

St John the Evangelist

Poulton-le-Fylde

Sunday 10th January 2021

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Week 1 of Ordinary Time

Date	Time	Feast	Pray for:
Saturday Jan 9 th	6.00pm	<i>Baptism of the Lord</i> SUNDAY Vigil MASS – St John's	People of the Parish
Sunday Jan 10th	-	NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS – St John's or Children's Liturgy of the Word NO Excellent Coffee in the Hall after Mass	
Monday Jan 11 th	12.00	... of First week in Ordinary Time NO PUBLIC Prayer & Liturgy of Word <i>Funeral for: Pat Longton</i>	(Crematorium)
Tuesday Jan 12 th	9.30am	... of First week in Ordinary Time Morning Mass (St John's)	Kath Keohane
Wednesday Jan 13 th	9.30am	... of First week in Ordinary Time Morning Mass (St Martin's Chapel)	Kath Wainman
Thursday Jan 14 th	9.30am	... of First week in Ordinary Time Morning Mass (St John's)	Milton Family
Friday Jan 15 th	9.30am	... of First week in Ordinary Time Morning Mass (St John's)	Rickwood & Thompson Family
Saturday Jan 16 th	6.00pm	... of First week in Ordinary Time Second Sunday in Ordinary Time SUNDAY VIGIL MASS – St John's	People of the Parish
Sunday Jan 17th	-	NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS – St John's No Children's Liturgy of the Word No Excellent Coffee in the Hall after Mass	

(Sundays of Ordinary Time: Year B; Weekdays: Advent)

Reconciliation: If you wish to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation please contact Fr Peter and we can arrange a time to meet in the Presbytery at a distance (Providing neither of us has the symptoms)

Please pray for: Veronica Morris, Megan (aged 11), Louis Crowson, Christopher Brown, Pauline Cafferty, Antonio Palmer, Joanne Porter, Ann Marie Cooke, Margaret Johnston, Pat Jackson, Paul Sharrock, Shelly Caine and all those who are sick.

Anniversaries: JANUARY 2nd Monica Milton; 3rd Joseph Cassidy, Peggie Brown, Teresa Hoover, Zeta Kathleen Miller, Mary Foley, Hannah Hunt, 6th Milly Crowson, Ted McParland, 15th Diane Brooks, Joan Rogers, 19th David Wilkinson, 20th Anne Kirkham, 23rd Edward Rickwood, 27th Canon Edward Mitchell, 29th Tony Simmons, James Lawless

Lately Dead: Patricia Longton, Funeral Service at Carleton 11th January at 12.00;
Beryl Whitely
(Attendance by invitation of the family only)
Mgr James Hooke, Fr John Winstanley's Mother

Public Masses

If you remember the bishop suggested that we might be careful about gathering for Mass on Christmas Day, but suggested we make use of the Masses over the Christmas Season. Mass This week:

Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St John's
Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	St Martin's
Thursday	9.30am	Mass	St John's
Friday	9.30am	Mass	St John's
Saturday	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	St John's

Keep Safe at this Time!

Despite being in the Third Lockdown, and awaiting Vaccination, we have been asked to keep safe. At present the government has appreciated what a good job church stewards are doing in regulating safety and sanitising – we should clap them? They would be embarrassed! Do express appreciation, though.

The only difference for us at this time is that we are not allowed to meet outside church in groups of more than 2 so, whilst we need to keep a careful eye on each other, please be aware of this.

There are discussions, especially in high risk areas (London) regarding closing places of worship but keep an eye on the news about this.

A message from Bishop Paul: Along with the latest information from the Hierarchy on the new restrictions, Bishop Paul has also written to the priests of the Diocese, (gently reminding us, I'm sure, that the Grace of Orders does not make us immune to Covid). What he writes, of course, applies to all of us:

"In the light of the new variant of the virus, which is more transmissible, I cannot stress enough the need for all of us to strictly adhere to the rules, and to ensure best hygiene practice in our churches at all times. If you feel unwell, and especially if you are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19, please do not attempt to lead (or partake of) any church services. You may also have noticed that 'shielding' is being re-introduced for the most clinically vulnerable. If you fall into this category, please take appropriate steps to protect yourself. In the spirit of the 'lockdown' rules, I would suggest that only pastoral visits which are absolutely essential are made at this time".

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



*Liturgical Season of Christmas Ends today –
But traditionally Christmas has continued until the
feast of the Presentation on 2nd February*

Pope Francis -

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

"Jesus did not need to be baptized, but the first theologians say that, with his body, with his divinity, in baptism he blessed all the waters, so that the waters would have the power to confer baptism. And then, before ascending to Heaven, Jesus told us to go into all the world to baptize. And from that day forward up until today, this has been an uninterrupted chain: they baptized their children, and their children their own, and those children... And also today this chain continues.

"These children are a link in a chain. You parents have a baby boy or girl to baptize, but in some years they will have a child to baptize, or a grandchild... Such is the chain of faith! What does this mean? I would like to tell you only this: you are those who transmit the faith, the transmitters; you have a duty to hand on the faith to these children. It is the most beautiful inheritance you will leave to them: the faith! Only this. Today, take this thought home with you. We must be transmitters of the faith. Think about this, always think about how to hand on the faith to your children."

12th January 2014

(See a note about blessing unbaptised children this weekend – inside the bulletin)

Welcome to all parishioners and visitors to our Parish today
and throughout the week

Parish Priest: Fr Peter J Sharrock
Parish Deacon: Rev Bill Milton

Presbytery: 98 Breck Road, FY6 7HT
Telephone: 01253 893184 (**New Number!**)
email: saintjohnpoulton@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnspoulton.org.uk

Parish School: St John's Primary School:
Telephone: 01253 883690
Website:
www.stjohnscatholicprimarypoulton.co.uk/

Please pray for those living in: Blackpool Old Rd, Blackpool Rd, Bleasdale Ave, Bolton Ave, Bramley Gardens, Breck Close, Breck Drive, Breck Rd, Breckside Close, Brentwood Ave, Briarfield Rd, Broadfield Ave, Brockholes Crescent, Brocklewood Ave, Brock Way, Brompton Rd, Broughton Way, Buckingham Way / Canterbury Close, Burlington House

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention January:
Human Fraternity:

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Baptism Preparation: Our next gatherings for parents wishing to prepare for their child's Baptism will be on:

TBA

(When Virus development is clearer)
at 7pm at the presbytery
Please take a leaflet from church.

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits are served after the 11:00 am Mass every Sunday at St John's and after the 9:30 am Mass every 2nd Sunday of the month at St Martin's & St Hilda's. Please come along and join us.

Also: after the Tuesday morning Mass most weeks. Come along and meet others.

St Oscar Romero Fund: Is our parish fund for local poor – you may see the collection after Masses.

Parish Bulletin News: If you have any items for the bulletin please contact Elaine 886219.

Parish Offertory Donations

Thanks to parishioner who have used the last few weeks to catch up on their offertory giving from the lockdown period. Thanks to those parishioners who have taken out standing orders during lockdown to keep up your parish offerings – Bank details are across the page if you wish to do this. There are some new boxes of offertory envelopes at the back of church. If you wish to order some envelopes or deliver let us know. Gift Aid is available to be gained by the parish if you are a tax payer and wish to sign up for this. Please contact parishioner Angela Hartley if you need help with this – it is worth it for us! (Her number is: 07365 112011)

Parish Bank Details:

Although we have two church buildings this is one parish and the parish account is 'St John the Evangelist – Poulton' Please could you make cheques out to this title only as banks are becoming less imaginative!

Acc Number: 71335227
Sort Code: 40-27-02

However, if you are having difficulty setting up a 'Direct Debit' please let us know as there is a longer account title

Fleetwood Foodbank: Thanks for your continued delivery of food for the foodbank – they are very appreciative. If you know of people who need help – or have food to send yourself, please phone: **01253 774313**

Printed Bulletin: When the church buildings are closed the bulletin and Mass sheet will be in a box on the presbytery doorstep if you want to have a walk.

Parish WhatsApp Group: Emily Halliwell (as part of the above group) has set up a closed parish WhatsApp account. I have finally been beaten into joining but am a bit of a WhatsApp virgin as yet! Emily says: "My number is 07969643648 if you want to be added just reply with your mobile number or text me."

Safeguarding: As always be aware of hoax callers. Do not give personal or finance details, or money to anyone – check with the people here or Fr Peter.

THE PARISH "VIRUS TIMES"

Parish Daily Scripture Reflections & Newsletter:

Many parishioners have asked to receive the newsletter with Mass reflections and a "hello" each day. If your relative or neighbour cannot ask for this why not print a copy, and the regular Bulletin (This!) to keep them in touch. (Email above left)

COVID 19 Security - When you come to Mass:

Now that we have been allowed to move from private prayer to being able to celebrate Mass together please remember to do so safely. We have been asked to ensure Government and Church rules which might seem intrusive but they are designed to remind us to be careful and, above all, to keep distances. Please help us with this by being careful.

- Government guidelines demand that all the congregation (except those with exemption certificates) wear mouth and nose masks in church
- Please maintain a 2m distance as you approach and enter church and be guided by the stewards.
- Please note there is a 'one way' system – entering church by the left hand door.
- Please sanitise your hands as you enter church
- You will be invited to leave your name and contact detail for 'Track & Tracing' in case of need.
- If you wish to wear a face mask you may do this – but please bring your own.
- To minimise movement in church Stewards will direct you to fill the benches from the front. You will probably not be able to go in your 'usual' bench but that will give you a new perspective!
- Please remove your mask just before approaching for Holy Communion and then replace afterwards.

Some Notes from the Victoria Hospital Chaplains

Happy New Year! I pray that this year will bring peace, health and happiness to you and your families and communities. Regretfully, however, the new year has not begun that way.

Over the past two weeks the Trust has reported 69 further deaths of patients within 28 days of a COVID positive test. Two weeks ago the Trust had 148 in-patients within 14 days of their first positive test, and now that figure is 135 – a marginal decrease. What this means is that about one third of all the beds in the Trust are occupied by COVID patients.

The data regarding COVID infection in the community shows a doubling of the infection rate across the three boroughs of Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre, and is, therefore, very worrying. Dr Jim Gardner (Medical Director) was able to reassure us that there is plenty of testing available locally, and that it is better to check your COVID status if you have any symptoms. One of the best ways of arranging a test is to call 119. Likewise, Dr Gardner is happy that report that the Trust has vaccinated over 4,000 people with their first dose of the Pfizer Vaccine, and that locally Primary Care will receive the Oxford A-Z vaccine this week. He believes that our vaccination programme is, currently, ahead of other parts of the country

- You will receive instructions for coming forward for Holy Communion. But please respect distancing (don't bunch), move for Communion using the one-way system, please stretch out your arms fully as you request Holy Communion, you will not be invited to speak "Amen" before receiving Holy Communion. These will need to be kept in mind at first and we do need to remember they, though not the best liturgy, are about distancing and staying well.
- Holy Communion must be received **only** on the hand. (No gloves, please)
- Please sanitise your hands as you leave church by the other door than the one you entered.
- As you leave church please move away from the door and remember to distance yourselves if you speak to other people.
- There is a basket at the back of church for your offertory donations – thank you.
- There are weekly bulletins at the back of church with other information.
- Please do greet other people outside church – but remember to distance yourself and do not meet in groups that are obviously more than six.

Thanks to our small, but keen, band of stewards, without whom we could not open our church. Please speak to them if you would like to help with this.

The Baptism of the Lord

This feast reminds us that there are lots of babies and children in the parish who have not had the opportunity of a public Baptism at this time.

Parents: please read Pope Francis' words on the front of the bulletin. This Sunday would be a good time to quietly – or noisily – bless your new child with a cross on the forehead with water. Here is a scriptural prayer – follow with the 'Our Father' or 'Glory be'...

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you,
and be good to you.

The Lord lift his face to you
and give you peace.

Book of numbers 6:24-26

Schooling during Lockdown

Please keep in your prayers, and remember to thank, our school staff who are teaching at school and providing home lessons, also at this time.

Don't forget to pray for parents who have to home-teach, care and works as well. Keep safe everyone!



Mrs Chisnall, from school's mum, makes these beautiful crosses with a prayer about why we carry a cross. They would make great tree decorations or gift for a sick person. Please take one from the back of church – don't hesitate: we have more