



Our Lady of Compassion Formby

Part of a Family of Parishes with
Our Lady of Victories Hightown, Holy Family Ince Blundell,
St John Stone and Sacred Heart Ainsdale & Woodvale

**24th Nov 2024 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus
Christ, Universal King**

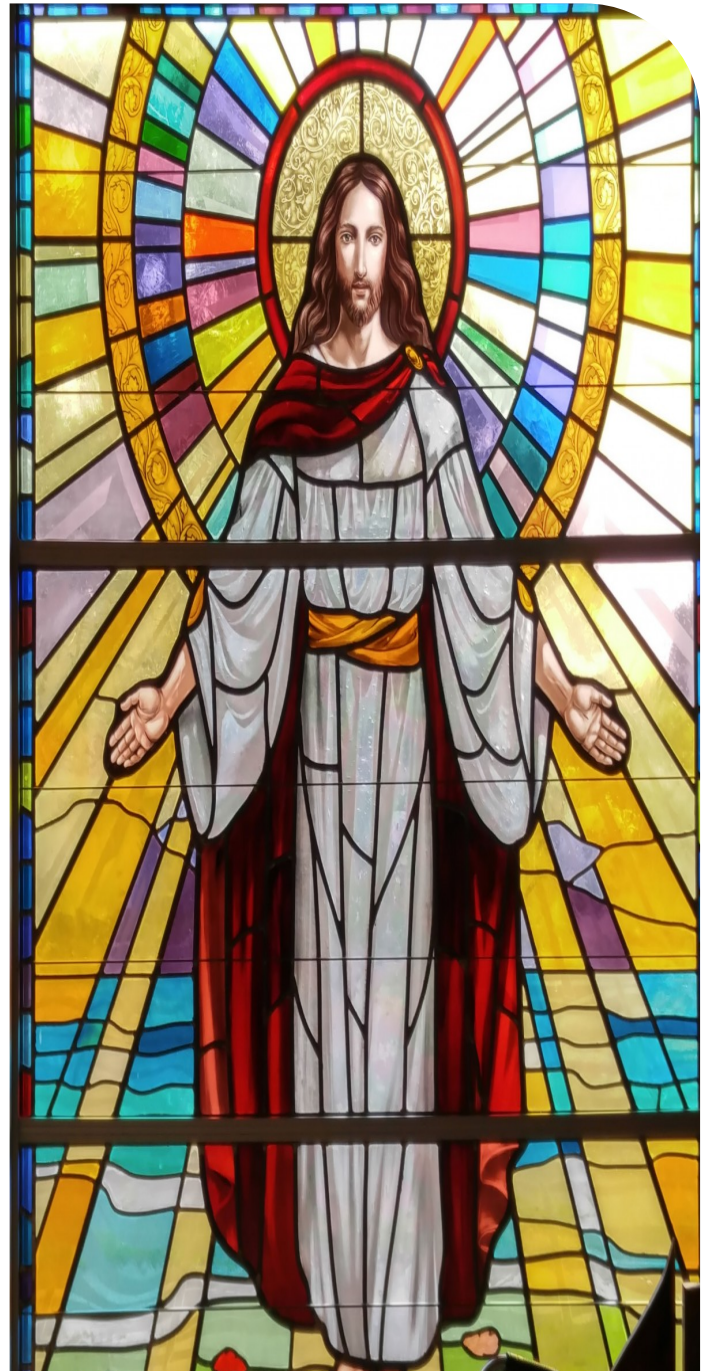
Sundays Year B, Weekdays Cycle 2, psalter week 2

School Lane, Formby, L37 3LW

Archdiocese of Liverpool In. Reg. Charity No: 1199714

Information & Events

- **Monday Morning Movie** – 25th Nov, 11am at the Activity Centre
- **Christmas Fayre** – Sat 30th Nov, 11am – 4pm
- **Family Mass** – Sun 1st Dec, 11am
- **Rosary Sermon Benediction** – 3pm Sun 8th Dec for the Immaculate Conception
- **Cathedral Choir** – Fri 7th Feb 2025 6.30pm



Parish Priest: Rev. Mgr. John M Walsh

Deacon: Rev. J A McCarthy

Parish Administrator: Sharon Bedford – 01704 – 873230

Parish Email:
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Parish Website: ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk

Gild Hall Manager: Eileen Sheridan – 01704 872279/
07970 720967

Activity Centre Contact: Karen Williamson – 07547
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Newsletter



Mass Times

Day	Time		Intentions
	SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING		
Saturday 23rd Nov	6.00pm	Holy Mass	Pious List
Sunday 24th Nov	9.00am	Holy Mass	Parish Community
	11.00am	Holy Mass	Pious List
Tuesday 26th Nov	NO MASS OR SERVICE		
Wednesday 27th Nov	NO MASS OR SERVICE		
Thursday 28th Nov	10.00am	Service of the Word and Holy Communion	
Saturday 30th Nov	6.00pm	Holy Mass	Pious List
Sunday 1st Dec	9.00am	Holy Mass	Pious List
	11.00am	Holy Mass	Youell Brothers

Weekly Collection: £1,101.48 Thank you!

Forthcoming Funerals: Margaret (Joan) Dawson 10th Dec at 10am.

Baptisms: We welcome into our Church, Thomas Clarke, Charlie Ormesher, Mia Ormesher

Mass Intentions Received w/c 12th Nov – Eamonn, Michael & Bridie Touhey, Denise Cunningham x3, Dr HC Liu, Sister Paulinus.

Mass Intentions to be said at Mill Hill during Nov – Deacon Joe Moreland, Joe Bryan x3, Mike Seddon, Dee Kelly, Simon Mitchell, Stephen Russell, Ted Riley x2, Rosemary Wilson, Pat & Joe Rigby, Margaret & Robert Parker Rimmer, Chris & Paul Rimmer, Geraldine Heron, Euan McNamara, Val Blackburne, Oscar, William Birch.

Please pray for the lately Dead including;

Olive Taylor, Joe Bryan, Peter Galbraith, Michael Seddon, Ted Riley, John Holland, Cecile Marie Denny, Catherine Pauline Walsh, Denise Cunningham (nee Redmond), Richard Newey, Margaret (Joan) Dawson and all their families.

And let us pray for those who are sick including;

Stephanie Harrison, Ann Long, Ged Cunningham, Margaret Nutall, Terry Otty, Anita Sattar, Eddie Evans, Maria Murray, Les Forest, Beryl Prescott, Kathleen O’Gorman, Nell Piggott, Bill Evans, Ed Schofield, Rachel Jones, Ruth Purcell, Claire Charlton, Dominic Tomlinson, Tim Chrimes, Des Byrne, Joe Murphy, David Lewin, Sabina Jenkins, Jo (Josephine) Williams.

Parish Notices

■ Bereavement Mass

Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the Bereavement Mass such a beautiful celebration. Thanks, in particular to Clare McCarthy in the Bereavement Team and Win and the members of the UCM who provided the refreshments afterwards.

■ The Chatterry

This coming **Wednesday, 27th November**, we welcome to the Activity Centre, Jamie Johnson and Geoff Hughes who are Paramedics. Their topics for their talk and demonstration will be AED, CPR, KEY SAFES and FALLS. It all takes place from 2pm to 3.30pm. Tea/coffee/biscuits/raffle. £1.50.

THE CHATTERRY CHRISTMAS PARTY will take place on **WEDNESDAY 4th DECEMBER**.

Tickets are £6 to include a buffet, a Christmas raffle and entertainment from Pete Connor and his lively musicians! It all commences at 1.30pm. Names and payment will be taken at The Chatterry or by contacting Pam Dunne on 871381.

■ Rosary, Sermon & Benediction – 8th December

This will take place on **SUNDAY AFTERNOON 8th DECEMBER AT 3pm** for the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Traditional hymns and prayers in Latin and English. It is hoped that many of our recent pilgrims to Lourdes will be able to reunite and attend together with all other parishioners. Everyone welcome!

■ Christmas Fayre

Christmas Raffle tickets - The draw will take place at the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30th November. Please return all ticket stubs, monies and unused tickets to the Church on 23/24 November, the Chatterry on 27th November or bring to the Fayre on Saturday 30th November. Alternatively, drop of at 4 Andrews Close, Formby.

Fayre Volunteers -Set up and clearing - Thank you to all who have volunteered to help make the day a success. We will be setting up the Activity Centre from 1pm on Friday 29th November. We will set up the Gild Hall from 9am on Saturday. All help appreciated.

Chatterry Cake stall - The Chatterry will be running the ever-popular cake stall and hot dog stalls. Donations of cakes, of any size, shape or flavour gratefully received. We will be handing out plates for your donations, please bring your cakes to the Activity Centre on Friday 29th November from 1pm or Saturday 30th from 9am.

■ OLOC 200 Club

The winning number for the October draw was number 92. Have you joined yet? For just £2 per month, a number will be allocated to you and if your number is drawn out in the monthly draw, you could win up to £200. Application forms can be found on the notice board. Good luck!

■ Christmas Cards for the Holy Land

We have been asked by the Archdiocese if our Parish would send Christmas cards to some of the parishes in The Holy Land. The J and P Group will have cards for eight of the parishes, in Gaza, the Left Bank and Jordan, at all weekend Masses and at the Christmas Fair on 30th November in the Gild Hall. We would be so grateful if you would sign your name as an expression of hope and solidarity. Christians in the Middle East are enduring great hardship at this time and are comforted when they hear that they are not forgotten, that we remember them and pray for them. **Please see the attached document from the J and P Group for more information.**

■ Monday Morning Movie – 25th Nov, 11am at The Activity Centre

This month's movie is "Untouchable" ("Untouchable" in French). It is a French film based on a true story and stars Omar Sy (Lupin) as a street-smart young French man of Senegalese heritage and François Cluzet as a wealthy Parisian who is paralyzed from the neck down and in need of a career. This film is unmissable. Don't let the subtitles put you off! Touching, funny and uplifting. This is one that will stay with you long after the credits roll. The film is rated 15. **Free entry and refreshments. Open to all adults.**

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You have probably heard about Holy Family parish, the only Catholic Church in Gaza. It has been sheltering people in its compound since last October. It is clear from this article in the Independent Catholic News website that Catholic life continues.

On Sunday, October 27, 2024, the Holy Family Parish in Gaza celebrated the feast of Our Lady Queen of Palestine and the Holy Land with a profound act of devotion. During a special Mass presided over by Fr Gabriel Romanelli, IVE, along with Fr Yousef and Fr Carlos Ferrero, 16 young men and women from the parish consecrated themselves to Jesus through Mary.

The preparation for this significant Act of Consecration spanned three months, during which the youth were guided by the religious sisters of the Incarnate Word. They dedicated themselves to daily meditation and engaged deeply with two essential texts translated into Arabic. This period of reflection helped them deepen their understanding of entrusting themselves fully to Mary, who leads them to a closer relationship with her Son, while also following her example in proclaiming the Kingdom of God.

In his homily, Fr Gabriel highlighted the vital role of prayer amidst suffering. He acknowledged the pain experienced by the people of Gaza but pointed to Mary, who stood steadfast by her Son at Calvary, as a source of courage and inspiration. He reminded the faithful that this Act of consecration serves as a powerful expression of love and faith in Christ, even in the face of adversity.

The parents expressed their joy at this important step taken by their children, noting the positive impact it has had on their lives amidst the daily challenges they face. Following the Mass, the parish gathered to exchange congratulations and share biscuits and water - what they had on hand - expressing their gratitude to God for all the blessings available to them at this time.

[\(\[indcatholicnews.com\]\(http://indcatholicnews.com\)\)](http://indcatholicnews.com)

Another of the parishes to whom we send greetings at Christmas, supports a Care Home in Jerusalem called the "Luckner Parents Care Home", named after a strong supporter of Jewish-Christian understanding.....with a local connection!

Jane Hartmann was born in 1900, in Salisbury Road, Wavertree, to Robert Hartman, a marine engineer, and his wife Gertrude. Her parents were from Germany and the family returned there when she was still a young child. She had no siblings and was orphaned in early childhood. At the age of seven she was sent to foster parents, who changed her name to Gertrud Luckner. In the 1920s, she returned to England to study at the Quaker college in Birmingham. During the holidays she worked in the slums as a hospital almoner. Returning to Germany, she was shocked to see the influence of Nazi propaganda and decided to do something about it. She studied in German universities, gaining her doctorate from the University of Freiburg in which city, in 1933 she began her work with the Catholic aid organisation, Caritas. She arranged exit opportunities for Jews and supported many who were simply unable to leave. She was brought up a Quaker but in 1934 became a Catholic.

She has been described as a slightly built, intelligent, and fearless woman, who risked her life to help hide and save Jewish men, women and children. Eventually she was arrested and taken to Ravensbruck concentration camp. She survived the war and afterwards returned to social work, assisting the victims of persecution and dedicating herself to Jewish-Christian understanding. She remained active in the cause until her death in Freiburg in 1995. Her story reminds us of the suffering today of all victims of the war in Israel, whether ordinary Palestinians, refugees or hostages.

One of the Palestinian parishes we will be sending Christmas Cards to is just a couple of miles from Bethlehem in a village called Beit Sahour

The name Beit Sahour is related to the shepherds who stay up till dawn (sahar in Arabic) to watch over their flock. The only Catholic Church in Beit Sahour was founded by the Latin Patriarch in 1859 and is dedicated to **Our Lady of Fatima**. Nearby is the area known as the Shepherds' Field identified by tradition as the place where the angels' announcement of Jesus' birth to the shepherds, took place, underlining the

links of the town with Bethlehem. There is nearby a small subterranean chapel, known as the Grotto of the Shepherds. A school was established in the same year the church was built, and it is still operational today. Many townspeople and others from surrounding areas seek to enrol their children in the School on account of the advanced level of education and instruction it offers in an open environment. On November 15th *“the school organised a Palestinian National Day, participated (in) by students and parents, to make it a day rich in everything Palestinian. This day witnessed a variety of events that reflected the depth of Palestinian heritage, and a celebration of the national identity that distinguishes us as Palestinians”*. (Facebook)

Christmas cards to Palestine. - The Parish of St Justin in Rafidia, Nablus

Rafidia is a neighbourhood in the western part of the city of Nablus, which is in the West Bank, north of Jerusalem, and is the largest city in Palestine next to Hebron. It is divided into 3 religions - Samaritans, Christians and Muslims. The Latin Church was constructed in 1885 and named after Saint Justin who was born in Nablus into a Greek pagan family, early in the 2nd century, but as he grew in admiration of the “beauty of the moral lives” of Christians, was baptised and later martyred. The Latin Convent structure consists of a Church for prayer, a hall for meetings, cultural activities, a yard for sports activities and two rooms for Christian Youth and Scout Committee Offices, a convent for the Sisters, and the parish priest's house. The spiritual life of the parish has always been very active, and as in every parish of the Latin Patriarchate there is a community of Sisters. There is also a school, which was founded in 1904 and acquired by the Latin Patriarchate in 1998. It has always been recognised for its high academic standards, transmitting a message of Faith without religious or social discrimination. The motto of the Schools of the Latin Patriarchate is: “May they know You”, and this is portrayed perfectly in the St. Joseph School where everyone is welcomed without exception: Christians, Muslims and Samaritans. This is one of the school's missions: to transmit justice and to foster links between the three religions, in a spirit of openness and respect.

“We are slain with the sword, but we increase and multiply; the more we are persecuted and destroyed, the more are deaf to our numbers. As a vine, by being pruned and cut close, shoots forth new suckers, and bears a greater abundance of fruit; so it is with us.” - St Justin, Martyr (Catholic News Agency)

We will be sending a Christmas Card this year to the parish of the Annunciation in Ein Arik. You are invited to sign it.

Ein Arik is an ancient village in the Ramallah region. There are two churches located in the village, and a mosque that displays the tallest minaret in all of Palestine! The village is a model of co-existence between a Muslim majority and Christians. Two thirds of the population is Muslim, one third Christian. The village is poor by current Palestinian standards but has an abundance of water and supports agriculture that provides income for landowners. There are few businesses in the village and unemployment is high. The monks and nuns of the Little Family of the Annunciation live in the Latin convent and have served the Christian community since 1988. The Latin Patriarchate school was established in 1858 and has provided a natural venue for children of the two major religions to grow up together. Even today, the schools and activities there and at the adjacent churches make up much of the social and cultural life of the people. The victim of violence and social disruption is always the weakest member of society, and the children are the weakest. The school is one of the major assets of the town and provides jobs for people and has become the social institution for improving the lives of the young. The youth group is very active in promoting parish life, as is the Legion of Mary, consisting of a group of women and girls.

Our Lady of Peace Centre in Amman, Jordan is somewhere else we hope to send a Christmas Card. You are invited to sign it

The **Good Shepherd Church** was erected in 2008 and is located inside the compound of Our Lady Queen of Peace Centre. The Centre, whose motto is *‘caring for the poorest of the poor’* lies a few kilometres from the capital, Amman. It welcomes disabled people and refugees, in order to provide them with medical, social, economic and humanitarian assistance, and above all to offer them a home. Family counselling and education for children with mental and physical disabilities together with social skills development are provided, and there is an early intervention unit for people with mild to moderate disabilities and autism. There is commitment to the national, humanitarian and spiritual needs and rights of those with disabilities by providing all of the services free of charge to any who seek the Centre's help, regardless of income or religion. The Centre serves both Christians and Muslims.

Every year, the Centre welcomes hundreds of Christian youth, students, priests, nuns, and people with disabilities for events, workshops and training programs. *More than 2 million registered Palestinian refugees live in Jordan, the largest number of Palestinian refugees of all UNRWA fields. Most, but not all, have full citizenship. About 18 per cent live in the ten recognised Palestine refugee camps throughout the country. There are approximately 70,000 Catholics in Jordan, representing just over 1% of the total population. Most Palestinian ancestors came to Jordan as Palestinian refugees between 1947 and 1967. Today, most Palestinians and their descendants in Jordan are fully naturalised, making Jordan the only Arab country to fully integrate the Palestinian refugees of 1948.*

Some information about the Parish of - Christ the Redeemer, in Taybeh. You are invited to sign one of the Christmas cards we are sending to a number of parishes in the Holy Land

Taybeh, is a Palestinian village, located in the centre of the West Bank 30 km from Jerusalem and 13 km from Ramallah. From its elevation (920m) and location between biblical Samaria and Judea, it overlooks the desert wilderness, the Jordan Valley, Jericho and Dead Sea. Taybeh is one of the most ancient places in Palestine. The ruins of the Byzantine Church of St. George built by St. Helena, the mother of Constantine, during the fifth century, is on the spot where it is believed that Jesus took refuge in the days before his crucifixion. According to biblical references, Jesus had performed the miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus in Bethany and then retired to Ephraim (present-day Taybeh) with his apostles, to rest before making his last journey to Jerusalem.

*Living amidst Muslim villages, Israeli settlements and military roadblocks, Taybeh's 1,300 inhabitants are intensely proud of their Christian heritage, their folklore group and their Choir. **Today, Taybeh is proud to be the only village in Palestine with 100% Christian population.** The village's [Greek Orthodox](#), [Roman Catholic](#) (Latin) and [Greek Catholic](#) (Melkite) communities maintain an ecumenical spirit – even celebrating Christmas together on December 25 according to the Western calendar and Easter according to the Eastern calendar. Economic and political pressures have forced some 12,000 residents of Taybeh to emigrate to the Americas, Europe and Australia. To ensure jobs for those who remain, the churches and the Taybeh Municipal Council are working to improve the local economy. A co-operative to sell olive oil, a ceramic workshop to make dove-shaped peace lamps, and a school to train stone-cutters have been established. More unusually for a region with a 98 per cent Muslim population, an expatriate family returned to Taybeh in 1995 to open the Middle East's only microbrewery. The Taybeh **Oktoberfest** attracts thousands each year, including Christians, Muslims, Jews and overseas visitors. To cater for Muslims – who are forbidden to drink alcohol – the brewery has added non-alcoholic beer to its product line!*

In the town of RAMALLAH, the Holy Family Parish is one to which we would like to send Christmas greetings. You are invited to sign one of the cards provided.

Catholics settled in Ramallah after the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Rosary Sisters opened a school for girls and a boarding school for boys 1860–1870. Construction of the present church began in 1913 with the permission of the [Ottoman authorities](#) who ruled the area at that time.

Ramallah is a Palestinian city in the central West Bank located 16 kilometres north of Jerusalem in the mountains of Judea. It is currently the administrative capital of the Palestinian National Authority. The total population of Ramallah today is nearly 27,500. It was historically a Christian town, but today Muslims are the majority of the population, with Christians still making up a significant minority. Several Christian denominations live congenially side by side with their Muslim neighbours. Since 1948, there has been a mass migration of Christians from Ramallah to the West, particularly to the United States, because of the Israeli occupation. Those left behind are determined, despite their minority status, to maintain their faith and live in the land of their ancestors. The Latin Patriarchate school in Ramallah was established in 1858 and it is in the heart of the town. The youth groups and scouts are very active in promoting parish life. The Latin schools are open to all Christians from different backgrounds and today, half of the students in the school are Muslim. *According to Christian tradition, Joseph and Mary were resting in Al-Bireh, very close to Ramallah, on their way back from Jerusalem to Nazareth when they discovered that Jesus was missing.*