

ROYAL PRESTON HOSPITAL CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2014 ISSUE 5

1ST January 2014

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Reflection on ministry

Mark Belderbos

Message from the Chaplain

Happy New Year to you all.

I hope that you have all had a happy and Holy Christmas. Well we are now at the doorway of a new year; I hope this year will be a great year for you all. I take this opportunity to thank you all for the time and the commitment that you give to the Catholic Chaplaincy at the Royal Preston hospital. You really make a difference to our brothers and sisters who find themselves in hospital and without all of you the Catholic Chaplaincy would not be as effective as it is.

What you do for our brothers and sisters is greatly appreciated by them, this is very evident in the comments I receive from the Patients and their families. God Bless you all.

Fr. Darren Carden Chaplain

Chaplaincy ministry Mark Belderbos

It is a great privilege to be a member of the Hospital Catholic Chaplaincy team and to be able to visit many patients who are members of the Catholic Church. It is a wonderful opportunity to be able to assist and encourage the patients, not only in the hope that their sickness and suffering may be eliminated for their improvement, but even more importantly to promote and fully establish their devotion to Almighty God, and encourage them to establish an absolute desire to be fully involved in their constant attention to the teaching of the Catholic Church and the greatest possible wish to lead their soul to the eternal reward of a place in the Kingdom of Heaven.

It is extremely important to be ready to receive very different reactions from the particular patients, some of whom are desperately keen to concentrate on their prayers and their absolute desire to receive Holy Communion, but also others who need every encouragement to devote themselves to the goodness and love of every aspect of spirituality, which will help them so much to know, love and serve the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and the Blessed Mother of God. Such circumstances do offer us the great opportunity to assist patients in their great devotion, and also to effect a measure of evangelisation and encouragement, which is so important in acting effectively as an Chaplains Assistant.

The regular activity within the Catholic Chaplaincy is of a most satisfactory level, due entirely to the most constant and very encouraging plans and requirements established by the Catholic Chaplain Fr Darren Carden and his assistant Sr. Anne Goodman.

Mark Belderbos Chanlains Assistant

What's New

What's New

Since becoming Chaplain in October 2011 the chaplaincy team has grown from six volunteers to now twenty four volunteers. This has only been possible with people like you responding to God's call to this special ministry. The ministry that you offer patients is one of love and compassion, which can be emotionally draining for you as an individual. With this in mind I feel that it is important that especially new volunteers are supported in their ministry, therefore I have asked Margaret Walker to take on the role of volunteer mentor to which she has kindly agreed. Margaret has been part of the Chaplaincy team since 2005 and has plenty of experience in this ministry. During the month of January Margaret will accompany the new volunteers that were commissioned in September to offer support where it may be needed. Please remember that as Chaplain my door is always open to any member of the team who would like to talk at any time.

Going from Strength to Strength

Going from Strength to Strength

As a chaplaincy team we are now able to offer chaplaincy services three times per week, to nearly all the wards. These visits are greatly appreciated by the patients and their families. On average we are visiting 75% of patients each time that we set out as a team on ward visits. There is still 25% for whatever reasons do not receive a visit, thankfully over the course of the week it is not the same 25% that do not receive a visit meaning that each and every Catholic patient should have come into contact with a member of the Catholic Chaplaincy team. This is a fantastic achievement but there are still areas of the Catholic Chaplaincy that require further support.

The other areas in the Catholic Chaplaincy that require support are specialised areas such as Medical Assessment ward, Rapid Assessment ward, Critical Care unit and responding to requests as and when required. These areas would normally be covered by myself and Sr. Anne, but due to the referral system and an increased number of requests to see a priest coupled with my other duties, these areas have now solely fallen to Sr. Anne on top of her other day to day duties in the Catholic Chaplaincy Department. Therefore I am requesting volunteers to come forward to assist in some of these areas. This may mean changing the day that you come into the hospital or simply transferring from your current wards to these more specialised wards. Ideally we need someone covering these areas every day of the week. I would ask that those volunteers who have been in the Catholic Chaplaincy for more than two years consider this role within the department. If you feel that you can help, I would ask that you make contact with me to discuss this role in more detail.

These changes within the department will mean that more volunteers will need to be recruited in the near future. If you know anyone that maybe suitable to volunteer within the Catholic Chaplaincy Department, I would ask that you encourage them to make contact with me. I will also be requesting volunteers in the usual way, by asking priests to promote volunteering at the hospital via the weekly newsletter and providing a poster for each parish.

I thank you in anticipation of your cooperation in these matters.

Fr. Darren Carden Chaplain

January scripture readings and reflections for Sunday's Year A

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY 5th JANUARY 2013

Office: Psalter Wk.2. **Readings:** Sunday: Cycle A; Weekdays after Epiphany
1st Reading Isaiah 60: 1-6 Psalm 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13 2nd Reading 1st Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6 Gospel St Matthew 2:1-12

By traditional date, we are one day early with this feast; it is one of those Holy Days moved to the nearest Sunday. But whenever it is we celebrate the Epiphany, we recall that Jesus came for all people and not just the Jewish nation. In the shepherds he was revealed to the Jews but, in the wise men he is shown to be the Saviour of all people. We are represented at the crib of Christ through those foreigners and now it is up to us to re-present Christ to our brothers and sisters.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 12th JANUARY 2013

Office: Psalter Wk.1. **Readings:** Sunday: Cycle A; Weekdays Year 2
1st Reading Isaiah 42: 1-4. 6-7 Psalm 28:1-4, 9-10. 2nd Reading Acts of the Apostles 10 : 34-38
Gospel St Matthew 3:13-17

Today's Mass is the celebration of the Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. Jesus' Baptism is completely unlike our own. Our Baptism forgives our sins and inserts us into the Salvation Jesus won for us. Jesus was the sinless one; His Baptism merely marked the beginning of his public ministry of teaching, healing and forgiving.

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 19th JANUARY 2013

Office: Psalter Wk.2. **Readings:** Sunday: Cycle A; Weekdays Year 2
1st Reading Isaiah 49: 3.5-6, Psalm 39:2. 4. 7-10 2nd Reading 1st Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1:1-3 Gospel St John 1:29-34

The three Sunday's after Christmas form a trilogy; a trilogy of revelation. In each of the celebrations Jesus is revealed for who he is: God amongst us. In the Epiphany he was revealed to the wise men, at his baptism, he was revealed as the Messiah, and today with John saying look there is the Lamb of God, he is revealed as the one to take way our sins.

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26th JANUARY 2013

Office: Psalter Wk.3. **Readings:** Sunday: Cycle A; Weekdays Year 2
1st reading Isaiah 8: 23 – 9:3, Psalm 26:1. 4. 13-14 2nd reading St Paul to the Corinthians 1: 10-13. 17 Gospel St Matthew 4:12-23.

Today we have the beginning of the call of Jesus's disciples, first Simon and his brother Andrew, then James and John the sons of Zebedee. All four of these men when they were called dropped what they were doing and followed Jesus. We too are called to follow the Lord; the question for us is what prevents us from following him fully. Maybe this week we could spend some time in prayer discovering what prevents us from fully following the Lord.

Chaplaincy Activity 2013

December

Total

Total 1067

Gone Home 18

Total 1049

Chat 352

Payer 160

H/C 336

	4
	197

Total 852

Other Visits 0

81%

Chaplaincy Activity 2012

December Total 2012

Total 892

Gone Home 24

Total 868

Chat 210

Payer 94

H/C 378

Not Interested	7
Not Seen	179

Total 689

Other Visits 0

79%

Worship in the Chapel

Monday 30th December 2013

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 3rd January 2014

No Mass

Monday 6th January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 10th January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Monday 13th January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 17th January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Monday 20th January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 25th January 2014

No Mass

Monday 27th January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15

Friday 31st January 2014

Holy Mass 17:15