



# 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

9<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025 – **First Sunday of Lent**

**Sundays Year C, Weekdays Cycle 1, Psalter week 1**

School Lane, Formby, L37 3LW

*Archdiocese of Liverpool In. Reg. Charity No: 1199714*

## Information & Events

- **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2025 – Registration Opens on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan – 17<sup>th</sup> March** - If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please register at [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk). There is also more information on our website [ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk](http://ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk) including online preparation sessions.
- **Monday Movies** – 17<sup>th</sup> March
- **Parish Spring Fayre** – 5<sup>th</sup> May 11am – 4pm



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

**Deacon:** Rev. J A McCarthy

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

**Parish Email:**  
[ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:ourladyofcompassionformby@rcaol.org.uk)

**Parish Website:** [ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk](http://ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk)

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

**Activity Centre Contact:** Karen Williamson – 07547  
800348

# Newsletter



## Mass Times

Day	Time		Intentions
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	6.00pm	Holy Mass	The Gibbons Family
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am	Holy Mass	Parish Community
	11.00am	Holy Mass – Family Mass	Eileen Martin
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	No Mass or Service		
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.15am	Stations of the Cross	
	10.00am	Service of the word & Holy Communion – attended by UCM	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	No Mass or Service		
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	6.00pm	Holy Mass	Vera Kelly
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am	Holy Mass	Parish Community
	11.00am	Holy Mass	Eileen Bynoe

**Weekly Collection: £1,085.89 Thank you!**

**Forthcoming Funerals:** Andrew Cormack 20<sup>th</sup> March at 10am, Terence Airey 26<sup>th</sup> March at 10am, Frances Janet Houghton 27<sup>th</sup> March at 10am.

**Baptisms:** We welcome into our Church, Sophie Meredith, Elliott Lancaster Del Estal.

**Mass Intentions Received w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar (to be said from May) –** Margaret McMahon, Paul Kershaw, Callow Family, Elzbieta Kajtaniak, Mary & Gerard Murch, Janet Houghton, Dympna Walker, Kiraz Erica Dullaghan, Maria Valente, Brian Palmer x2.

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

Brenda Forrest, Eileen Camidge, David Kirk, William Bell, Stephen Roberts, Margaret Liddiard, Mary Josephine Farrell, Jim Murray, Philip Locke, Tony Driscoll, Peter Swift, Andrew Cormack, David Lewin, Terence Airey, Frances Janet Houghton 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, Claire Charlton, Dominic Tomlinson, Tim Chrimes, Joe Murphy.

# Parish Notices

## LENT 2025

<b>Stations of The Cross</b>	Wednesdays at 9.15am before the 10am Mass (commences <b>March 12<sup>th</sup></b> ).
<b>Exposition of the Blessed Blessed Sacrament</b>	Tuesday and Thursday at 9.15am before 10am Mass (commences <b>Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> March</b> ).

**Please note** that the celebration of Stations of The Cross or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, will **not** take place if a Requiem Mass is listed on any particular day in the weekly parish newsletter. Stations of The Cross will **not** take place on the Wednesday of Holy Week. They will be on Good Friday morning at 10am.

### ■ **Sacrament of Confirmation 2025 – Registration Opened on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan – 17<sup>th</sup> March**

If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please register at [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk). **The registration website is open from 13<sup>th</sup> January until the 17<sup>th</sup> March.** Please also visit our website for further information ([ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk](http://ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk) under Sacraments), including online preparation sessions and what to do if your child attends a non-Catholic School or a School outside the Diocese.

### ■ **CAFOD Lent Appeal**

Family Fast Day is on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Envelopes & prayer cards will be given out 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> March. The collection will be held the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> March. If you are in a position to, please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities suffering the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. You can use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10. We will also have the contactless device in church the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you for your support. Lent prayer video <https://youtu.be/BRhixfRAQEs>

### ■ **Gift Aid Boxes for collection**

The Gift Aid Boxes for 2025/6 tax year, are now available for collection from outside the Sacristy. Could we please ask you only use the new brown envelopes from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025, as the yellow ones cannot be accepted from this date. Thank you.

### ■ **The Chatterly**

This week the Chatterly goes "Continental" as we extend a warm welcome to Graham Hofmann, who will deliver a talk on his life in Italy. In 2005 Graham went on his first visit to the country and instead of bringing back the usual holiday souvenirs, much to the surprise of his family, he returned with the news that he had purchased a house in Umbria! Now the author of three books on the region, Graham offers an honest and amusing illustration of what life is really like as a foreigner living among Italians. His talk will include extracts read from his books and promises to be an interesting and entertaining afternoon!

Doors open 2pm, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, £1.50 refreshments and raffle. All welcome. **Group 4 helpers or substitutes on duty this week.**

### ■ **UCM News**

The UCM monthly Mass will be held on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** at Our Lady's Church at 10.00am. Arrangements have been made for bacon barmes to be served afterwards in the Bay Horse. Would the members who have kindly offered to donate gifts for the raffles, please bring them along to the meeting.

### ■ **Parish Spring Fayre – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May – 11am – 4pm**

The Parish Spring Fayre will take place on the first May Bank Holiday, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May at the Activity Centre behind the Gild Hall. We hope to build on the success of last year's event with a mix of traditional stalls, games, refreshments, hot dogs and delicious cakes. The large inflatable slide, which was so popular last year, will make a return with a separate inflatable for our smaller children so they can join in the fun.

We are always looking for more helpers and new ideas, so if you would like to help make the day a success and help with organising, set up or running a stall, please let Steve or Toni Drury know. Email [contact@forbyevents.co.uk](mailto:contact@forbyevents.co.uk) or

call **07814614144**. We hope for good weather and would appreciate any loaning of gazebos to provide as much cover from the glaring sun as possible, or shelter from the rain. If you are able to assist in loaning a gazebo, please let Steve or Toni Drury know.

### Donations

A box for donations for the tombola will be at the back of church from start of April and closer to the time requests for contributions to the cake stall will be made. However, a more immediate request is for the plant stall, which was very popular last year. As the gardening season starts in earnest, with plants being divided and seeds sown, please consider if you have any that could be grown on for the plant stall. Also, if you have any old hanging baskets we would like to recycle and plant up for sale at the fayre. **Please contact let Toni Drury 07814614144**

### Monday Morning Movie – 11am, 17<sup>th</sup> March at the Activity Centre

This month's film is "Conclave", based on the novel by Robert Harris and starring Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci and Isabella Rossellini. When the Pope dies suddenly and unexpectedly, it falls to Cardinal Lawrence (Fiennes) as Dean of the College of Cardinals to oversee the Conclave during which the new Pope will be chosen. He favours his trusted forward-thinking friend Cardinal Bellini, but as tensions, secrets and ideological differences come to light, the sequestered cardinals look increasingly unlikely to reach a consensus. And how will the female religious, who as Sister Agnes (Rossellini) comments are "meant to be invisible", impact the final outcome?

This film is rated 12. Open to all adults. Free entry and refreshments.

### Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals Emergency appeal. Our Parish responds. Maybe you read the emergency appeal for help from Mary's Meals in the newsletter? The Justice and Peace group met this week and very much wanted to respond on behalf of the parish. It is tragic that in South Africa, more than 21 million children are suffering from malnutrition as a direct result of the worst drought in 100 years. The J and P are proposing to help by organising another Free Easter Raffle. A Yellow Letter with all the details of how we can work together to keep hope alive for some of these children will be available at the back of Church this week. It costs just 10p a day for Mary's Meals to feed a child at school. £20 would provide 200 nutritious school meals. How many meals could our parish donate by the end of Lent? (Spoiler alert-Raffle! Think bottles, chocolate, smellies, gift bags, baskets, fancy biscuits etc etc.). Maybe we can't save all the children, but let's give it a try! Thank you.

### St Jerome's School – Knitting Club

Calling all knitting fans! Class 3 at St Jerome's are in need of some assistance with their knitting skills. We are aiming to create some scarves to add to our artwork for our Catholic Social Teaching values. If anybody could spare an hour a week during the lead up to Lent, please ring the school and let us know! You would be really helping the children out and are sure to have fun along the way! **Time: Each Tuesday 2pm-3pm (Starting Tue 4th March)**  
**Location: St Jerome's Catholic Primary School. Contact: 01704 833 211**

### Volunteers needed

Can you volunteer some time? A few hours per week? The Hospice Africa Ainsdale Charity Shop (207, Heathfield Road, PR8 3HE), is looking for trustworthy and cheerful volunteers to help support its important work of bringing palliative care and pain relief to the dying in Africa. Hospice Africa relies heavily on the income from its charity shops and so we really need more volunteers to help in shop related duties. If you are interested in volunteering or in the work we do, please contact me directly at [merrimanm2@gmail.com](mailto:merrimanm2@gmail.com) or [hospiceafrica.uk@gmail.com](mailto:hospiceafrica.uk@gmail.com) to find out more. Alternatively leave a message on 01695 578209. Thank you.

### St Joseph's Prayer Centre - Blundell Avenue, Formby, Liverpool L37 IPH

St Joseph's Prayer Centre is a retreat and spirituality centre located within the National Trust Nature Reserve at Freshfield on Merseyside. We are available for day visits and residential stays for individuals or groups, seeking a quiet and peaceful place to pray, reflect or meet. We also offer a number of retreats and events.

### COMING EVENTS


Lent	Each Friday 7.00pm	Way of the Cross, pray and reflect
April	26 – 27	Retreat: Behold and Capture (Photography and prayer)
May	2 - 4	12 Step Spirituality
June	16 – 20	Guided Retreat led by Fr. John Mc.Cluskey MHM
	27 – 29	Retreat: Diving Deeper led by Peter and Michelle Moran
Sept	7 – 13	Guided Retreat led by Fr. John Mc.Cluskey MHM
	19 - 21	Retreat Living your life in the Power of the Holy Spirit. Led by Ros Powell


Healing Service and Healing Mass each Month May – September. More details [theprayercentre.sti@psmgs.org.uk](mailto:theprayercentre.sti@psmgs.org.uk)

## Behold & Capture Photography & Spiritual Reflection Retreat – St Joseph’s Prayer Centre

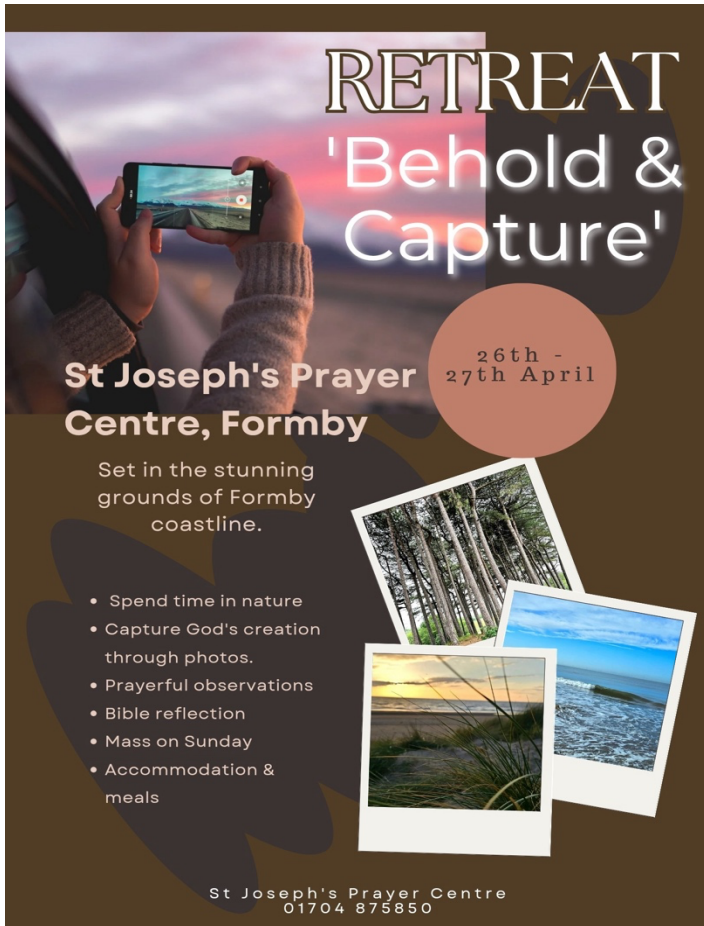
Immerse yourself in the breathtaking beauty of the Formby coastline during this unique retreat at St Joseph’s Prayer Centre. Take time to reflect, connect with God through nature, and capture the stunning surroundings through photography—no experience required! Bring your camera or simply use your mobile phone. The retreat includes guided discussions, reflective activities, and opportunities to explore the natural beauty of the area.

### Retreat Options:

 **Weekend Retreat** (Saturday 10 AM – Sunday 12 noon, after Mass) – £75 (includes meals & accommodation)

 **Saturday Only** (10 AM – 4 PM) – £25 (includes meals)

To book your place, contact St Joseph’s Prayer Centre: **01704 875850**



# RETREAT

## 'Behold & Capture'

26th - 27th April

### St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Formby

Set in the stunning grounds of Formby coastline.

- Spend time in nature
- Capture God's creation through photos.
- Prayerful observations
- Bible reflection
- Mass on Sunday
- Accommodation & meals

St Joseph's Prayer Centre  
01704 875850

## Retreat 'Behold & Capture'

Spend time in this stunning location and explore God's creation through photography.



#### No photographic experience needed:

Use a camera or the camera on your phone.



#### Spend quiet time in prayer.

The retreat will give you time for quiet reflection and prayer. Read through scripture and explore the pinewoods, beach and sand dunes.



#### Group discussion:

Time to share your thoughts and photos with others.

Meals and accommodation included

£75 Saturday-Sunday

£25 Saturday day.

Weekend starts 10am Saturday to noon Sunday after Mass.

Saturday day starts 10am to 4pm.

### BOOK NOW

St Joseph's Prayer Centre


Blundell Avenue,

Formby,

Liverpool L37 1PH

Telephone - 01704 875850

Email - [thheprayercentre.stjpsmsg.org.uk](mailto:thheprayercentre.stjpsmsg.org.uk)

 [www.stjosephsprayercentre.com](http://www.stjosephsprayercentre.com)



26th - 27th  
April  
2025

