



Our Lady of Compassion Formby

School Lane, Formby, L37 3LW

Served by the churches of Our Lady of Compassion, St. Jerome and St. Anne
Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees In. Reg. Charity No. 232709

18th July 2021 - Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Parish Priest: Rev. Mgr. John M Walsh.
Deacons: Rev. J P Moreland and Rev. J A McCarthy

| Day | Time | Location |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Saturday 17th July 2021 | 6:00pm | St Jerome's, Greenloons Drive |
| Sunday 18th July 2021 | 9:00am | Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane |
| | 11:00am | Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane |
| Monday 19th July 2021 | 10:00am | Requiem Mass - Anne FAULKNER - OLOC |
| Wednesday 21st July 2021 | 11:00am | Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane |
| | Please note change of time | |
| Wednesday 21st July 2021 | 1:00pm | Nuptial Service - Amanda WELSH/Philip HARRIS Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane |
| Friday 23rd July 2021 | 1:00pm | Nuptial Mass - Hannah KNEALE/Kean WHITEHEAD Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane |

COVID UPDATE:- Please see Fr. John's letter at the end of this newsletter

MEETING FOR ST. ANNE'S PARISHIONERS
Fr. John would like to invite all members of St. Anne's Parish to a meeting on **THURSDAY AUGUST 5th at 7.30pm at ST JEROME'S PARISH CENTRE**. The purpose of the meeting is to consult further about the future of St. Anne's Church. The meeting will be attended by Fr. Philip Inch of the Archdiocese. **Please note that the meeting is for parishioners of St. Anne's Parish only.**

Please pray for the lately Dead including; Deacon Paul COLLINS, Francis SPALL, Anne FAULKNER and David PIERCE and pray for all of their families.

And let us pray for those who are sick including Ann LONG and Ged CUNNINGHAM

Thoughts of Pope Francis:- Like Jesus's fellow villagers, we risk not recognising him. An abstract and distant god who doesn't get himself involved in situations is more comfortable. God incarnated Himself: humble, tender, hidden, drawing near to us, living the normality of our daily life.

Jesus invites us to have eyes and hearts free of prejudices and open to be amazed at God's surprises, at His humble and hidden presence in daily life.

If any parishioner needs Father John for any reason whatsoever, particularly if someone is **sick or dying** and needs **Sacraments**, please call **07783354250**. If the phone is not answered, please leave a **clear message** indicating your **name, the reason** for your call and a **contact number**. If no message is left, then Father John does not know that you have called. You can also call the **parish office on 01704873230** again leaving name, contact number and reason for call. The answering machine is checked every day. Also, you can use the parish email:- **ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk**

PARISH NOTICES

Our Lady of Compassion Prayer Group:- Did you know that our new parish has a prayer group that meets on Friday mornings online over 'Zoom'. If you would like to join the group, please contact Andrea Dell on 07342692957

Lourdes at Home 2021:- The Liverpool Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes was due to take place during the week 25-30 July 2021 but was cancelled due to the pandemic.

The organisers have instead arranged a **Lourdes at Home Pilgrimage Programme** to take place **from Sunday 25 July to Friday 30 July.**

Archbishop Malcolm will celebrate the opening Mass in the Metropolitan Cathedral at 3.00 pm on Sunday 25 July and the pilgrimage will conclude with a picnic followed by the Rosary and Torchlight Marian Procession in Our Lady's prayer garden, Southport Road, Lydiate from 6.00 pm on Friday 30 July.

There will be two celebrations each day during the week at venues across the archdiocese which people will be able to attend.

The full programme is available at [https://mcusercontent.com/cd5141bd5911a5777f769fc94/files/34990a49-a081-2b66-904a-a90673d2228e/Lourdes at Home 2021.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/cd5141bd5911a5777f769fc94/files/34990a49-a081-2b66-904a-a90673d2228e/Lourdes%20at%20Home%202021.pdf).

Ordination of Bishop:- The Archbishop of Liverpool announced on Tuesday 6 July 2021 that His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed Canon Thomas Neylon of the Archdiocese of Liverpool to be Bishop of Plestia and Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool.

The Archbishop has confirmed that he will ordain Canon Neylon as Bishop on Friday 3 September at 12noon in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King.

There will be unreserved seats in the Cathedral for people who wish to attend, and whilst tickets are not being issued, it would be helpful if anyone intending to celebrate this special occasion and will be attending the Mass should be advised to register their interest by emailing c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

We would ask that you are in your seats by 11.30am.

Please note that parking will be restricted at the Cathedral.

We look forward to this great occasion in the history of our Archdiocese.

Churches Together:- Please pray for the work of the new Formby Food Pantry which has now launched. This partnership of Churches Together with Compassion Acts works with people who may be on a tight budget providing subsidised grocery delivery along with money advice and support if needed. The pantry meets on a Monday morning 10-12 at The Workshop at Holy Trinity. To find out more about becoming a member or supporting this work visit:

www.compassionacts.uk/formbypantry

Formby Food Pantry Support

If you shop at Tesco you can help tackle food poverty locally by using your token at the checkout to vote for the Formby Food Pantry. It could result in up to £1500 donation for local families in need through the Food pantry set up by Churches Together and Compassion Acts. The vote is open now until end of September. Thank you for all your support and prayers.

Letter re Requiem – Rev Deacon Paul Collins:- Mary, Celia and Margaret would like to express their thanks to the members of Our Lady of Compassion Parish for their overwhelming support in our request that dad's funeral was to be a small family affair with specially invited friends only.

It meant a great deal that our wishes were recognised.

Those of you who watched via the Live Stream link will have seen what a very special occasion it was, and what a wonderful dignified requiem took place befitting the life of a Deacon and family man.

We would like to thank everyone for their cards, Mass cards and messages of sympathy which have been a great consolation to us all at this difficult time.

Mary, Celia and Margaret

Fr. John's letter

Dear Friends,

As you know, the Government has decided to lift most restrictions, this coming Monday, that were imposed at the beginning of the pandemic almost 18 months ago. The Archdiocese has just issued its guidance to Parish Priests about the way forward for our churches and how our worship will be organised. I have asked that the full text of the guidance letter be printed and attached to the newsletter this weekend, so that you can read it for yourselves. The main points are as follows;

Face coverings will remain mandatory for all attending Mass and liturgical celebrations in our churches.

You are asked to continue to use hand gel when you enter the church.

You may enter and exit the church through either of the two entrances at Our Lady's and St. Jerome's.

Track and trace is ended. The practice of cleaning the benches after Masses is ended.

We will continue to ventilate the church as best we can, whilst minimising discomfort.

All social distancing will be removed. Stickers on benches, signs and notices inside and outside the church will be removed. Access to all the benches will be restored and permanent seating in the transepts will be restored. You may sit wherever you wish.

The Sunday collection will still take place by leaving your offerings in the baskets as you leave church. We are not permitted to pass the bags around.

Holy Communion will be restored to its traditional place. You may approach the Altar as usual to receive communion, bench by bench.

The Sign of Peace is restored, but only by acknowledging one another, no physical contact will be possible.

If it has been your previous practice to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, you may now do so.

Holy Communion from the chalice will not be offered for the foreseeable future.

Singing is now permitted and the use of hymn books is permitted. Exactly how we can sing with face coverings is yet to be clarified!

Weddings and funerals may now be attended up to the full capacity of the church.

The most obvious change will be the end of the service of our stewards. I cannot find the words to thank each and every steward who has served Our Lady's Church and St. Jerome's Church over the past year. Only because of their generous and selfless service have we been able to have Masses, funerals and weddings. To each and every one of you, I want to say on behalf of us all THANK YOU!

We will now reintroduce, and build on, the ministry of Welcome. The welcomers will be on hand to welcome, guide and reassure.

These changes will first be seen at our parish Mass next Wednesday at 12 Noon. It will take some time for all of us to get used to a more normal experience of Mass. The diocese has promised further guidance in the weeks ahead. During this time, I will be providing more information about the increase and timings of our daily Masses and the arrangements for our groups to meet together. The School holidays are about to begin and people will be going away to enjoy some kind of break and rest. All our new arrangements will be in place by the beginning of September. Please keep an eye on the parish newsletter and listen out for announcements as things begin to happen.

A final word. We all know that this pandemic is not over. Far from it. We have all heard the warnings and concerns of many in the medical and scientific communities. The coming winter is causing concern. Nevertheless, it has been decided that now is the best time to open up and move towards normality. We will certainly play our part. We all want normal times to return. However, I ask that we remain sensitive to one another. Some remain anxious and concerned. It is not possible to have a 'big bang' return to normality. It will be gradual, but the changes will be immediately noticeable.

We have been asked to be cautious. It seems perfectly reasonable to be so. The coming months may be challenging and the guidance may be altered at any time. However, let us be thankful that we have arrived at this point, praying for those who are sick with COVID, those suffering from the lasting effects of the virus and those who have died because of the virus. We remember them all. Now let us enjoy our new found freedoms and look forward to brighter days.

God bless you,

Fr. John

Dear Father,

Monday July 19th 2021
Advice to parishes in the Archdiocese of Liverpool

Due to the fact that the pandemic is far from over it is not the intention to restore an obligation to the attendance at Sunday Mass at this point.

People should be reminded of the importance of keeping Sunday holy and if possible attending Mass weekly.

In preparation for the legal changes to Covid regulations that will come in to force on Monday July 19th this is what is being offered as the way forward for each parish in the Archdiocese.

1. Face coverings will remain mandatory for all those coming to a church service. (Exemptions for medical reasons excluded.)
2. Social distancing will not be mandatory in our churches.

If you have a building that can keep a section for those who would feel safer and less vulnerable by maintaining socially distanced benches and sitting you could do so.

3. Hand sanitising will remain necessary as people arrive. (There will be no need to sanitise benches or people at the end.) It would be good to have a steward available to remind people to do this as they come in.
4. The capacity of each church will depend on point 2 above.
5. The numbers for weddings, funerals and baptisms are limited by the capacity of each building.

Liturgical questions:

Holy Communion (in the hand) should be restored to its traditional place and with a procession (trying to accommodate those who wish to retain social distancing.)

- It is recommended that a steward be used to invite people to the Communion procession row by row.
- Communion on the tongue is permissible but it must take place at the end of Communion and the priests must use sanitiser after each communicant has presented themselves.

- Holy Communion under both kinds will not be re-introduced at this time.

Mass will end in the traditional way.

Singing can be restored.

Hymn books and service books can be used but only once a day.

The collection basket/plate should still not be passed around.

The Procession of Gifts may be restored (encouraging the use of sanitiser.) The sign of peace can be restored but without any touching, ie by a gesture.

In Baptisms continued care is to be observed. Home visits can resume with appropriate caution.

14 July 2021

Further details may emerge in the coming weeks.

Fr Philip Inch
Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Development