



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

2nd Mar 2025 – 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year C, Weekdays Cycle 1, Psalter week 4

School Lane, Formby, L37 3LW

Archdiocese of Liverpool In. Reg. Charity No: 1199714

Information & Events

- **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2025 – Registration Opens on 13th Jan – 17th March** - If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please register at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk. There is also more information on our website ourladyofcompassionformby.org.uk including online preparation sessions.
- **Monday Movies** – 17th March

Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

Parish Priest: Rev. Mgr. John M Walsh

Deacon: 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

Activity Centre Contact: Karen Williamson – 07547
800348

Newsletter



Mass Times

Day	Time		Intentions
Saturday 1 st Mar	6.00pm	Holy Mass	Kathleen W Duddy
Sunday 2 nd Mar	9.00am	Holy Mass	Parish Community
	11.00am	Holy Mass	Gerry Callaghan
Tuesday 4 th Mar	10.00am	Requiem Mass – Peter Swift	

ASH WEDNESDAY – THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON OF LENT

Wednesday 5 th Mar	10.00am	Holy Mass	Maeve Maxey
	7.30pm	Holy Mass	
Thursday 6 th Mar	09.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.00am	Holy Mass	Maureen Byrne & Family
Saturday 8 th Mar	6.00pm	Holy Mass	The Gibbons Family
Sunday 9 th Mar	9.00am	Holy Mass	Parish Community
	11.00am	Holy Mass – Family Mass	Eileen Martin

Weekly Collection: £1,094.02 Thank you!

Forthcoming Funerals: Peter Swift 4th March at 10am, Andrew Cormack 20th March at 10am.

Mass Intentions Received w/c 24th Feb – Martin Jackson, Irene Brouwes Houben.

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 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, David Lewin.

Parish Notices

LENT 2025

Ash Wednesday 5th March	10am <u>AND</u> 7.30pm. Mass with Blessing and distribution of Ashes Fr John will lead and Ash Wednesday service for our children in Our Lady of Compassion & St Jerome's Primary Schools
Stations of The Cross	Wednesdays at 9.15am before the 10am Mass (commences March 12th).
Exposition of the Blessed Blessed Sacrament	Tuesday and Thursday at 9.15am before 10am Mass (commences Thurs 6th March).

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ARRANGEMENTS (children who do not attend Our Lady's or St Jerome's Schools)

- All preparation is done by the local parish schools. If your child does not attend one of the local parish schools you can contact them and ask for your child to be included in the preparation sessions **or**
- You can take your child through preparation yourself – please contact St Paul's book shop in Liverpool who can provide all the information.

Dates for reception of First Holy Communion

10th May at 10am – for Our Lady of Compassion School

17th May at 10am – for St Jerome's School

- Please inform the Church Parish Office via email which date you would like and include a copy of your child's baptism certificate.

MASS INTENTIONS – Current timeframe for Masses to be said.

Please note the Mass Intentions list is currently full as there are **30 waiting to be said**. Therefore, any Mass intentions received from today will be said from the beginning of **May onwards**. Thank you.

■ **Sacrament of Confirmation 2025 – Registration Opened on 13th Jan – 17th March**

If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please register at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk. **The registration website is open from 13th January until the 17th March.** Please also visit our website for further information (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.

■ **Lent – St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Freshfield**

Way of The Cross, **each Friday at 7pm**. A time of prayer, reflection and sharing. All are welcome.

■ **CAFOD Lent Appeal**

Family Fast Day is on Friday 14th March. Envelopes & prayer cards will be given out 8th/9th March. The collection will be held the weekend of 15th/16th 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 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 15th/16th March. Thank you for your support. Lent prayer video <https://youtu.be/BRhixfRAQEs>

■ The Chatterry

The Chatterry reopens after the mid-season break on **Wednesday 5th March** in the Parish Activity Centre behind the Gild Hall. Doors open 2pm to 3.30pm. This week we warmly welcome long standing and well-known parishioners Alice and Patrick Joyce who will be speaking about their “West African Eye Mission in Ghana.” Alice, our retired village optician and Patrick, a consultant eye surgeon, will be joined by Sister Aba. O.H.B. (Order of the Holy Paraclete) who was also involved in the mission and fortunately for us, just happens to be visiting Formby at the moment. All are welcome to come and join us for this very special talk. Refreshments including weekly raffle £1.50. **Group 4 helpers or their stand ins on rota duty this week.**

■ Parish Spring Fayre – Monday 5th May – 11am – 4pm

The Parish Spring Fayre will take place on the first May Bank Holiday, Monday 5th 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 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 Forthcoming Dates 2025

Venue: The Activity Centre **Start time:** 11am. Details of the film to be shown will appear in the Newsletter each month, prior to the screening. Open to all adults. Free entry and refreshments.

17th March 14th April	19th May 16th June	14th July August (TBC)	15th September 13th October	10th November 8th December
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■ Thank You to Formby Benevolent Trust for the Elderly

A huge thank you to Formby Benevolent Trust for the Elderly and Dympna Edwards for her hard work in successfully securing funding of £3,000 towards much needed doors and a level access ramp for the Activity Centre.

■ OLOC Fell Walkers

OLOC Fell Walkers have two circular walks on Saturday 8.3.25 from Cartmel in Cumbria, an A walk of 11 miles and a B walk of 8 miles. The A walk is faster and higher and the B walk, lower and slower. Each walk traverses some lovely countryside which is a mixture of woodland, rough fell and bridleways and the end of the walks there will be an opportunity to explore the village where there are a couple of pubs and tea shops in the main square as well as the famous sticky toffee pudding shop and nearby Cartmel Priory. 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 barm and time after the walk to visit shops, cafes and pubs in the area. Please wear weather appropriate clothing and bring a packed lunch together with something waterproof to sit on. Sticks can also be helpful.

■ 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

■ OLOC 200 Club

The winning number for the **January** draw was number **15**. 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 or if by Standing Order - sort code: 30-17-48. acc. number: 01355280). Good luck!

■ Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals has recently launched an emergency appeal for children and families in Southern Africa who urgently need help. The region is experiencing its worst drought in 100 years. Crops have failed, cattle are dying, and food is scarce and expensive. The situation is desperate; an estimated 21 million children are suffering from malnutrition. Mary's Meals is providing a lifeline to families in four of the worst-affected countries, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It costs just 10p a day to feed a child at school with Mary's Meals. With your support we can help many thousands more children and families through this devastating drought. Please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk and find out more about our Emergency in Southern Africa appeal.

■ St Joseph's Prayer Centre - Blundell Avenue, Formby, Liverpool L37 1PH

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

■ 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

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