



# Our Lady of Compassion Formby

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Mgr. John M Walsh

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

**Parish Administrator:** Sharon Bedford – 01704 – 873230

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

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022 – 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**

Sundays Year A, Weekdays Cycle 1, psalter week 1

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*

Father John, Deacon Joe and Deacon John,  
wish all our parishioners a happy and blessed Christmas and  
thank you all for your many kind gifts and cards.

# Newsletter

## Mass Times

Day	Time	Location	Intentions
<b>Christmas Mass Times</b>			
<b>Vigil of the Nativity</b>			
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	5.00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	
	8.00pm	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	
<b>Christmas Day</b>			
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	

**Please note the Church of St Jerome is not open for private prayer during Christmas week.**

Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Pat & Ray Illingworth
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Pauline Foster
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Gerrard & Irene Crooks
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	6.00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	Sheila McEnaney
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	09.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Frederick Wilson
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	10.00am	<b>Communion Service</b> Our Lady of Compassion	
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00am	<b>Communion Service</b> Our Lady of Compassion	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00am	<b>Communion Service</b> Our Lady of Compassion	

### Solemnity of Epiphany Mass

Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00am	Holy Day of Obligation – Solemnity of Epiphany Mass	John McKay
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6.00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	Lawrence Wilde
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	09.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Recently Deceased

**Weekly Collection £940.75. Thank you!**

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Due to the cold weather and central heating issues in the Church, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will not take place before weekday masses until further notice. **Therefore, the Church will be open at 09.30am for weekday masses.**

**Please pray for the lately Dead including;**

Patricia Burke, Oonagh Killen, Caroline Green, Brendan Lynch, Ann Pearson, Jenny Gaskin and all their families.

**And let us pray for those who are sick including;**

Isabelle Clegg, Teresa Campbell, Eddy Connolly, Stephanie Harrison, Ellen l'Anson, Ann Long, Ged Cunningham, Margaret Nutall, Mary Pinkman, and Geoff Davies.

**Contact Father John**

If any parishioner needs Father John for any reason whatsoever, particularly if someone is **sick or dying** and needs **Sacraments**, please call **01704 873230**. 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, Father John does not know that you have called. The answering machine is checked every day and you can also send an email to: [ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk)

## Parish Notices

**The Heating of Our Lady's Church**

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, the heating system at Our Lady's Church failed. A preliminary visit by the heating engineers suspected a leak and the system was switched off. A further visit discovered leaking pipes under the floor outside the sacristy. The engineers suspected further leaks elsewhere in the church and asked for unrestricted access to the building to discover the true nature of the problem. The church was closed for five days to enable access. Having taken up parts of the church flooring, they found multiple leaks from pipes that were about 100 years old. However, they could not find the most serious leaks, which concerned them. The water supply to the pipes was completely switched off. Further inspection would have meant weeks of disruption and closure with no guarantees that the leaks would be found. At the end of their visits, they decided that given the condition of the underfloor pipe work and multiple leaks, the heating system was no longer viable and would have to be completely replaced. In the meantime, large gas heaters were delivered to the church to provide some warmth. All this happened just before the present cold snap!

So, what happens next? The Archdiocese has been informed and will meet with me next week to assess the situation. But whatever happens, the complete replacement of the heating system is a big job and a very expensive one. It will be some time before approvals are given and contractors appointed. In the meantime, I have asked for a third heater to be delivered to increase the warmth. Apart from that, we face the rest of the winter without proper heating. Let's pray for mild weather! The bright spot in all of this is that by next winter we will have a brand-new heating system, which will heat the church properly. Now we have the opportunity to rectify the heating problems once and for all. I shall keep you updated on the situation as things progress. Fr. John.

**The Chatter**

Sincere thanks are extended to all parishioners and friends who have so generously supported the Wednesday social gatherings each week during the Autumn.

A further £700 has been given to Fr. John for parish project use. A great amount raised just from tea, biscuits and some fundraising activities! See you all again on **Wednesday January 11th**.

## Centering Prayer

There is a day for learning Centering Prayer at St Jerome's Church on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January 10am -1 pm. This simple, silent way of praying encourages the offering of our intention to God with an attitude of receptivity and trust. The time includes: practice of the way of prayer; teaching of the spirituality behind this way of prayer; learning about the positive effects of centering prayer in our lives of faith. Open to all, given freely, but donation welcome. There are no facilities to make refreshments, so please bring your own drink to consume during the interval. A follow up group will meet at St. Jerome's Hall commencing 18th January at 10.00am.

## Christmas Collection for St. Joseph's Blundell Avenue Formby

Thank you to everyone who has returned their Little Brown Envelope. If you have missed getting one, and you would like to support the collection, there are now some more in the porch. Thank you.