

# St John the Evangelist

Poulton-le-Fylde

## Parish Diary this Week

Date	Time	Feast	Pray for:
Saturday August 1 <sup>st</sup>		<b>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>NO PUBLIC</b> – Mass	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>Aug 2<sup>nd</sup></b>		<b>NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS</b> – St Martin's <b>NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS</b> – St John's or Children's Liturgy of the Word <b>NO Excellent Coffee in the Hall after Mass</b>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday August 3 <sup>rd</sup>		...of week 18 of Ordinary Time <b>NO PUBLIC</b> Prayer & Liturgy of Word	-
Tuesday August 4 <sup>th</sup>		<i>St John Vianney</i> <b>No Morning Mass (St John's)</b>	-
Wednesday August 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30–12.30 7.00pm	...of week 18 of Ordinary Time <b>Ss Hilda &amp; Martin open for private prayer</b> <b>Evening Mass (St John's)</b>	<i>Jeff Talbot</i>
Thursday August 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	<i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i> <b>Morning Mass (St John's)</b>	<i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Friday August 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	<i>The Martyrs of Lancaster</i> <b>Morning Mass (St John's)</b>	<i>Vincent &amp; Mary Winifred Waring</i>
Saturday August 8 <sup>th</sup>		<i>St Dominic</i> <b>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>NO PUBLIC SUNDAY VIGIL MASS</b> – St John's	
<b>Sunday</b> August 9 <sup>th</sup>		<b>NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS</b> – St Martin's <b>NO PUBLIC SUNDAY MASS</b> – St John's No Children's Liturgy of the Word <b>No Excellent Coffee in the Hall after Mass</b>	<i>People of the Parish</i>

**The Food Bank: Empty Containers:** There has been an appeal from the Foodbank for containers with lids, in which to decant washing powder, which we receive in bulk, but which needs to be shared out among many people. If you have any, you can drop them at the presbytery and I'll take them to Fleetwood. Thank you.

Thanks, also, for food and personal hygiene items delivered to my doorstep.

**(Sundays of Ordinary Time: Year A; Weekdays: Year 2)**

**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, Veronica McNeil, Beryl Whitely, Ann Marie Cooke,, Margaret Johnston, Pat Jackson, Louie Jones, Paul Sharrock, and all those who are sick.

**Anniversaries: JULY** 1<sup>st</sup> Ernest Radway, 7<sup>th</sup> Frances Keane, 11<sup>th</sup> Mykola Baran, 13<sup>th</sup> Frank Hoover, 14<sup>th</sup> Cath O'Hagan, 19<sup>th</sup> Bill McGarvie, 21<sup>st</sup> Mike McDermott, 25<sup>th</sup> Monica Mitchell, Peter John Riley, Andy Boyle, 28<sup>th</sup> Michael McDermott: Tony Williams, Mike Bailey, Mary Smith.

**Lately Dead:** Bernard Hargreaves, Funeral Service 11am at St Martin's on 6<sup>th</sup> August.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 202018<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

## Mass for this week

**Wednesday at 7.00pm**

**Thursday at 9.30am**

**Friday at 9.30am**

at St John's Church

These Masses will replace the private prayer times

## Parish Offertory Donations.

Please help us catch up!

A number of people have been enquiring about ways of updating and continuing their parish donations as lockdown loosens. Thanks to those who have dropped money through the presbytery door or started a Standing Order with their bank – and, of course those who have done this for some years!

Many of you will know Angela Hartley from the parish who began as our new new Parish Gift Aid Co-ordinator before the New Year. She has kindly offered to catch up with our parish donations so please read her offer to help:

### Offertory Envelopes:

Apologies for the delay, but Envelopes are now available for collection from the back of St John's Church at Mass times. If you are unable to collect or have them collected by a friend/neighbour and want these dropping off please ring either Father Peter or myself on 07365 112011 to arrange.

As we are already mid way through 2020, any envelopes for weeks missed can be discarded - unless you want to backdate any donations, in which case please feel free to use them and hand them into Church. Please don't use your old envelopes from previous years as new numbers have been allocated this year.

### Gift Aid Money:

For anyone who is a UK income taxpayer and wants to Gift Aid their donations, and hasn't already done so, please contact me and I will arrange this for you. There is a simple form for you to sign that goes to the Diocese to enable us to recover the tax you paid on your donation. This tax recovery provides a welcome income for the Parish at no additional cost to yourself. Also if you currently Gift Aid but your circumstances or address have changed please let me know.

As all Gift Aid donations need to be traceable, you can then donate by using a personally numbered envelope, or alternatively you can set up a standing order and make donations directly from your bank. A Bank Mandate form will be provided for you to hand into your bank, but otherwise this is a painless procedure and preferable from the Church's perspective.

Envelopes can be used for Gift Aid or non-Gift Aid donations, so if you currently don't use an Envelope but would like one, please ring Angela or speak to Father Peter and this can be arranged. Also, if you have opened a Standing Order during lockdown and wish to Gift Aid please ask for a form. Gift Aid brings serious amounts of FREE money into the parish each year!

Any questions, please contact Angela directly.

*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.st-john-rc12.lancsngfl.ac.uk

**Please pray for those living in:** Ball Street, Beaumont Gardens, Beckdean Avenue, Beech Avenue, Beech Drive, Beeston Avenue, Belgrave Place, Belgrave Road, Belmont Ave, Beverley Avenue, Birch Way, Bispham Road,

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August:  
The Maritime World:**

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Electronic Bulletin:** If you desire a regular electronic copy – let us know

**Pray for our:**

Teachers, nurses, doctors, chaplains etc

**Baptisms, Funerals & Weddings:**

We have had information about the guidelines from government and bishops that we can welcome Baptisms and Weddings.

However, we are not allowed to gather any more than **30 people** and there are some safety and distancing rules to be applied. (The cap on 30 people at these services is irrespective of the size of the church building and is connected with the limit on social functions afterwards) If there are people who wish to enquire about these services under these government regulations please contact me and we will have to share how this can happen.

**COMING PARISH EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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.

**Local COVID19 Helplines**

*(Official message from our Parish Organisers)*

The Wyre Council has a dedicated helpline for COVID19 isolation support. If you are struggling to get essential items, or need help, please ring 01253 891000 and select OPTION 7 when prompted. Alternatively, if you have access to the internet, you can fill in the online request for help here: [https://www.wyre.gov.uk/forms/form/257/en/coronavirus\\_isolation\\_support\\_form](https://www.wyre.gov.uk/forms/form/257/en/coronavirus_isolation_support_form)

There is also another local network being organised by the Methodist Church - called POULTONCAN. The helpline there is 01253 670800 between 8am and 10pm, 7 days a week.

We have a group of parish volunteers who are going to be working with the council to respond to requests. If anyone would like to offer help, please email Jenny at [jennifer.hillman.sutcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.hillman.sutcliffe@gmail.com) or telephone on 07568502749.

**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.

**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)*

**When you come to Mass:**

*Despite getting used to physical distancing over the past three months returning to a familiar situation, like church, can make us forget we are still threatened by a virus that could kill vulnerable people. 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. (if you have visited church for private prayer you will recognise these requests. Thanks)*

- 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.

**Looking Forwards:**

**The Parish 'Virus Times' –**

Is a daily parish newsletter I started to produce at the start of Lockdown to help us stay connected and to encourage us in this year dedicated to the "Word of God". In the absence of the Eucharist we need to remember that the Lord is really present to us in his written Word.

At the moment this is sent to near 100 parishioners, and others who have requested it. If you missed this development and wish to be added please let me know your email address – it is available on the website, too.

Thanks to so many of you who have expressed your pleasure in learning and prayerfulness. I hope to continue this as long as people are fearful of coming out and we can only hold 30 people at Mass during the week. (not on Mondays now)

**A Note from the Hospital Chaplain:**

If you have people there whom you would like the Catholic Chaplain to visit you can call him at St Kentigern's on 01253 393439. The Hospital Chaplaincy office number is 01253 953876 or you can email [bfwhospitals@nhs.net](mailto:bfwhospitals@nhs.net). In urgent cases ring the switchboard 01253 300000 and ask for the on-call Catholic Chaplain.

**St Wulstan's Centenary:**

St Wulstan's Fleetwood, will celebrate their 100th anniversary in 2025 and they are collecting memorabilia, photos, anecdotes, tales of characters, parish priests, events, history, which they can put towards a great celebration. Please contact Fr Alf if you have interesting materials.

- 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!
- 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, they 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.

**Some Mass Observations:**

Physical distancing is not compatible with good liturgy – I'm sure you've noticed. But there is the danger of encouraging the Eucharist to become a private devotion rather than a community celebration. However a few things have helped us remember:

**Communion procession** – We used to have a communion queue (lets get there quick) – due to distancing we have discovered a very prayerful 'Communion Procession' through which we can pray for other people in front of us as we slowly make our way round church.

**The Chalice** – Jesus challenged us to both eat and drink his presence in the Eucharist – the sign value of Sacraments is vital. For good reasons, at the moment, we cannot be offered this sign. I will leave the chalice at the front of the altar so that communicants can bow to the presence of the Lord in his precious blood as they pass at communion.

**Sign of peace:** The sign of peace is not a good wish to the people we greet – it is an acknowledgement that we recognise in them the presence of Jesus; even before they receive Holy Communion. Lest we forget this presence I have started to invite those present to 'let us acknowledge the presence of Christ in others who surround us'. Please don't shake hands, but nod to others to assure them of this reality.

**Wednesday Mass:**

We started the evening Mass for those who cannot attend the morning Mass. The last two Wednesdays were low in numbers. Does this mean there is no take up? After this week we will re-assess this.