

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

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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 5th January 2025 – The Epiphany of the Lord (C)

THE NEW MISSAL: Vigil Mas p.121-125, Day Mass p.125-128

Parish Diary for the week ahead including Mass Intentions

Sun 5 Jan	The Epiphany of the Lord	Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am — Martin, Kathleen & Michael Gannon Holy Mass St John's 11.00am —Jim & Pat Green, with Children's Liturgy Holy Mass St John's 4.30pm —Parishioners Parish Zoom Rosary 6.30pm
Mon 6 Jan	<i>Monday after Epiphany</i>	Holy Mass St John's 10.00am - The Homeless & Lonely
Tue 7 Jan	<i>Tuesday after Epiphany</i>	Church Cleaning St Mary's 9.00am Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —the Intentions of the Parish Clergy Eucharistic Adoration St Patrick's 6.15-7.15pm Holy Mass St Patrick's 7.30pm —Thomas & Mary Collier
Wed 8 Jan	<i>Wednesday after Epiphany</i>	Eucharistic Adoration St John's 8.45-9.45am Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —James O'Shea (A) Holy Mass St Patrick's 7.30pm —Patrick & Sean O'Donnell
Thur 9 Jan	<i>Thursday after Epiphany</i>	School Thanksgiving Mass for Fr O'Shea St Patrick's 9.30am —Private Intention Funeral Service St Patrick's 11.00am for Brian Dalton Traditional Mass (Latin) St John's 7.30pm —Brian Rignall
Fri 10 Jan	<i>Friday after Epiphany</i>	Year 6 Stay & Pray in Junior Hall St Patrick's 9.05-9.15am Holy Mass St John's 10.00am —Peter Mallin (A) Holy Mass St Patrick's 12.00 noon —Michael Timothy (LD) Fr O'Shea's Farewell Celebration at Whelley Ex-Servicememan's Club 7.00pm
Sat 11 Jan	<i>Saturday after Epiphany</i>	Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am —Angela Gibson Holy Mass (Sunday Vigil) St Mary's 5.00pm —Heidi Connelly (sick)
Sun 12 Jan	The Baptism of the Lord	Holy Mass St Patrick's 9.15am — William Charnock Holy Mass St John's 11.00am —Charles & Margaret Collier, followed by Coffee Morning 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: John (Jacky) Parkison RIP

ANNIVERSARIES: James O'Shea, Peter Mallin, Marie Forshaw, Frank Johnson, Bridget Powell, Thomas Bennett, Mary Ann King, Brendan King, Samuel Heron, Mary Heron, Robert Moran, Elizabeth Moran, Edwin Fairhurst, Marion Allen, Margaret Casey.

MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED: John & Lilian Glass, Edward Ackers, Fr Mark Ackers, Jane Ackers, Andrew & Marie White, Ernest Bradbury, Peter Mallin (A), Susan Jamieson (Successful Operation), Mr M.J. Abraham (A), Annamma, Arun & Swany's Intentions, The Holy Souls, Anne & Cornelius Bellett, Gerard Howe, Jim McLoughlin, Kevin & Sean McLoughlin, John & Margaret Moreton, Kate, Joseph & Joseph Francis Clarke, John Robert & Mary Ann Thomas, Connie Burrows, Brian Pagett, Winifred Langin, Dec'd members of the Cott family, Intention of Betty Whyte, Andrew Drysdale, Jane Heaton.

Dear Parishioners,

We hope you all had a wonderful celebration of Christmas last week and were able to rest a little after the feast. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this Christmas so memorable: Those who decorated the churches so beautifully, our choirs and organists who truly enriched the celebration of the liturgy (as they do throughout the year), our faithful altar servers, readers and Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist. Thanks too to those who organised the St John's Day meal at Papa Luigi's. What a great, family atmosphere. Long may the tradition continue.

Both of us would like to thank you all for your cards and incredibly generous Christmas gifts. We think a diet might be in order for the rest of January! God bless you and all those whom you love, on this Feast of the Epiphany.

'A happy new year!' from Fr O'Shea and Fr Hugh.

AN INVITE TO A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY:

"A Bishop's task is to preside over a local Church as a visible principle of unity within it and a bond of communion with all the Churches." (69) "This is why the Assembly desires that the People of God have a greater voice in choosing Bishops."

The Vatican Synod clearly says that in the appointment of bishops the voice of synodal bodies must be heard. As you know, the process is underway for the appointment of a new Archbishop of Liverpool. You are invited to contribute to this process to have your voice heard. This is an exciting development in the life of the Church! There will be two meetings, held with the blessing of Archbishop Malcolm, on:

- 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

FATHER O'SHEA'S FAREWELL CELEBRATION EVENING: This weekend is the final opportunity to purchase tickets for Friday's Celebration Evening. Doors will open at 7pm at Whelley Ex-Servicemen's Club. There will be live music, a DJ, hot food and a raffle; with a few surprises included too! All are welcome to say 'Thank You and Farewell' as Father O'Shea prepares to move on after seven years here in Wigan. If you would like to purchase tickets in the week, collection can be arranged from St Patrick's Presbytery. Please contact Josh: 07713520717.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION BADGE COMPETITION: Following the success of last year's holy communion badge competition, we are pleased to announce that the **closing date** for this year's competition will be **Monday 27 January 2025**. It is an opportunity for children making their holy communion to design a special badge that will be given out to every child who participates in this sacrament next year. If you are a teacher or a catechist or a parent, please click here for more details: <https://tinyurl.com/FHCBadges>, or email badges@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.

LIVE SIMPLY GROUPS – NETWORK EVENT: **How to influence decision makers: Advocacy Training 25th January 2025, St Anne's Parish Centre, Ormskirk** This is an in-person training event being run by Hope for the Future and CAFOD about how to make systemic change by influencing political decision makers. It is also a chance for Live Simply groups to come together and share their experiences and plans for the new year. Please contact p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk to register.

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 ADVENT RAFFLE WINNERS: 1st Prize: Orange Ticket 591-595; 2nd Prize: Blue Ticket 711-715; 3rd Prize: Pink Ticket 876-880; 4th Prize: Orange Ticket 266-270; 5th Prize: Blue Ticket 526-530; 6th Prize: Pink Ticket 771-775; 7th Prize: Orange Ticket 401-405. Well done to all the winners - prizes can now be claimed from the Repository. Thank you to everybody who supported the Raffle, sold the tickets and donated the prizes. A final total will be published next week.

ST PATRICK'S 200 CLUB CHRISTMAS WINNERS: 22nd December - Number 6: Josh Marshall. Christmas Bonus Ball Winners: Number 46 - Angela Tennant; Number 5 - Mark Dobson; Number 147 - St Patrick's Primary School's Kitchen Staff and Number 98 - John Unsworth. Please see Jackie to collect your winnings. All new members welcome - you have to be in it, to win it!

ST PATRICK'S LADIES' GROUP: Please note there will be no meeting in January. Our next Meeting will be on Thursday, 6th February, at 12:30pm in the Lappin Room. Lunch is included. Subs are £2 and payable on the door. All ladies welcome!