



Our Lady of Compassion Formby

30th Oct 2022 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year C, Weekdays Cycle 2, psalter week 3

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*

Forthcoming Events

- Sat 19th Nov, OLOC – Formby Choral Society
- Sat 26th Nov, 1pm – 4pm St Jerome's Hall – Christmas Fayre
- Sun 18th Dec, OLOC – Sung Evening Prayer, Liverpool Bach Collective



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

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

Newsletter



Mass Times

Day	Time	Location	Intentions
Saturday 29 th Oct	6.00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	Ali HP
Sunday 30 th Oct	9.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Louise Parisi
Tuesday 1 st Nov		ALL SAINTS – Holy Day of Obligation	
	09.15am	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Pious List
	11.00am	Requiem Service – Ernest Finnesey	
Wednesday 2 nd Nov		ALL SOULS	
	09.15am	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Pious List
Thursday 3 rd Nov	09.15am	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Pious List
Saturday 5 th Nov	6.00pm	St Jerome, Greenloons Drive	Pious List
Sunday 6 th Nov	09.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion, School Lane	Pious List

The Church of St Jerome is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 09.00am to 11.00am for Quiet Prayer

Weekly Collection £1,031.79. Thank you!

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

Anthony Youell, May Patten, Ernest Finnesey, Margaret Watson, Euan McNamara, Alison Botterill 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 Jenny Gaskin.

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 **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, Father John does not know that you have called.

You can also call the **Parish Office on 01704 873230**, again leaving the information mentioned above. The answering machine is checked every day and you can also send an email to:-

ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk

Parish Notices

News from our Schools

Our Lady of Compassion Primary School www.olocprimary.co.uk

St Jerome's Primary School www.st-jeromes.co.uk

Consultation of the Parish

Over the past two years, since the three former parishes were merged into one new parish, there have been a number of consultation meetings to listen, discuss and discern the way forward. Beginning with the consultation of the former St Anne's parish, the Mission Group, the General Parish meeting and most recently the Visioning Group, there have been many wide-ranging discussions, listening exercises and ideas shared.

After the Parish meeting in the summer, the Visioning Group was formed to take the matters discussed at that meeting forward. Membership of the Group was opened to the whole parish, and 24 parishioners indicated an interest. Our meetings have welcomed between 12 and 18 members of the Parish of a wide range of ages and experience. Although our initial focus was on the use of buildings, the conversations quickly moved on to deeper issues. What is our Parish for? What is our place in the wider community? The conversations were wide ranging. People listened respectfully and there was honest debate.

The Visioning Group met for the final time on Tuesday evening. We began with the clear realisation that the Eucharist is the centre, the summit and the source of everything we do. The entire life of the Parish flows from the Eucharist, and the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is the one key event that unites the whole Parish and draws everyone together. That celebration sends us out to live the Gospel. We then drew together all the themes we had returned to often in our discussions; the care of the young, accompaniment of those preparing for the Sacraments, Prayer and Liturgy, Evangelisation, the Mission of the Church and care for the sick and dying. All of these areas are part of the everyday life of the Parish, but the Group wanted to discuss new ideas and approaches.

We were all aware of the situation we now find ourselves in. Life has changed and the way in which people interact with one another and the institutions around them has changed. The Church is no different. So, we decided that the best way ahead is to choose two areas that we can work with and focus on over the next twelve months. In this way, we will not overburden ourselves with expectations that cannot be met, but at the same time work together as one parish to move forward.

The Group decided that work with, and accompaniment of families and the young should be the first priority. Alongside this priority, I wanted to place the care of the sick and dying, and work with the bereaved.

In sharing with the Parish this record of the long process of consultation we have undertaken, and in particular the work of the Visioning Group, I want to thank all those who have been part of these consultations, for the meetings attended, for the listening, for the sharing of views and for the efforts made to bring together those of different views. In particular, I want to thank Fr. Phil Inch, the Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Development, who has attended

our meetings and guided our conversations over these past couple of years since our merger. He is now preparing to visit other Parishes to help them to enter into a similar process to the one we have been through. His experience of what is happening across the whole diocese has been essential in giving a helpful context to all our discussions.

In the coming weeks, I shall be letting you know how we will move forward in the care of families and the young, and the care of the sick, dying and bereaved. In the meantime, let us ask the Lord in our Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist, to draw us closer to him and to one another, so that his love may be clearly seen by all.

God bless you,
Father John

November Pious List

November is the traditional month of prayer for our loved ones who have died. During the month of November, all the Masses celebrated in our churches are offered for those named on the Pious List. The names will rest before the altar. Please take a Pious List envelope from the back of the church, insert the name of your loved one, along with a Mass offering and hand it in as soon as possible.

Compassion Acts

Formby Food Pantry – *Blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

The Gild Hall Activity Centre opened its doors on Thursday this week, to the new Formby Pantry shop and is run by local volunteers from Compassion Acts, a local Christian charity and Churches Together in Formby; the Food Pantry takes place on **Thursdays 11am – 1pm**. With the cost of living crisis more of us are finding budgets tight and the pantry is a weekly food club over a 12-month period, designed for people who are just about managing and to prevent poverty. Members pay £5 and choose groceries worth about £20 and can access a school uniform hub, benefits and debt advice, fuel bank and most importantly, enjoy mutual support and friendship through the ups and downs of everyday life. Formby Food Pantry members have said “*it has been a life saver*”, “*you have really helped me through a difficult time in my life*”, “*it is making such a difference, thank you*” and some members also volunteer. In the next month, we plan to open a warm space at the same time. This will be open to anyone, not just those using the Pantry.

This is part of our mission and outreach as a parish and we're delighted that it is being hosted in the Gild Hall Activity Centre. Thank you to Father John for welcoming us to the Activity Centre and to all the parishioners at Our Lady of Compassion for your very generous support: - the food donations collected each week, which go to the Pantry and local foodbanks, for your prayers and for those who help in so many ways.

Compassion Acts is a local Christian charity set up by churches in Southport and Formby. It aims to prevent poverty and support people who are experiencing poverty in all its forms. As well as running 7 foodbanks, 5 food pantries and many prevention projects, we work with schools, families, churches, retailers and other charities to prevent and minimise the impact of poverty. In 2021 the benefits/debt advice volunteer team helped 900 people to claim an average of £1,200 each last year in unclaimed benefits, with the result that most then didn't need foodbanks or food pantries. If you are interested in volunteering on a Thursday morning, drop in and see us at the Activity Centre, phone Dympna on 07722 014530 or visit the website below. Roles include chatting with members, serving refreshments or helping with the fresh food donated from supermarkets. If you know of anyone who would be interested in finding out more and possibly joining the pantry, they can phone or text 07526897384 or visit our website www.compassionacts.uk. Dympna Edwards, Pantry Volunteer & Chair of Trustees

SVP

There will be a retiring collection for the SVP at all masses on **5th/6th November**. Parishioners who will be away or who are unable to attend Mass can make donations directly to the SVP bank account the details of which are: **Account Name: D11908 The Parish of Formby Sort code: 60-0-04 Account No.: 46084517.**

The October SVP newsletter is also available for collection. Thank you.

The Chatterry

This week, local historian and author Joan Rimmer, makes a welcome return to The Chatterry. In this talk Joan will reflect upon some of the local characters and personalities that she has known in the village over many years. Names that will probably be familiar to many long-standing parishioners of Formby...so come along on Wednesday afternoon, 2pm to 3.30pm in the lounges of the Gild Hall and take a trip down "Memory Lane" with Joan and her entertaining recollections.

Irenaeus Project

We are delighted to have Charles Whitehead here at the Irenaeus Centre on Saturday 5th November for our next 'Come and See' day. Charles is the author of the best-selling book Pentecost Is Always for Living. In July 2002, Pope St. John Paul II made him a Knight of St. Gregory in recognition of his international work in the Church. To book your place, email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

Parish Notices

A parish notice board that was once outside the entrance to St. Anne's church, has now been refurbished and relocated to the wall on the right-hand side of the main entrance doors to Our Lady's. A copy of the weekly parish newsletter will be inserted each week and we hope that this will be both helpful and informative for parishioners, who may not have collected one at the weekend. A reminder also that the weekly newsletter is also available on the parish website.

OLOC 200 Club

The winning number for the September draw was **157**. 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 boards at Our Lady's and St. Jerome's. Good luck!

Come for Coffee/Tea

Until further notice, coffee/tea for parishioners will be available in St. Jerome's lounge on a Monday and Thursday between 9am -10am.

Christmas Fayre 2022 – Saturday 26th November

The plans for the Christmas Fayre overall are progressing well. We will be having a variety of stalls including standard favourites such as bottle tombola, chocolate tombola, cakes, books and toys, Christmas jumpers, toiletries plus several games and of course Father Christmas. We will soon be asking for stall donations and volunteers to help make the event a success, so please pick up a flyer from the back of the Church (or from the website www.ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk) for more details and opportunity to get involved. In the meantime, if you would like more information do, please contact us - and thank you for those who have already volunteered. Steve & Toni Drury.

Our Lady's Fell Walkers

Our walks on **Saturday 12th November** 2022 are from the village of Arneside in Cumbria, a former fishing port with views across Morecambe Bay and a haven for birds, rare butterflies and renowned for its limestone pavements, ancient woodlands and coastal scenery.

Walk A starts and finishes in Arneside and takes in Arneside Knott where we stop to admire the views. We walk on and pass by Arneside Tower, Eaves Wood and Hazelslack Tower and return to Arneside through Storth and a path along the estuary. Most paths are good, though leaves underfoot can be slippery, and we may cross some fields with young cattle. A total of ten miles and 1200 ft of climb.

Walk B follows a **similar route to the A party, though we ignore** the actual trig point of the Knot (a climb of 450ft). Then we descend through the woods and across the valley to Arneside Tower. Skirting the woods and following the paths around to Elmslack (lunch stop), from here it is on to Waterslack, Challan Hall and around the edge of the nature reserve, following paths back into Arneside. Generally, the paths are good, with little mud and a few stiles, total ascent 850ft, of this 450ft is Arneside Knott and a distance of seven miles. There are cafes and pubs aplenty especially along the historic promenade together with small independent shops to browse, all with stunning views across the Bay for you to enjoy post walk, so book your place early.