



## Our Lady of Compassion Formby

School Lane, Formby, L37 3LW

Served by the churches of Our Lady of Compassion and St. Jerome

Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees In. Reg. Charity No. 232709

**21st November 2021 - 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Solemnity of Christ the King**

**Sundays Year B, Weekdays Cycle 1, psalter week 2**

Parish Priest: Rev. Mgr. John M Walsh.

Deacons: Rev. J P Moreland and Rev. J A McCarthy

Day	Time	Mass Times Location	Intentions
Saturday 20th Nov	6:00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	<b>Pious List</b>
Sunday 21st Nov	9:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Pious List</b>
	11:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Parish Community</b>
Tuesday 23rd Nov	09:30am	Morning Prayer OLOC	
	10:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Pious List</b>
Wednesday 24th Nov	09:30am	Morning Prayer OLOC	
	10:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Pious List</b>
Thursday 25th Nov	09:30am	Morning Prayer OLOC	
	10:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Pious List</b>
<b>Mass Times - 1st Sunday of Advent</b>			
Saturday 28th Nov	6:00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	<b>Pious List</b>
Sunday 29th Nov	9:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Pious List</b>
	11:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Parish Community</b>
Tuesday 30th Nov	09:30am	Morning Prayer OLOC	
	10:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	<b>Pious List</b>
		<b>Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle</b>	
Wednesday 1st Dec	09:30am	Morning Prayer OLOC	<b>Helen Newton</b>
	10:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	
Thursday 2nd Dec	09:30am	Morning Prayer OLOC	<b>Sheila Murphy</b>
	10:00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	

### PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE ARCHDIOCESE HAS SAID THAT MASKS ARE MANDATORY INSIDE CHURCH

Please respect this and respect your fellow parishioners some of whom may have compromised immune systems, also if people want space please allow them space.

**PLEASE DO NOT KNEEL DOWN AND UP AGAINST PEOPLE WHO REMAIN SEATED**

**Please pray for the lately Dead**, including Sadie FIELDS, Michael HANCOCK and Rosemary CAMPBELL and for all of their families.

**And let us pray for those who are sick** including Alison BOTTERILL, Doug DEVINE, Stephanie HARRISON, Phil BAILEY, Ellen l'ANSON, Jim McAULEY, Ann LONG and Ged CUNNINGHAM

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**

**Thoughts of Pope Francis:-** Prayer is primarily listening and encountering God. The problems of everyday life, then, do not become obstacles, but appeals from God himself to listen to and encounter those who are in front of us. The trials of life thus change into opportunities to grow in faith and charity.

**Baptisms:** Hallie Anne BYRNE became one with Christ and Christ one with her through baptism this week. We welcome her to our church and I ask that you pray for her and her family.

## PARISH NOTICES

**Weekday Ministers Of The Word:-** The new rota for weekday ministers of the word will commence on Tuesday 30th November. Sincere thanks to all those who have volunteered their service to our newly formed parish. Readers will receive copies of the rota in the forthcoming week.

**Pastoral Plan:** After the meeting of Synod 2020 in June this year, work began on preparing a pastoral plan which would guide the archdiocese in the years to come based on the outcomes of the Synod. This plan will be launched next weekend. Every parishioner will get a postcard giving details of how to access the plan and an invitation to a meeting to hear about it. Copies of the plan will be available online and at Pauline Books and Media from next weekend. Please pray this week for open hearts to receive with grateful thanks the fruits of much listening, discerning and work that is Synod 2020.

To find out more, you are welcome to any of these open meetings:

- Saturday 4th Dec 11.00am – 12.30pm in St Mary's Church, Leyland
- Tuesday 7th Dec 7.00pm – 8.30pm in Holy Rosary Church, Aintree
- Thursday 9th Dec 7.00pm – 8.30pm on Zoom (link provided next week)

**Churches Together:- Formby Christmas** windows are back for the third year with 38 venues planning to display a Christmas carol telling the story of the first Christmas. The displays are kindly being put together by 28 volunteers and children from local schools and uniform groups. Children can Spot Sam the Shepherd hiding in each window to claim a chocolate prize at Formby Pool from 1st December.

**Formby Village Nativity** is back this year on Saturday 11th December at 11 a.m. at Formby Pool Gardens. It is fun and interactive and suitable for all ages. Children are welcome to dress in nativity costumes. Head dresses will be provided.

**Formby Rotary Club:-** "Formby Rotary Carol Wagon will once again be touring Formby from early December, and raising much needed funds for Charity. To find out when Santa will be in your Road, or to make a donation, please visit the Formby Rotary website, [www.formby.rotary1180.org](http://www.formby.rotary1180.org). Thank you to all the volunteers who make this possible, if you fancy volunteering, seeing the delight of children and families, and enjoying seasonal refreshments, then give our Secretary Alan a call on 07446845275 No big commitment required but you will be very welcome!"

**Churches Together in the Merseyside Region (CTMR):-** brings together a gathering of young adults over 18 with different experiences from right across our traditions. They have invited their [Church Leaders](#) and would be delighted to welcome other young adults to this open forum.

When: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 6:30 – 8:30pm

Where: Liverpool ONE, Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane, L1 3BT

Programme includes: refreshments, music, reflections, conversation among all To take part in the event: please contact Elisabeth at the CTMR office Tel: 07394 075 951 (WhatsApp is fine) or email [office@ctmr.org.uk](mailto:office@ctmr.org.uk)

**Cleaner Required:-** The Rectory School Lane. Comprehensive cleaning service required for retired clergy including four individual flats and communal rooms. Permanent post 8 hours per week Monday to Thursday, £3,806.40 per annum. Closing date 26/11/2020. To apply visit [www.liverpool.catholic.org.uk/jobs](http://www.liverpool.catholic.org.uk/jobs) or call 0151 522 1102

## WORD FOR CHILDREN

The reading of the Word of God at Mass is a most important part of the celebration. At Sunday Mass, it takes on an even more special importance, since it is the Lord's Day. God's Word is to be heard by everyone, adults and children alike. But children need an experience of God's Word suitable for their needs. What has commonly been known as 'Children's Liturgy' has, for many years, shared and explained the Word for children.

Here, in our parish, we are beginning a new initiative called 'Word for Children'. It follows the well known structure that we are familiar with. It's newness lies in its approach, structure and resources. Because it meets only for a short time, it has the simple purpose of reading and explaining the Gospel of the Mass to the children. This will be done in a variety of ways, but always with the intention that the children understand something of the Gospel itself.

It might be tempting to see these moments as a chance for a quick 'escape' from the celebration of Mass, or even a chance to give our children a 'distraction' from Mass. That is not its purpose. It is a part of the Mass and a celebration in its own right. We are currently reflecting on the best way to celebrate Mass with children in the future. This is something that will take place each Sunday and which has a specific purpose.

The question then arises, what age range is this celebration intended for? The term 'children' is quite broad, but it is clearly intended for the youngest. We are inviting children up to First Communion age to take part, that is, up to about the age of 8. Obviously, this is fluid, but as children grow older they are better able to hear and understand the Word of God in the main assembly.

The life of society and of the Church in particular, has been deeply changed by the need to protect our children at all times, particularly in public places. Safeguarding in the Catholic Church has undergone stringent change, especially recently. Wherever children gather together publicly, especially in church, there are now very specific requirements that must be met for all those who gather with the children. Our catechists, who teach the children, undergo full safeguarding checks. For our parents who bring their children to the meeting room, particular requirements apply.

At first sight, this might appear unduly restrictive and off putting. Why can't a parent just come into the meeting room and take part in the celebration? What if my child will not go with other children into the celebration, surely I can just take my child in? Hopefully, the following explanation will help.

The celebration is intended to gather children together with the catechists in a safe environment, to listen to the Word of God and have it explained to them. It is usually no more than 20 minutes long and so has to be focussed. It has a similar dynamic to a classroom. Previously, some children have gone in alone and others with their parents. For the first few visits to 'Word for Children' it is perfectly alright for a parent to accompany their child in order to help them to acclimatise to the room and to the other children. But a clearance becomes necessary if the visits become more permanent. This will have to be guided by the catechists who are aware of the requirements.

So moving forward. The celebration of 'Word for Children' will take place at the 11.00am Sunday Mass from next Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, 28th November. All children, up to about the age of 8, are welcome to take part. At the beginning of Mass, a Gospel book will be entrusted to the children at the Altar, to be taken in procession to the Meeting Room. The children will return to their places at the end of the Bidding Prayers.

I want to say a special word of thanks to those who gather the children to celebrate the Word with them and explain it to them. They have much experience, and they will be very happy to speak with you and answer any questions or concerns you may have. If anyone would like to take part in sharing the Word with our children, then please approach Fr. John.

Thank you for your understanding and co operation, and hopefully our children, in hearing the Word, will grow in an awareness of the immense love of God for each one of them.

God Bless,

Fr. John