

Diary Events This Week:

SUNDAY 25th Dec: 9.30am: No Children's Liturgy; 2pm: No Indian Dance Class. 4.30pm: No Young Adults Group (20-30+); **MONDAY:** 9am: No Pre-School Club*; 3.20pm: No After-School Club* 6pm: No Cubs; 7.30pm: No Scouts; **TUESDAY:** No Seekers or GFF Youth Group; 7.30pm: No Prayer Group; **WEDNESDAY:** **THURSDAY:** 6.15pm: No Beavers; 7.30pm: No Journey in Faith; **FRIDAY:** **SATURDAY:** 9am: No Pilates; 10.30am: No Spanish Class; 7.30pm; AA Meeting. * *These events each day Mon – Fri. Advance Diary Dates:*

PARISH PETITION BOOK

near Our Lady's statue. For your intentions which will be prayed for at the Sunday Masses and at other times.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL:

First Saturday - 10.00am Mass.
Blest medals available.

ABORTION RECOVERY HELPLINE Arch can help: 0845 603 8501- Poster

SAFEGUARDING

Parish Safeguarding Officers are Mike Simpson and Brenda Scales

NEW TO THE PARISH? Or if you have changed: email, phone or address? Please complete the *Details Update Form* available in the porch.

CENACOLO COMMUNITY:

Thank you for your support with gifts

PRESTON FOOD BANK Thanks for last collection. **Next: Jan-14/15**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: to help with the Youth Groups on Tues evening. If you are able to spare a couple of hours each week in term time please see Fr. D. or email fdarren@saintclares.co.uk Age range school years 4-6 & 7-11.

FROM THE PTFA

Used Batteries / Mobile Phones please place in box in porch. Funds to Bosnia

ON-LINE SHOPPING: 'Shopping in the sales!' Before you shop on line visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and look for St. Clare's New Porch Fund. **£439.00** raised so far – can you help increase this amount? It costs you nothing!

St. Clare's School

Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston PR2 9HH Tel 01772 787037 Fax 01772 787016
Email: head@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk Headteacher: Mrs A Charnley.



ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

25th December 2016



Have you ever wondered why the angels announced the good news of Jesus' birth to the shepherds and not say to the local mayor or governor? Strange isn't it? But then God does things differently. Lowly shepherds were not sophisticated enough to explain away this strange phenomenon. They took it at face value and they went and found Christ. The message seems to be that it is the lowly, the humble, the uncomplicated who find Christ.

Jesus came in humility and was accepted by the humble. We can ask ourselves the question, 'Am I humble enough to find Christ?'

The Clergy wish you a happy and holy Christmas.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve: 6pm Vigil Mass & Carols
Carol Service 10.30pm
Night Mass: 11pm with blessing of crib at midnight.
Morning Mass 10am.
No evening Mass.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday St Stephen's Day
(Boxing Day)

Altar Servers' Mass 10am

Tues – Sat Mass 10am

Saturday: **Vigil** 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am and 12 noon

No Evening Mass today

*For unto us a child
is born,
king of all creation*

Priests: Christopher Loughran & Darren Carden. **Deacon:** Fred Sanderson (Rtd)

PRESBYTERY: Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston. PR2 9HH

Tel. 01772 719604. Fax. 01772 774963

E-mail: enquiries@saintclares.co.uk Website: www.saintclares.co.uk

Lancaster R.C. Diocesan Trustees Registered – Registered Charity No. 234331

MASSES THIS WEEK: 25th Dec: – Mass Book Page

Office: Office: Psalter Week 1; Sunday: Cycle A; Proper of Christmas

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

6pm: Christopher Routledge RIP & People of the Parish **Vigil Christmas Eve**

7pm: No Holy Mass – with the NeoCatechumenal Way

10.30pm: Carols and Lessons

11pm: *Night Mass with Blessing of Crib at Midnight:* Thomas Wilson RIP & Holy Souls.

10am: Fred Newsham RIP & William & Isabel Loughran RIP

Monday ST STEPHEN

10am: Thomas Wilson RIP & Thanksgiving (WJW)

5.15pm: No Mass in RPH

Tuesday ST JOHN

10am: Bill Gardner Sick & Special Intention (MS)

Wednesday THE HOLY INNOCENTS

10am: Margaret Poulton RIP

7.30pm: No Liturgy of the Word with the NeoCatechumenal Way

Thursday: ST THOMAS BECKET

10am: In thanks for our Priests

Friday: THE HOLY FAMILY

10am: Patrick Ruane & Theresa & John Topping RIP

5.15pm: No Mass in RPH

Saturday Seventh Day of Christmas Octave

10am: Private Intention

MARY MOTHER OF GOD

6pm: People of the Parish **Vigil**

9pm: Holy Mass – with the NeoCatechumenal Way

9.30am: Esther Naylor RIP

12 noon: Parish Benefactors

No evening Mass

LATELY DEAD:

ANNIVERSARIES: Reginald Brown, Tom Gill, Sheila Borrill, Jean Andrew.

Pope's Prayer Intentions for December: **1.** That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated the world over. **2.** That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness and truth of the Gospel which gives joy and hope to life.

MEDJUGORJE 2017: a visit to the Shrine - from 22nd – 29th August 2017. £580 per person (sharing). All details on the poster.

MONASTIC EXPERIENCE WEEKEND: Fri 27th –Sun 29th Jan 2017 at the Monastery of Our Lady of Hyning, Carnforth. Visit: www.bernardine.org see poster

FLAME: Event for young people. Wembley Arena March 11th 2017. Join Fr. Darren for this weekend away, 10-12 March. Details on poster in porch.

On Friday 6th January at 7pm there will be a *Mass of Thanksgiving* for the work of Fr. Loughran and Fr. Darren in the Parish during their time here. This will be followed by a Presentation and 'Jacob's Join' in the Parish Hall.
Everyone welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Alistair Heywood baptised here last Sunday.

THANK YOU: to all who took part and organised our Carols by Candlelight Service and the refreshments afterwards. £216.08 was raised for Mary's Meals. www.marysmeals.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS: to those who were able to attend the early morning adoration and Morning Prayer during Advent.

PRIESTS: As announced, the bishop is transferring both Fr. Loughran and Fr. Darren to new appointments. Fr. Andrew Allman is posted here as the new Parish Priest and Hospital Chaplain. Moves take place January 9th.

THANK YOU: to the Spanish Class who recently raised £312 for Aid to the Church in Need and donated £300 for the Church Porch Fund; and to the Pilates Class who raise funds for Youth Activities.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: List of intentions by the statue of Our Lady.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES 2017: Available in the porch £3 each

MARY'S MEALS: earlier this year, the PPC decided to give 1% of the church collection in the *Year of Mercy* to Mary's Meals. £600 has been sent.

PORCH UPDATE: A further meeting has taken place this week with the architect, the Diocesan Property Manager and members of the Design Team. Good progress was made.

200 CLUB: Dec. 1st prize No 51 £155 Prisca Lepcha; 2nd prize No 73 £93 Robert Thompson; 3rd prize No 27 £62 Mr & Mrs Carden. See the list on notice board for other Special Christmas Draw prize winners. The draws have raised £3,512 for the Porch Fund this year and the same amount has been paid out in prizes.

MARRIAGE COURSE: will be offered here for those planning to marry in 2017 (or simply to take another look at the teaching on marriage) beginning Thursday 19th January. To book on the course contact: sian_martin@btinternet.com

LIFE GROUP: Next meeting is at St Clare's, Mon, 16th Jan, 6pm for 6.30pm. LIFE's Chief Education Officer (North West) will offer an evening's training on how to speak on Life issues in conversation. Refreshments will be provided.

CASTLERIGG MANOR: volunteers needed to join Gap-Year team from January. See poster in porch or team@castleriggmanor.co.uk for more details.

THINKING SCRIPTURE 2017: holiday and study time, 14th-17th July (long weekend) 14th-21st October (full week) at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria. See poster.

LAST WEEK: Attended: 432; Collection: £944.82. Thank you.