



Our Lady of Compassion Formby

28th Jan 2024 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year B, Weekdays Cycle 2, psalter week 4

School Lane, Formby, L37 3LW

Archdiocese of Liverpool In. Reg. Charity No: 1199714



Information & Events

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please register at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk

Registration is open from 15th January to 15th March 2024.

- **Monday Movies** – 29th January, 11am at the Gild Hall Activity Centre

Parish Priest: Rev. Mgr. John M Walsh

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

Parish Administrator: Sharon Bedford – 01704 – 873230

Parish Email:
ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk

Parish Website: ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk

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



Mass Times

Day	Time	Location	Intentions
Saturday 27 th Jan	6.00pm	Our Lady of Compassion	Cynthia Hardin
Sunday 28 th Jan	9.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Geoffrey Davies
Tuesday 30 th Jan	09.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	John Upritchard
Wednesday 31 st Jan	09.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Personal Intention
Thursday 1 st Feb	09.15 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Requiem Mass – Dr Hin Ching LIU	
Saturday 3 rd Feb	6.00pm	Our Lady of Compassion	Marie Slowey
Sunday 4 th Feb	9.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Frederick Wilson

Prayer Rota - In our weekly prayers for the other Christian communities of Formby, we pray for St Michael's, Altcar.

Weekly Collection £1,090.04 Thank you!

Baptisms: We welcome into our Church, Poppy Campbell & Patrick McGuire.

Mass Intentions Received w/c 22nd Jan – Elizabeth & Peter Kowalski, Jim Doyle, Rosaleen & Anne Boggan, Jim & Isa McCulloch.

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

Marian Seddon, Alan Wright, Eddie Parisi, David Jackson, Dr Hin Ching LIU, Fr Joe Whelan MHM, Patricia Starkey and all their families.

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

Stephanie Harrison, Ann Long, Ged Cunningham, Margaret Nutall, Mary Pinkman, Terry Otty, Anita Sattar, Eddie Evans, Maria Murray, Les Forest, Beryl Prescott, Kathleen O'Gorman, Deacon Joe Moreland, John Holland, Nell Piggott, Bill Evans, Linda Murray and Hilary Barton.

Parish Notices

■ Sacrament of Confirmation 2024

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■ The Chatterry

This week on **Wednesday 31st January**, we welcome to The Chatterry, Christine Physick who is the “Arts & Education Director” of The Plaza Community Cinema in Crosby. Christine will be speaking about the history of the cinema and all the special screenings that take place there. All are welcome to what promises to be a most informative afternoon, 2pm to 3.30pm in the lounges of the Gild Hall.

■ OLOC Fell Walkers

Our Lady's Fell Walkers have two circular walks planned on Saturday 10th February 2024. The walks start and end in the picturesque village of Chipping in the Forest of Bowland, an area of outstanding natural beauty. The A walk is 8 miles with a climb of 461 metres and the B walk 7 miles with a total height gain of 234 metres. The A walk is usually higher and faster and the B, a slower, lower walk.

We are a friendly group and everyone is welcome. The coach leaves from the corner of School Lane and Church Road, Formby, at 8am on the day and you can book your place by ringing 01704 878548. There is always an early stop for coffee/tea/bacon barmes and time after the walk to visit shops, cafes and pubs in the area. Please wear weather appropriate clothing and bring a packed lunch. Sticks can also be helpful.

■ Lourdes Pilgrimage

There are a number of parishioners who initially expressed an interest in the parish pilgrimage to Lourdes from 7th to 11th October this year by signing the list in church but have not yet confirmed their booking by paying their deposit. If anyone is still intending to join the group, please complete the form and enclose your deposit to pay either by cheque or card by **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4th**. Booking forms can be handed into the sacristy after any Mass or given directly to Mike who can also assist with any questions regarding the pilgrimage. (Tel. 879508).

■ Rosary, Sermon & Benediction

On **Sunday 11th February**, on what is usually the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and a world day of prayer for the sick, there will be a special service here in Our Lady's at 4pm with hymns, the five Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, the Litany of Our Lady, a sermon and Benediction. ALL PARISHIONERS are warmly invited to attend and participate. Those who are travelling to Lourdes later in the year on the parish pilgrimage are especially asked to attend if possible and to make this service part of their preparation for our journey in the Autumn.

■ Parish Events 2024

2024 marks the 160th anniversary of Our Lady of Compassion, establishing the Catholic parish of Formby. We would like to mark this year with a series of events throughout the year to include all in our community. Alongside these events we are also planning to update the printed history of the parish, and are looking for any information, documents, recollections and photos that will support us in this endeavour.

During August we are hoping to have an event in the church itself, and a display of more personal photos and artefacts from within our community would be a lovely focus to our celebrations. If you have anything to contribute or would like to be involved in bringing this together, please contact us. We can make scans of any items if you do not wish to loan original photos.

We are at early stages of formulating various other events throughout the year also to celebrate the 160th anniversary of our church. We will provide further updates very soon and will be looking for people to help in the organisation. Also, if you have any ideas that you think would be suitable, please let us know and we will happily support you in making this a special year for the Parish. Steve & Toni Drury. **Please get in touch via: Mobile (text or WhatsApp): 07767343152. Email: contact@formbyevents.co.uk.**

■ 2024 Parish Directory - Diary

We still have some 2024 parish directory-diaries available. These are £10 each and can be either bought from the Piety Stall, or if you contact us directly, we will reserve a copy/copies for you to collect. They will only be available until the end of January. Steve & Toni Drury.

■ Vocations Weekend for Women – 16th – 18th February 2024

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life

Dates: 16-18 February 2024

Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). **Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.**

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. **For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org**

■ Monday Morning Movies – 29th January, 11am at the Gild Hall Activity Centre

This month's film will be "Jules", starring Ben Kingsley. It tells the story of Milton, a 78 year old who leads an unremarkable life in a small American town. When a UFO lands in his back garden, he finds himself faced with a huge problem, but can he get anyone to listen? This is a beautiful, gentle and humorous tale that has much to say about how society treats its older members. The film is rated 12. Free entry and refreshments. Open to all adults.

■ OLOC 200 Club

The winning number for the **DECEMBER** draw was number 130. 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 noticeboard at Our Lady's (N.B. if paying by cheque, please make your cheque payable to: OLOC 200 Club). Good luck!

■ CAFOD Meeting

CAFOD's Archdiocesan Coordinator Ged Edwards will hold an informal session on **Friday 9 February** in the Activity Centre at the Gild Hall **from 7–8pm** (refreshments **from 6.45pm**). Come and find out about the difference we can make this Lent Family Fast Day helping hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with tools and training to feed their families for good. Contact Eileen McManus for further details (phone: 01704 808658).

■ St Joseph's Prayer Centre – Guided Retreats

Can you feel your soul calling for some rest and relaxation? Is God calling you to greater intimacy with him? We invite you to experience some time away with the Lord in the peaceful surroundings of the Formby Pinewoods and Beach.

Where: St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Freshfield, L37 1PH **When:** June 9th – 16th, 2024 (arrival time 4pm, evening meal 6pm) **Director:** Fr John Mc Cluskey MHM Cost: £580.00 (includes accommodation and all meals). **To book a place please call: 01704 875850 Mobile No: 07485 378620 Whats App only.**

Laudato Si invites us to become more alive to all that is in us and around us. Here in the beautiful Formby Pinewoods and beach, we will have time to reflect and pray with nature. This group retreat will focus on different aspects of daily life.

Where: St Joseph's Prayer Centre **When:** June 16th – 22nd 2024 (arrival time 4pm, evening meal 6pm). **Director:** Fr Dermot Byrne MMM Cost: £580.00 (includes accommodation and all meals). **To book a place please call: 01704 875850. Mobile No 07485378620 Whats App only.**

■ Mill Hill Missionaries

The National Novena to St. Joseph will take place from 10th to 18th March, this year. This is in preparation by the Mill Hill Missionaries for the feast of their patron saint. Saint Joseph. Masses and prayers will ask for God's blessings on the outreach work and for all those who support their work. You are welcome to send in your petitions and request a Novena booklet from the Novena Director, 6 Colby Gardens, Maidenhead, SL6 7GZ or to novenamhm@gmail.com
Thanks, Paddy Kerwin.

■ Justice and Peace Charity Quiz – 2nd February

Thank you all for your great support for the Quiz in aid of Médecins Sans Frontières, (Doctors without Borders). Sorry if you have been unable to get additional tickets for family and friends. May we ask if anyone in your party is unable

to use their ticket, could you please let us know asap, as we have a waiting list. If you are unable to come to the quiz but would like to contribute to the cause, just put your donation (cash, or cheque made out to Our Lady of Compassion Justice and Peace group) in an envelope and write OLOC J and P group on the front. You can give your envelope to any of the J and P group or leave it in the church. Thank you so much.

Thinking of having a clear-out? The J and P would be very grateful for Christmas leftovers (still in date). There will always be another Raffle coming up! Thank you.

■ **The Gild Acoustic Club – 14th February**

Every 2nd Wednesday of each month the Formby Gild Acoustic Club is held at the Gild Hall. It's an evening of live acoustic music entertainment hosted by the Country Folk, and featuring local bands and singers, and a good raffle. **The next evening is Wednesday 14th February.** Doors open at 7.30pm and it's £3 on the door for a whole evening's entertainment. Paul in the music group, plays with the Country Folk.

Dear all

As part of the Pastoral Plan (Advent 2021) (the document issued following the Archdiocese of Liverpool’s Synod 2020), Archbishop Malcolm determined that for him to carry out his role he needed to discern what the Spirit was saying to the Church by listening to the people of God, our faithful community.

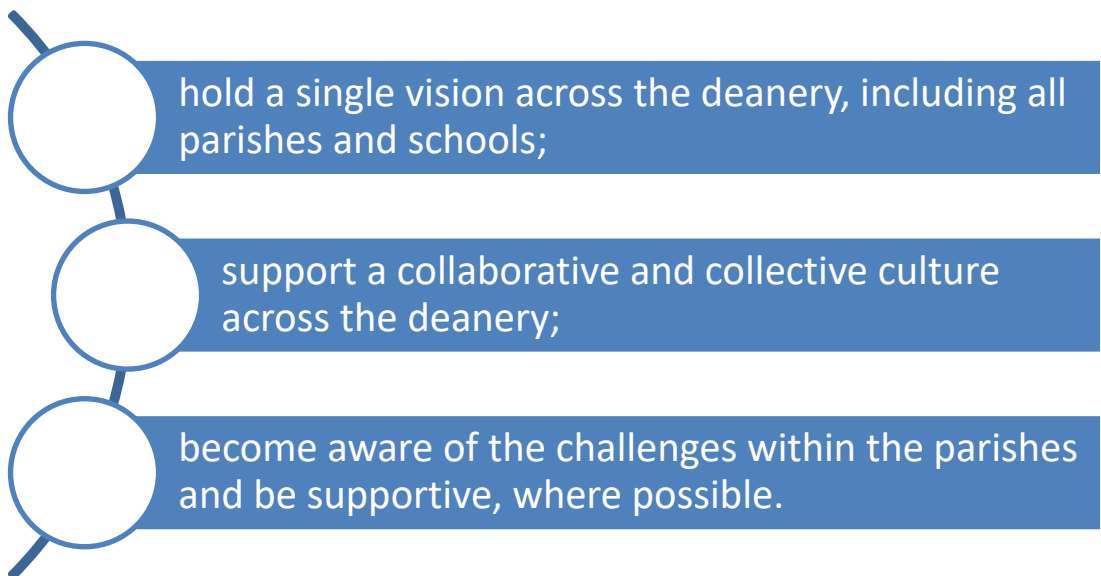
To assist in the achievement of this listening, a council was established for each new deanery (a deanery synodal council or DSC). Our DSC, the Sefton North Coast Deanery Council, was established in July 2022, and I was appointed by the Archbishop to serve as its chair.

Challenges of the DSC

The DSCs were charged by the Archbishop to:

- connect people across the deanery, sharing experience, talent and opportunities for growth;
- offer mutual support and prayerful discernment, particularly on specific areas; and
- offer the parishes of the deanery support to experience a wider vision of the Church.

In order to achieve these aims, each DSC was asked to:



The word “synodal” used in the name of the DSCs is given the meaning of **respectful listening, discernment** and

implementation. The concept of synodality is fundamental to the way that the DSCs must operate and this will mean that our DSC will engage with all in the deanery, try to understand and appreciate all that it receives and be sensitive and aware in the implementation of its aims.

Progress of our DSC

The membership of the DSC is not as representative as we would like and we urge anyone who considers that they would like to be a member to approach their parish priest or me.

The members that we do have were put forward by their parish priests and are all committed and have worked hard not only to form the DSC but to create a robust platform to take on the tasks delegated to it. But, help is always gratefully received either to the DSC itself, or to its Missions (see below), so please reach out if prepared to help.

There has been much prayer and consideration within our DSC with time taken to get to know each other, understand the purpose for which it was established, and to allow there to be a reflection on how best to support the existing structure of parishes and the deanery. Most importantly, the DSC has been considering how best to support all within the deanery. There were many priorities considered but the key priorities initially agreed were:

1. to support the parishes within the deanery and to bring them closer together in their common aims and missions;
2. to establish and implement three initial missions across the deanery:

Mission for Youth

Mission for Charity

Mission for Adult Faith Formation

3. to provide a platform for the parish priests to engage with all within the deanery, consult and to implement the three initial missions and any further missions;
4. to have a clear communication strategy to allow for information to be passed to all within the deanery and a process for

listening and discernment back to the DSC, the parish priests and ultimately the Archbishop; and

5. to celebrate the individuality and values of each of the parishes, but allowing support and knowledge of them throughout the deanery.

The DSC recognises that to be synodal it is absolutely key to engage with all within the deanery on all that it is doing, and all that concerns the deanery going forward. This letter is the start of that engagement and we look forward to a full communication process going forward.

Family of parishes

The initial focus of the work of the DSC as set by the Archbishop was to explore the resources of a deanery that will lead to the establishment of Family of Parishes. This reflects the priorities set out in the Pastoral Plan.

While there has been some discussion in relation to the Family of Parishes in the DSC, we have not started our engagement with the deanery and this will start very shortly. Consultation with the priests of the deanery has already commenced and that consultation will now extend to each parish. This consultation will take place in November and December.

Conclusion

I hope that this communication gives some idea of the purpose of the DSC, the tasks that it has been asked to do and how the DSC is challenged to carry out those tasks. I realise that there may be some confusion about the DSC and how it fits in with the overall governance of the Church, and so I have set out brief background notes attached.

Communication is going to be a big part of the way the DSC works going forward, so all ideas and contributions will be gratefully received as to how we do this successfully. Please do contact us for further information or with your comments at [email].

Many thanks for taking the time to read this communication and please look out for future communications on the Family of Parishes consultation and from each of the Missions which have been prioritised by the DSC.

SEFTON COAST NORTH DEANERY SYNODAL COUNCIL

Kind regards,

SEFTON COAST NORTH DEANERY SYNODAL COUNCIL

BRIEF BACKGROUND NOTES

A PARISH	<p>The key structural support in the Church is the parish. The pastoral authority of the parish is dedicated to a priest, who represents the bishop or archbishop in the parish. The parish priest remains the key and lawful minister of faith through sacramental and pastoral ministry to the parish community.</p> <p>The importance of our parishes remains key in their identity, their missions and the support they provide to those within them. This will remain a key structure within the Church.</p>
A DEANERY	<p>Without detracting from the importance of parishes, bishops and archbishops can split their dioceses and archdioceses into deaneries, which are smaller geographical areas of governance. Within a deanery, parishes are grouped together under the care of a dean.</p> <p>A deanery is a grouping of nearby parishes, all of which remain the responsibility of the parish priest but under the deanery are pulled together to help each other and the communities that worship within them.</p>
FAMILY OF PARISHES	<p>Groups of parishes sharing resources to advance the mission, including having multiple priests, deacons and lay people. The model allows all associated with each parish to share their gifts and talents better with the whole of the Family of Parishes. The model includes one “mother church” with one or more “daughter churches”, one place for social gatherings, catechetical events and one parish office.</p>
OUR DEANERY	<p>In advent 2021, the Archbishop established new deaneries under the Archdiocese of Liverpool and there are now 13 deaneries. Our deanery is the Sefton Coast North Deanery and includes the parishes of:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Holy Family and Our Lady of Victories, Hightown/Ince Blundell</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Our Lady of Compassion, Formby</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">St John Stone/Sacred Heart, Ainsdale</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">St Maries, Southport</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">St Patrick’s, Southport</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Holy Family, Southport</p>

SEFTON COAST NORTH DEANERY SYNODAL COUNCIL

	<p>St Teresa of Avila, Southport</p> <p>Our Lady of Lourdes and St Joseph, Southport</p>
OUR DEAN	A new dean was appointed in 2022 and this is Monsignor John Walsh, the parish priest of Our Lady of Compassion, Formby.
OUR DSC	The Sefton Coast North Deanery Synodal Council was established in the summer of 2022, with the first meetings taking place towards the end of that year.
MEMBERSHIP OF THE DSC	<p>The membership of each DSC should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one lay representative of each parish; • a schools' representative; and • three clergy from the deanery, at least two of whom will be priests <p>(with other representatives at the discretion of the dean and the chair).</p>
MEMBERS OF OUR DSC	<p>The current members of our DSC are:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> Monsignor John Walsh (Dean) Father Paul Seddon (formally Father Tony Slingo) (St John Stone and Sacred Heart, Ainsdale) Father John Heneghan (St Marie's and Patrick's, Southport) John Sullivan (St John Stone and Sacred Heart, Ainsdale) Bruce Soden (St Marie's, Southport) John Moffat (Holy Family, Southport) Rosanne Mason (St John Stone and Sacred Heart, Ainsdale) Pauline Collier (St John Stone and Sacred Heart, Ainsdale) Louise Newton Ben Miller (Chair) (Our Lady of Compassion, Formby) </p>