

The Parish of St William *served by* the Churches of St Mary, 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

Tel: 01942 247561

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

St Mary's Postal Address: St Mary's, Standishgate, Wigan WN1 1LX

email: stwilliam@rcaol.org.uk web: www.stwilliamparishwigan.org



Wigan Family of Parishes:

St William Parish
(St Mary, St John & St Patrick Churches)

Fr Ian O'Shea, Fr Hugh Donleavy

St Edward the Confessor Parish
(Sacred Heart & St Cuthbert Churches)

Fr Giorgio Miles

Deacons: Rev Anil Lukose

& Rev Mick Moffatt

St Jude Parish

St Aidan Parish

Fr John Causey

Deacon: Rev Jim Cardy

Becoming the Church God is calling us to be...

LIVERPOOL RC ARCHDIOCESAN TRUSTEES INC.
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 232709

Sunday 12th January 2025 – The Baptism of the Lord (C)

THE NEW MISSAL: Mass p.139-144

Parish Diary for the week ahead including Mass Intentions

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| Sun 12 Jan | The Baptism of the Lord | Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am — William Charnock—taking down Christmas Decorations and Crib after Mass Holy Mass St John's 11.00am —Charles & Margaret Collier, followed by Coffee Morning in the Campbell Room Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm —Parishioners Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm |
| Mon 13 Jan | <i>St Hilary, Bishop, Doctor</i> | Holy Mass St John's 10.00am - Victor Manuel Rodriguez Perez (LD) Funeral Service St Patrick's 12 noon for Kevin Fairhurst RIP Taking down Christmas Decorations and Crib St John's 6.30pm |
| Tue 14 Jan | <i>St Kentigern (Mungo), Bishop</i> | Eucharistic Adoration St Patrick's 6.15-7.15pm Holy Mass St Patrick's 7.30pm —Pat Pitcher |
| Wed 15 Jan | <i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i> | Eucharistic Adoration St John's 8.45-9.45am Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —Arthur Leggett & All the Faithful Departed Keep in Touch (tea and chat) St Mary's Presbytery 1.30-3.00pm |
| Thur 16 Jan | <i>Week 1 in Ordinary Time</i> | Holy Mass (with Y3 SP) St Patrick's 9.15am —Mary Leonard & Thomas McGann Funeral Service St Patrick's 2.00pm for Bernard McGurrian RIP |
| Fri 17 Jan | <i>St Antony, Abbot</i> | Year 5 Stay & Pray in Junior Hall St Patrick's 9.05-9.15am Holy Mass (with Y6 SMSJ) St John's 10.00am —Mr M J Abraham |
| Sat 18 Jan | <i>Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin</i> | Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am —Andrew Drysdale Holy Mass (Sunday Vigil) St Mary's 5.00pm —John & Lilian Glass |
| Sun 19 Jan | 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Holy Mass St Mary's 9.00am Edward Ackers Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am — Gerard Howe Holy Mass with Children's Liturgy St John's 11.00am —Graham Slater (b/day) Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm —Parishioners Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm |

(A) - anniversary
(LD) - lately dead

CONFESSION: For 10 mins. after each weekday Mass; St Mary's 4.15-4.45pm on Saturday and St John's 3.45pm-4.15pm on Sunday

PRIVATE PRAYER: St Mary's is open during the day—10.30am -5.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 10.00am – 4.00pm on Thursday; 2.00-6.00pm on Saturday and until Midday on Sunday. **St Patrick's Porch** is open during the week—8.30-3.30pm.

Please pray for those who are sick: Heidi Connelly, Eileen Hillinshead, Ann Stridgeon, David Collins, Paul Collins, Beatrice Taylor, Anne Davies, Angela Parkinson, Lisa Burke, Doreen Edwards, Margaret Connelly, Margaret Ashall; Wendy Leggett, Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, Winifred Langin, Carol Green, Shirley Leggett, Karen Leggett, Dorothy Hutson, Leanna Mason, Anne Lawson, Kathleen Burke, Anthony Rutter, Albert Winstanley, Celia Marshall, Paul Fairhurst, Michael Pitcher.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Monica Jones, Anthony Hayes, Mapnha Anmntpoba, John (Jacky) Parkinson RIP

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Holmes, Mabel Leigh, William Marrow, Vince Sayer, Catherine Connor, Veronica Howarth, Thomas Collier, Marian Melia, Thomas McHugh, Catherine Hough, Joseph Grady, James Pyke, Alex Jordan, James Green, James Lowe, Sean O'Donnell, Teresa Ormrod, Moreen White.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED: Agnes Pendlebury (A), Marie Cusani (A), Vince, Joan & Andrew Sayer (A), Monica Jones (LD)



A Message From Fr O'Shea...

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you so much for all your kind words, cards and gifts over the last week. Thanks too to those who organised Friday evening's celebration at Whelley Ex-Servicemen's Club and to all those who came along, especially considering the treacherous weather conditions we've had in the last few days. It was a great evening. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

As I leave the parish, I take with me many happy memories. The past seven years have certainly been eventful. When I arrived, St Patrick's had just escaped closure, thanks be to God. Then we had the bicentenary year of St John's and St Mary's. That was followed by the Covid epidemic! Will we ever forget seeing our churches all marked out with yellow and black tape, as though they were a crime scene? I will always remember our wonderful pilgrimages, to Rome, Lourdes, Walsingham, Ladywell, Holywell and York, as well as many other social events, concerts, processions, parish feast day celebrations and times of prayer. We've had the ongoing saga of St Patrick's roof, which at last is going to be repaired. And we've had a Coronation!

This last year was particularly blessed with the arrival of Fr Hugh. It's great to see him so happy in the parish, and I know you are all very glad that he is here. On a personal note, I would like to thank him for what has been a very happy year. Since his arrival, the presbytery has felt more like a home. Fr Hugh, of course will be staying and next weekend Fr Paul will arrive. I wish him all the very best and many fruitful years in the parish.

Friday evening was really a joyful celebration of St William's Parish. I hope you all feel that the parish is one great family. I certainly do. Can I thank you for all that you have done over the years, for your support, encouragement, and your affection? It has been a privilege to be your Parish Priest.

God bless you.

Father O'Shea

AN INVITE TO A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY: You are invited to contribute to the process (of appointing a new Archbishop) to have your voice heard. There will be two meetings, held with the blessing of Archbishop Malcolm, this:

- Thursday 16th January 2025 at St Mary's Leyland, PR25 1PD (7.00pm – 9.30pm) and
- Saturday 18th Jan 2025 at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, L17 1AA (10.30am - 1.00pm)

Each gathering will be the same – so only come to one of them. There will be two parts to the meeting: Firstly, we will begin by looking at where we are as a diocese and our future development and secondly we will consider the qualities needed in our future Archbishop.

This is open to everyone here in the Archdiocese. To reserve a place at one of the meetings please fill in the online form in the link below: bit.ly/ASCMeetingAOL For more information speak to Chris Higgins or email him at: c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP ENGAGED COUPLES TO PREPARE FOR MARRIAGE? The Archdiocese is now recruiting and training volunteer facilitators to join the marriage preparation team. The facilitator training will be held at St Helen's Church, Alexandra Road, Crosby L23 7TQ and consists of 5 sessions: Monday 27 January 2025 (7.00pm – 8.30pm), Monday 3 February, Monday 10 February, Monday 17 February and Saturday 1 March 2025 (10.00am – 2.00pm)

This new team will be asked to offer marriage preparation course for couples twice in 2025. If this is something you are interested in, please contact m.mui@rcaol.org.uk.

"A MOTHER'S FORGIVENESS": Peace Sunday Mass followed by Gee Walker talk 19th January 2025, 11am (talk at 1.15pm) Metropolitan Cathedral. After Mass at the Cathedral, join Gee Walker who will talk about the murder of her son Anthony, forgiveness, reconciliation and justice. This is a partnership event by Pax Christi and the Liverpool Justice and Peace Commission.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MASS: Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate the Marriage and Family Life Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King (L3 5TQ) on **Sunday 9 February 2025 at 11.00am**. For more information, please contact Moses at: m.mui@rcaol.org.uk.

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL: Received the Ofsted Inspection call on Monday (their first day back after Christmas!). This occurred on Tuesday and Wednesday; with Father O'Shea opening and closing the Inspection in prayer. Mrs Hobden, Head Teacher, wishes to thank parishioners who sent best wishes and prayers. The full report will be published early next month and copies will be available at the back of the Church for you to read.

LENTEN RETREAT AT AMPLEFORTH: Those wishing to take part in our parish retreat please attend a short meeting on Monday 20th January at 6.30pm in the Campbell Room at St John's. The date of the retreat is Monday 7th April to Thursday 10th April. The cost is £285. More information from Chris (07712552410).

| Important future dates for your diary... | |
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| Thursday 16th January 7.00pm | Meeting about appointment of new Archbishop at St Mary's Leyland |
| Saturday 18th January 10.30am | Meeting about appointment of new Archbishop at SMCC (formerly LACE) |
| Tuesday 18th February 7.00pm | Celebratory Mass , at the Metropolitan Cathedral, followed by drinks reception celebrating the miraculous cure of Liverpool man, Jack Traynor, in Lourdes. More info next week... |
| Friday 14th March 7.00pm | St Patrick's Day Celebration Whelley Ex Servicemen's Club |
| Thursday 10th April | 4 day retreat at Ampleforth (see above) |
| Thursday 24th—31st July | Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes (tbc) more details next week |

PLEASE NOTE that items for the newsletter should be emailed to news_items20@aol.com by Thursday 8pm at the latest.