

St John the Evangelist

Poulton-le-Fylde

Parish Diary this Week

Date	Time	Feast	Pray for:
Saturday Feb 27 th	6.00pm	Second Sunday of Lent SUNDAY Vigil MASS – St John's	People of the Parish
Sunday Feb 28 th	-	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 Mar 1 st	-	<i>St David</i> NO PUBLIC Prayer & Liturgy of Word	-
Tuesday Mar 2 nd	9.30am	... of the Second Week of Lent Morning Mass (St John's)	Private Int (S&J)
Wednesday Mar 3 rd	9.30am Anytime	... of the Second Week of Lent Morning Mass (St Martin's Chapel) Reflect on some Stations of Cross...	Mike Cunniff ... at Home
Thursday Mar 4 th	9.30am	... of the Second Week of Lent Morning Mass (St John's)	Helen Coffey
Friday Mar 5 th	9.30am 2.00pm	... of the Second Week of Lent Morning Mass (St John's) World Day of Prayer – Inter church Service – Please see guidelines (front)	Austin McDonald St John's Church
Saturday Mar 6 th	6.00pm	... of the Second Week of Lent Third Sunday of Lent SUNDAY VIGIL MASS – St John's	People of the Parish
Sunday	-	NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS – St John's	

(Mass Readings: Sundays of Lent B ; Weekdays: ...of Lent)

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, Shelly Caine, Fr John Walsh, Paul Bradley, and all those who are sick.

Anniversaries: **February** 13th Peter John McCarthy, 14th Anastasia Booth, Robin Fishwick, 16th Agnes Bradley, 17th Clare McGovern, Francisca Smith, 18th Anna Baran, 27th Lawrence Cassidy, 28th Winifred Young

Lately Dead: Helen Coffey;

Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue: It has been announced that Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue (our bishop before the previous one) died on 24th January in Ireland. A Memorial Mass for Bishop O'Donoghue will be live-streamed from the Cathedral on 17 March, St Patrick's Day at 7pm.

Church Services and COVID Guidelines: My reading of the projected lockdown loosening suggest:

Baptisms & Wedding of up to 30 people 'no earlier than 17th May'.

End of Church number restrictions 'no earlier than 21st May.' (15 people no earlier than 12th April)

Easter Triduum Services: Thankfully it looks like we will be able to have these with our 'distance number' of up to 30 people (Thank you God, as last year on my own was terrible!) - I will provide times later and we will have to have a booking system like at Christmas.

Sunday 28th February 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

Public Masses

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

CAFOD LENTEN FAST

Friday Fast Day was last Friday - [CAFOD Talk: Click](#)

Due to Covid this year the CAFOD has extended its campaign to raise money for its humanitarian work throughout Lent rather than confining it to Friday Fast Day.

Lets pray that The Holy Spirit guides CAFOD, as it always has, in pursuing its objectives for the poor, the starving, those without decent sanitation or are voiceless in the 156 countries where they serve.

This year 70 per cent of CAFOD'S Fast period income has been donated on line.

The Parish 'Walk for Water' campaign is doing brilliantly isn't it, £1,600 so far, almost double the best Fast Day offering for some 20 years, and still five weeks to go ! Do have a look at the messages inside the bulletin for details of how to join in – or have a look on the Parish WhatsApp group where you will see many active people and families!

Please if possible donate by sponsoring its 'Walk for Water' parish campaigners (of which there are many) who have undertaken to walk 10,000 steps a day for 40 days to raise money for them. A Search of cafod.org.uk/lent will give you a lot more information or email janemaryschofield@gmail.com for details of the intrepid walkers. (See information in this Bulletin)

If you can't, or don't want to support cafod online, please pick up an envelope from the box on the presbytery porch or simply put your donation (cheques payable to Cafod) in an envelope marked cafod and put all donations through the presbytery door.

Otherwise you make a payment by phone to 0303 303 3030 or text to LENT 5 to 70460 to give £5 or LENT 10 to 70460 to give £10 etc.

Paul Bradley

The World Day of Prayer 2021

There will be the annual joint service:

This Friday at 2:00 pm
at St John's

As churches are allowed to be open for a service, this will be a slimmed down service that is in keeping with national guidelines.

- There will be no congregational singing but some background music.
- We are not allowed to take a collection, however, a basket will be placed near the exit so that people could place their offering in the basket as they leave.
- Names and contact numbers will be required and sanitising gel available.
- There will be no refreshments afterwards.
- There will only be 6 readers with minimum movement within the service.

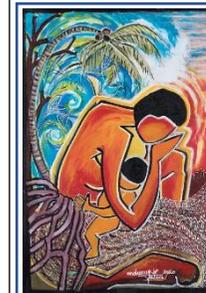
Live Streaming: The service will be live streamed on YouTube to view at home at 2 pm. or later at your convenience. Service books are available from your church representatives.

Here is the YouTube link to access the live stream: https://youtu.be/UbkzjaZ_6Q

Attending: If you wish to attend the service, as places are limited, please ring, message or email me in advance to book a place:

Ann McCarthy 01253 886143 Mob. 07773402139
ann.mccarthy@talktalk.net

(or speak to Elaine Brownwood who is our parish representative)



This year our service has been written by the Christian Women of Vanuatu, an archipelago of eighty islands in the South Pacific two thousand miles east of Australia. The black and white sandy beaches, coral reefs with coloured fishes, lovely birds, fruits and nuts in the forest, all make the islands a pristine environment, but they are vulnerable to tropical storms.

*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 February: Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

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 a business account named:

'Parish of St John the Evangelist – Poulton le Fylde'

Please could you make cheques out to this title only as banks are becoming less imaginative!

Acc Number: 71335227

Sort Code: 40-27-02

(This information has worked online on 24.02.2021)

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: **07821 498161** (*New number*)

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*)

Hospital Report from our Chaplains:

25th February: The latest from the Trust is:

The number of Covid positive inpatients has dropped slightly to 57 from 59 yesterday and we have seen a decrease of 12 from this time last week. Although we have sadly reported a total of 727 Covid deaths, this number remains the same as yesterday.

The vaccination programme has continued to forge ahead with 16,456 people having now received their first dose. Thanks to our care and treatment, a total of 1,960 patients have been discharged, so once again a big thank you to all staff for your hard work.

CAFOD Walk for Water

Lent Parish Challenge 2021



Abdella is 23 and he has big dreams. He dreams of starting a small business. He dreams of starting a family. He dreams of having his own home. He dreams of the day he won't have to walk ten hours to get water.

Abdella lives in Afar, Ethiopia – one of the hottest places on earth. Like hundreds of people in the area, he spends most of the day walking to get water for his family to drink.

He knows that if there was water near his home, his family wouldn't have to worry any more about getting enough to stay alive.

A Call to our Parishioners:

Please come together this Lent to do something different - and help end water poverty.

A number of people from our parish and school community have already signed up to 'Walk with Abdella' and take part in the 'Walk for Water' challenge. I was inspired by the oldest member of my family, Paul Bradley (84) who is the CAFOD representative for our parish for more than 40 years...he has tirelessly campaigned to end poverty and raised thousands for campaigns such as this. This year I will be walking with the youngest member of my family, Jude (18 months). We will be walking 10,000 steps a day for 40 days and hope for our parish to raise a record amount for CAFOD. I know we can't do much at the moment but this is something we CAN do whether you want to challenge yourself, your family or others within our community (please see below link to get signed up) or want to support others taking on the challenge please email me:

janemaryschofield@gmail.com and I can let you know who's taking part and you can donate directly to their page. Thank you, Jane. <https://walk.cafod.org.uk>

DIOCESAN ADULT EDUCATION COURSE

A balanced life?

Many of us will be familiar with the idea of a "work-life balance". This week in our course we have been looking at how we might achieve a balanced life in relation to all the key aspects of our human development – not just in relation to work. We have looked at some of the traditional religious orders – Benedictines, Franciscans, Carmelites and how their daily routine or "timetable" aims to ensure that all aspects of human development – the physical, intellectual, spiritual, social and emotional – are included. They follow a routine that is built around physical or manual work, prayer - in common (the Prayer of the Church or Liturgy of the Hours), and personal prayer, spiritual reading, time spent together in community which provides social and emotional support and recreational activities.

Lockdown has been a difficult time for many people, depriving us of opportunities for shared social activities and the emotional support that meeting together with family and friends brings. However, lockdown has provided me with the chance to look at how I spend my time and perhaps to focus on some of the things that often get "crowded out" – usually prayer and spiritual reading. During lockdown I have become aware of the need to have some structure to my days (doing this course has helped a great deal) and to build in different activities – some hobbies/leisure, taking a walk each day, prayer, reading, keeping in contact with family and friends. All of these I know to be necessary to me as a human being. The challenge for me, once lockdown has ended, will be how to keep a balance between all the essential aspects of being human while not losing the benefits I have gained during lockdown.

Sometimes, however "life just happens" and we have to deal with what life throws at us and we cannot always achieve the balance we might be looking for. Things are required of us, such as work, caring for children and relatives, especially those who are sick – ensuring their needs are met, getting children to and from school, helping with homework, preparing and providing meals for the family and the necessary organisation and shopping this requires. So much to do!

However, it is important that we look after our own needs as well, especially the spiritual and emotional. Jesus wants us to have "life to the full", to be fully human or "whole". No matter how demanding life is for us, we must try to find a little space to foster our own spiritual development, alongside all the rest. Just a few moments in the evening to reflect on the day, share it with Jesus, ask for his presence in all that you have to do and for his help in all the things that are difficult or threaten to overwhelm you. One of the treasures of the monastic way of life is that every moment of the day (& night) is directed toward being "with Jesus" – whatever the activity. This treasure is not reserved for religious. It applies to us, too. After all, Jesus understands human life and he promised: "I will be with you always, even to the end of time". Elaine Brownwood