

Parish Diary this Week

Date	Time	Feast	Intention
Saturday Jan 5 th	6:00pm	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY VIGIL MASS - St John's	Pat Hoole
Sunday Jan 6th	9:30am* 11:00am	SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's SUNDAY MASS – St John's Coffee after Mass in the Hall	People of the Parish Robin Fishwick
Monday Jan 7 th	9.30am	Monday after the Epiphany Liturgy of the Word & Morning Prayer	-
Tuesday Jan 8 th	9.30am 2.00pm	Morning Mass Tea, Biscuits & gather after Mass – Faith Sharing Group: God's gift of our planet	Desmond Aubry Presbytery
Wednesday Jan 9 th	9.30am*	Wednesday after the Epiphany Morning Mass	Johnstone & Davenport Families
Thursday Jan 10 th	9.30am	Thursday after the Epiphany Morning Mass	William Booth
Friday Jan 11 th	9.30am 1.00pm	Friday after the Epiphany Morning Mass Funeral Service: Norah Wanda Falloon	Mary Cunniff
Saturday Jan 12 th	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	Saturday after the Epiphany Morning Mass – St John's Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation	Mary Hull
Sunday Jan 13th	6.00pm 9.30am* 11.00am	BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY VIGIL MASS – St John's SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's SUNDAY MASS – St John's Coffee after Mass in the Hall	Alyx Bennett People of the Parish (from Mary Moore) Cathy O'Hagen

(Sundays of Ordinary Time: Year C; Weekdays of Ordinary Time: Year 1)

*indicates: a service at St Martin & St Hilda's Chapel

Morning Prayer of the Church: 15 minutes before weekday Mass

Reconciliation: (Normally) Confessions from 10am to 11am on Saturday and by request.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (normally): Saturday from 10am to 11am

Please pray for: Megan (aged 11), Louis Crowson, Christopher Brown, Pauline Cafferty, John Ireland, Antonio Palmer, Joanne Porter, Mary Robertson, Chris Taylor, Paul Tipping, Joyce Bachman, Celia Schofield, Fr John Walsh, Veronica McNeil, John Brownwood, Beryl Whiteley, Ann Marie Cooke, Peter Gardener, Ruth Holland, Margaret Johnston and all those who are sick.

Anniversaries at this time: December 2nd Jack Brownwood, Mary Wood, Bob Taylor, 3rd Austin Keane, 4th Teresa Hackman, Don O'Hagan, Elliot Goldren, 6th Jack McCarthy, 9th Colin Holt, 14th Cath Barry, 15th Ruth Thompson, 22nd Agnes Walsh, Ted Scanlon, 25th Elsie Haymes, 27th Jackie Bradley, 28th Joan Drake, 29th William Booth

Lately Dead: Norah Wanda Falloon – Funeral Service on Friday 11th January at 1.00pm

Parish of

St John the Evangelist

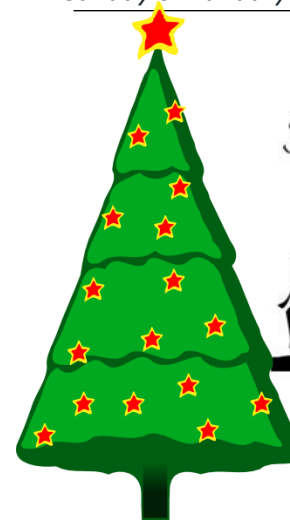
Poulton-le-Fylde



Sunday 6th January 2019

The Christmas Season

Feast of the Epiphany



The Christmas Feasts

Despite our country thinking Christmas began in November and finished before New Year the Church, and other parts of the world, moves away from the Feast on 14th January – after the "Baptism of the Lord". You may have noticed that some of our own parishioners who originate from other countries make Epiphany the centre of this feast. So, in this Christmas feast of feasts remember we are still celebrating the Incarnation in the events of Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. ("Ordinary Time" begins on 14th and the drib will be packed away on the Tuesday after this)

Iraqi Refugees in Jordan:

We have had a message from Sr Sara from the parish in Marj al Hammam. She has been in touch with the refugees we know and given our Christmas cards and offerings – Sr Sara says that, amongst other things, they are overcome and grateful for us thinking of them at this time – and for the sacrifices we have made to help them.

School RE inspection: The full text is on the parish (& School) websites)

How are we doing?

In his Advent letter to us the Bishop asked us to do four things during Advent & Christmas:

- To have a crib in every household at Christmas
- That we all do something to alleviate suffering. *We raised £645 for StreetLife in Blackpool*
- To make Mass the main event of Christmas, even if it is "inconvenient"
- To pray for unborn children during Advent

The Baptism of the Lord (Next Sunday)



*Welcome to all parishioners and visitors to our Mass today
and throughout the week*

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

Presbytery: 98 Breck Road, FY6 7HT
Telephone: 01253 883110
email: saintjohnpoulton@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnspoulton.org.uk

Parish School: St John's Primary School:
Telephone: 01253 883690
Website: www.st-john-rc12.lancsngf.ac.uk

This week we pray for those living in:
Teanlowe Centre, Thirlmere Ave,
Thorneycroft Close, Tudor Close

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December:
Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith – that people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

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

Tues 15th January & Tue 22nd January 2019
at 7pm at the presbytery
Please take a leaflet from church.

Foodbank. Please continue to donate dried or tinned foods, (not clothing at the moment, thank you) to the foodbank. They are much appreciated.

The Wednesday Word is available to take away and pray next week's Sunday scripture.

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.

Parish Bulletin News: If you have any items for the bulletin please contact Elaine 886219 or email elainebrownwood@hotmail.com). If you desire a regular electronic copy – let us know.

COMING PARISH EVENTS & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you – Mary Holmes would like to thank all who have prayed for Baby Jennifer Holmes. Jennifer is now home & is making good progress.

Tuesday Faith Sharing – We hope to meet this coming Tuesday at 2pm in the presbytery to look at a DVD based on Pope Francis' recent document on God's gift of our planet (which is gaining great remarks from the politicians of the world). Do come along – tea available!

Luncheon Club 2019 – our first lunch of 2019 will be held on Monday 7th January @ 12:30 in St John's Hall. Why not come along for a good meal & some good company? All welcome. Names on list in Church, please.

Sacred Scripture Readers – a new rota is being prepared for 2019. If you would like to partake in this ministry of the church, please let Fr Peter or Bill know. If you are already on the rota, please consider yourself included. Thank you!

Advent Donations to "Streetlife" – Many thanks to all people who donated to "Streetlife" at the Advent Coffee Mornings & to those who donated to the collection held on the last Sunday of Advent after 11:00 am Mass. Your generous donations raised £645.00 which was magnificent. Please continue to support our Sunday Coffee mornings & enjoy socialising confident that every penny you donate goes to CAFOD or some other charitable cause. Everyone is very welcome.

Christmas 300 Club winners
2nd prize of 25:00 No: 153 Margaret McGovern
1st prize of 250:00 No: 64 Brigid Gildert

Congratulations to both winners. Thank you to all who support the 300 club. A cheque for 900:00 was recently given to Fr Peter from the club.

Prayer for Christian Unity – we are approaching the annual time for prayer for Christian unity. The

main service is on Sunday 20th January at 6.30pm at the URC church – but there is mid-day prayer on days on either side of this. More details will be available next week.

First Forgiveness & Holy Communion: Our preparation sessions for commissioned candidates and parents will begin on Saturday 26th January at 5pm (and then on the dates you already have)

Plans for New Parish Centre: Don't forget to look at the plans in the baptistry – but also ponder why we might need one and what we will do with it as a Church Community together!

Are you or a close relative going into Blackpool Victoria Hospital? (*Note from Chaplain*): If you would like a visit from the hospital chaplain (Fr Andrew) or a member of his team, please leave a message on the chaplaincy answerphone (01253 956299) remembering to include the name the patient is known by in the hospital and which ward they are on. Urgent requests for a priest should be made via the staff on the ward, who will arrange for the on call priest to be contacted.

(Fr Peter): If you know you are going into hospital with something which makes you worried then please consider that we do have a special Sacrament (Sacrament of the Sick) which is there to help up – it is not meant for the hour of death – and don't forget that sacraments are for the living; not the dead. Why not invite your priest to celebrate the sacrament with you before you go?

Lights over the Chasuble: You may have noticed these have been off for a few months – but are now even brighter. I wonder how many people know about the history of this vestment and the amazing work that has gone into renewal? Do we need a talk sometime on this?

Baptismal preparation for parents – Please note the next meetings in the new year.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (Faith Story)
If you wish to consider becoming a Catholic Christian (or being Confirmed as an Adult) please speak to Fr Peter to talk about how the Church does this these days.

Also we need a small group of parishioners who can join these people as they travel down their

road to share faith and grow together. Please speak to Fr Peter for details and possibilities.

Parish Confirmation – I mentioned to the Bishop that we would like to Celebrate this sacrament next year with those who wish to be Confirmed in their Faith in Jesus – we do have to find twelve candidates to have our own liturgy, though, or we will have to share with another parish – or they share with us. If you have a young person who is in year 7 or above after the summer (who has not been confirmed) please speak to them about what celebrating this Sacrament means. If you wish to begin the preparation could you write (on paper) to me before the new term starts – you might like to say something about your own faith in Jesus and what you expect celebrating the Sacrament to do for you?

The Divine Mercy Prayer Group is now meeting again at St John's every Friday at 2:00 pm



A friend I met last week!

Some Diary Dates:	2019
6 th January	The Epiphany of the Lord
15 th January	Baptismal Preparation I
20 th January	Prayer for Christian Unity service – URC Church 6.30
22 nd January	Baptism Preparation II
26 th January	First Forgiveness Preparation I
6 th March	Ash Wednesday
Lent:	Lent Study Meetings
2 nd June	Songs of Praise – Ss M&H