin Room 12.15pm Holy Mass St Patrick's 7.30pm —Kathleen Hopwood
Sat 6 April	Easter Saturday	Quarant'ore— Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins St. John's 6.00am and will continue until Sunday 10.00pm Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am — Michael & Mary Maye & Family First Saturday Rosary St John's 10.00am Holy Mass (Sunday Vigil) St John's 5.00pm—Benefactors of the Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund
Sun 7 April	2nd Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am —Darren Aspey Holy Mass St John's 11.00am —John Kehoe (LD), with Children's Liturgy Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm —Parishioners NB No Zoom Rosary today Night Prayer and Benediction St John's 9.30pm

CONFESSIONS: For ten minutes after each weekday Mass and at St John's from 3.45 - 4.15pm on Sundays.

BAPTISM: this Sunday is at St Patrick's -please pray for Billy Andrew Atkinson and his family.

<u>Please pray for those who are sick:</u> Fr Peter Hannah, Winifred Langin, Fr Johnson, Carol Green, Beatrice Taylor, Kevin Murphy, Shirley Leggett, Karen Leggett, Dorothy Hutson, Leanna Mason, Anne Lawson, Kathleen Burke, Caroline Vasquez, Sheila Parkinson, Anthony Rutter, Arthur Harrison-Scott, Celia Marshall, Albert Winstanley, Paul Fairhurst, Michael Pitcher.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Harry Leyland, John Kehoe RIP

ANNIVERSARIES: Christine Summers, Edna Marshall, Margaret Rimmer Margaret Heyes, James Thorpe, Joseph Hough, Anne Cafferty, Martha Lowe.

<u>MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED</u>: Harry Leyland (LD), Fr Barry McAllister (LD), Arun & Swany's Intentions, Christine Summers (A), John Kehoe (LD), Margaret Heyes, James Thorpe, Joseph Hough, Gerard Howe, Edna Marshall, Terry Dixon, Patrick & Mary Healy, Thomas & Margaret Maye & Family, Joseph & Mary Healy & Family, Michael & Jane McMahon & Family, Michael & Mary Maye.

QUARANT'ORE: begins on Saturday morning at 6.00am. This a wonderful opportunity to spend time with the Risen Lord. The Watching list is now at the back of St John's Church. Please sign up to spending time with the Lord. The time slots are broken into 30 minutes. It is important to make a note of your time slot.

ARCHBISHOP MALCOLM MCMAHON EASTER MESSAGE 2024: Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, As we start going out, and coming home in the light again, it usually means one thing; Easter is around the corner. As we leave Winter and enter Spring, we are also reminded of the new life that starts at this time of year. Whether that be the plants in your garden, the leaves on trees, or the caterpillars and butterflies that start showing their faces again. This time of year is an incredibly important one in our faith. We remind ourselves that Jesus Christ died for our sins, descended into Hell, and rose from the dead. It is a reminder that there is always hope, even in the depths of despair. When Jesus was betrayed by Judas and ultimately crucified on Good Friday, it felt like hope was lost. But on the third day, Christ rose from the depths of Hell and things were looking light again. It is a message we can all take into our everyday lives. When things are looking bleak, whether it be a personal issue, or a wider issue like conflict in Ukraine, Gaza and other parts of the world, a light can always be found. It's also important to remember the journey we have been on for the past 40 days for Lent. From Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday we have all tried to enrich our lives, by either giving up something that is bad for us, or adding something more positive, like praying into our everyday life. Whatever you have decided to do this year, I hope you had every success, and life is better for the choices you have made. May the light of Jesus Christ be present in you all, as we celebrate his resurrection. Yours in Christ, Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool FAITH REFRESHER COURSE: This Wednesday at 6.30pm at St John's Presbytery we'll meet to continue our discussion of Baptism, and Confirmation. All are welcome.

GRATEFUL THANKS: to Patrick McLoughlin from St Patrick's who has supplied and fitted handrails to the side door of St John's presbytery —you will be remembered in our prayers for keeping us all safe!

ST MARY'S: Sunday 7th April, 10.30am Mass: Traditional Rite – Usus Antiquior, then 12.30pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy & Benediction. Tea & coffee in the Presbytery and a chance to meet and chat before the Devotions. There is a meeting on Wednesday 3rd April at 6.00pm in St Mary's Presbytery for friends willing to help. All most welcome. **A THANKSGIVING MASS**: is being celebrated at St Mary's (in English) for the Ministry of Father John Johnson and for the Parish, on Saturday 6th April at 12noon. All Welcome, refreshments in the Parish Centre after Mass.

PRIVATE PRAYER AT ST PATRICKS: the Porch at St Patrick's, will be closed this week; but will re-open Monday 8th April at 8:30am. WIGAN & LEIGH HOSPICE TALK: On Wednesday, May 1st, at 2.00pm Chris Swinton from Wigan & Leigh Hospice will be giving a talk in St John's Campbell Room about 'The Hospice – Its Ideals and Work'. We hope to present him on that occasion with a generous cheque for the Hospice, dependent as it is on charitable gifts. Donations can be popped through the letterbox at St John's. Please make cheques payable to: 'Wigan & Leigh Hospice.' Thank you.

MANY THANKS: to all those who have work so hard throughout the Season of Lent, Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum. Our churches look beautiful and the liturgy has been spectacular. Thanks also to Jennifer who raised £145 towards flowers at St John's. ST PATRICK'S EASTER HAMPER WINNERS: Thank you to those who supported, prepared, ran and contributed to the Raffle. A wonderful £235 was generated for Restoration Funds. 1st Prize: Yellow 441-445; 2nd Prize: Green 141-145; 3rd Prize: Pink 851-855; 4th Prize: Blue 881-885. Please see the ladies at the back of the church to claim.

FR RON MCGIVERN RIP: Wednesday 27th March would have been Fr Ron's Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination (Ordained in 1999, at St Mary's, by Archbishop Patrick Kelly). This Sunday, 31st March, would have also been his 90th Birthday. We give thanks to God for Fr Ron's long ministry and service in Wigan. Please hold him in prayer.

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER: please note that items for the newsletter should be emailed to news_items20@aol.com by Thursday 8pm at the latest. Thank you

Dates for your diary		
Thursday 11th April 7.00pm	St Patrick's Mens' Group meeting in the Lappin Room. All men welcome.	
Tuesday 16th April 6.00pm	Planning meeting for the Jubilee Year in the Campbell Room at St John's	
Saturday 20th April 10am-2pm	Removal Morning and Church Cleaning at St Patricks. All help welcome!	
Saturday 20th April 7.30pm	Wigan Choral Society present Faure's Requiem and Rutter's Requiem (with Orchestra) £10	
Sunday 21st April 12 noon	SVP Meeting—St John's Campbell Meeting after 11.00am Mass	
Wednesday 1st May 2.00pm	Talk: 'The Hospice—Its work and Ideals' by Chris Swinton St John's Campbell Room	
Saturday 11th May 10.30am	St Mary and St John's First Holy Communion Mass at St John's	
Sunday 12th May	May Procession and Crowning of Our Lady at the end of the 11.00am Mass at St John's	
Saturday 18th May 10.00am	St Patrick's First Holy Communion Mass at St Patrick's	
Friday 24th May 1.45pm	Procession of Our Lady's Statue , Banners and Children's Artwork from St Patrick's Primary School into Church, followed by 2pm Crowning Service.	
Friday 31st May 2024	Day Walk to Ladyewell from St John's Church. Holy Mass on arrival. More details soon	
Sunday 2nd June 5.00pm	Trip to Opera by Candlelight at St George's Hall, Liverpool (see Ruth for details)	
Saturday 8th June 10.00am	St William's First Holy Communion Mass at St Patrick's Church	
Saturday 13th July	The Priestly Ordination of Martin Fyles at the Metropolitan Cathedral. Save the date.	