



Our Lady of Compassion Formby

4th Feb 2024 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year B, Weekdays Cycle 2, psalter week 1

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.

- **Parish Family Fun Day** – 6th May 12 noon – 4pm 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 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
Tuesday 6 th Feb	10.00am	Requiem Mass – Patricia Starkey	
Wednesday 7 th Feb	09.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Pat Kinman
Thursday 8 th Feb	09.15 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Jim McAuley
Saturday 10 th Feb	6.00pm	Our Lady of Compassion	Freda Morris
Sunday 11 th Feb	9.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Parish Community
	11.00am	Our Lady of Compassion	Alan Wright

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

Weekly Collection £1,166.64 Thank you!

Mass Intentions Received w/c 29th Jan – Teresa & Ken Campbell, Geoffrey Davies, Frederick Wilson, L&P Private Intention, Brian Jones, Alan Wright.

■ **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, Hilary Barton and Rachel Jones.

Parish Notices

■ Deanery Synodal Council

Unfortunately, the communication provided to us last week, which was attached to the newsletter, omitted the email address to send comments. If you would like to comment please email them to: bcmiller1@icloud.com

■ Sacrament of Confirmation 2024

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■ Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

All Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to attend a meeting on **Saturday 17th February 2024** at 11am at Our Lady's church, please use the Waitrose entrance. Thank you.

■ Family Mass

We are moving Family Masses to the **first Sunday of each month from March**, to coincide with Sunday brunch also at this time each month and families are very welcome too. Our next Family Mass will therefore be **Sunday 3rd March 11am** then Sunday brunch at the activities centre from 12 noon.

■ Lourdes Pilgrimage – 7th – 11th October 2023

Sincere thanks to all those parishioners who have now completed their booking form and paid their deposits for our pilgrimage in the Autumn. Many thanks also to the three new people who have joined in the past week. **AS ANNOUNCED OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS, ALL BOOKING FORMS AND DEPOSITS ARE DUE IN TODAY.** If anyone on the initial list is not now intending to travel, please let Mike know. (879508) Thank You! **Forms may be left in the Sacristy after any Mass.**

■ The Chatterly

This week, **Wednesday 7th February**, we warmly welcome a return visit from parishioner Mary Higgins, with one of her entertaining quizzes. Mary says, "A fun quiz. No previous knowledge required and Googling for answers won't help!" Do come along and join us in the lounges of the Gild Hall, 2.30pm to 3.30pm. Tea /coffee biscuits & a raffle all for £1.50.

■ 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.

■ Foodbank Deliverers

The new rota for Foodbank Deliverers starts on Sunday 11th February 2024 and runs through until Sunday 25th April 2025. There is a copy for each of our Deliverers on the notice board by the sacristy door. Please take yours. If anyone would be able to take the parish Foodbank donations to Southport on an occasional basis, that would be great. Please contact Bruni Jones (876038). Thank you.

■ 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.

■ SVP

SVP Would like to remind parishioners that they will have the first of their 2024 parish collections during the weekend on 10th/11th February. They thank you for your continued support.

■ Parish Family Fun Day – 6th May Bank Holiday Monday

As part of our Parish celebrations for our 160th anniversary we are planning a family fun day on Bank Holiday Monday – 6th May at the Gild Hall Activity Centre, 12:00 – 16:00. We will have various games and stall attractions for all the family, including a giant inflatable slide and local artisan craft stalls. Proceeds from the event will go towards essential repairs for the church organ and supporting our Justice and Peace Group who do so much address inequalities in our world and bring comfort to those in need.

As ever we need volunteers to make this event a success. We need a minimum of 10 volunteers to assist setting up and supervising the various outside stalls along with volunteers to oversee the refreshments. Early confirmation of volunteers' availability is appreciated so we can plan appropriately to the resources available. We will arrange a planning meeting in March once we have an idea of the level of support, (details to follow).

If you are able to help make this a successful parish event please send an email to: contact@formbyevents.co.uk or Mobile (text or WhatsApp) 07767343152 providing name and contact details. Thank you, Steve & Toni Drury.

■ 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.**

■ UCM News

The UCM are meeting in the Activity Centre after the **10.00am Ash Wednesday Mass on 14th February** for their Annual General Meeting. Members are all requested to attend and it would be greatly appreciated if those who have kindly promised to donate a Bingo Prize, would they please bring it along to the meeting. (Any queries, please ring Gill Coghlan 870718).

GRAND SPRING BINGO at the Gild Hall on Wednesday, 20th March. Please note this is an afternoon event and the doors will open at 1.15pm ready to start at 2.00pm. There are some super prizes, hampers and cash prizes together with a Raffle. Refreshments are available in the interval and the Bar is also open. This event is organised by Our Lady of Compassion UCM with all proceeds supporting the following: **Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage / Our Lady of Compassion Parish projects / Methodist Befriending Group (Dementia).** Please come along and support these very worthwhile causes.

■ 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.

■ 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.

'Songs of Praise'

Saturday 16th March 2024

Dear Parishioners,

We are delighted to share the wonderful news that the BBC Programme, Songs of Praise, have chosen our beautiful church to film a selection of hymns to be broadcast in the coming months. This is an exciting and wonderful opportunity for us all.

John Beesley, the Musical Director of Our Lady's, has been in communication with the programme director, and is being guided by the production team regarding their requirements and expectations for the visit. Here is what we know so far:

Schedule

The crew is scheduled to arrive on Friday 15 March and will spend the day setting up sound and lighting equipment.

The filming will take place on Saturday 16 March from 1pm-4pm. Everyone will need to be seated well beforehand, but timings have yet to be confirmed.

What are they filming?

This is a 'Musical Content' recording, which means they want us to sing a selection of hymns (to be confirmed) which will be incorporated in their broadcasted programmes over the upcoming weeks and months. It is not a 'hosted' recording with interviews etc, it is purely to capture congregational singing.

On the day

This will be a wonderful experience, but there are a couple of things to consider before getting involved. There will be some small breaks but be aware of the physical demands of standing to sing and sitting on pews for 3 hours. You also need to be happy and comfortable being filmed and it being broadcast on national television. The TV Director will provide guidance on seating arrangements.

Preparation

Recording so many hymns in such a short space of time, will be challenging for both us and the production team. It's important that we are well organised and feel confident with all the music they need. We will be using all the selected hymns many times in the coming weeks at our 11 o'clock Mass to help us really get to know them.

Who will participate?

You! We know we can count on your enthusiasm and support. We'd love to accommodate everyone in the parish who wishes to participate on the day, so it's important to make sure you take the opportunity to register as soon as possible.

What next?

Details of how to register will be published in next week's newsletter. We have been allowed a grace period of one week for parishioners to register before it is opened up to the wider public.

Thank you in advance for your support as we venture into this wonderful experience for our parish.