



**Parishes of St Bede,  
Clayton Green and Houghton  
and St Chad, South Hill**

## **Parish News**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**



### **In Lent the Stations of the Cross**

will be prayed in our churches,

**Mondays at St Bede's at 1pm**

**Thursdays at St Chad's at 7pm**

**Fridays at St Bede's at 7pm**

Everyone is very welcome to join us for these times of prayer helping us to prepare for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter.

If you would like to be involved in reading at our Stations of the Cross, please speak to the leader after the service.



We are holding a **weekly bible reflection** at St Bede's Presbytery on Wednesdays during Lent. The meeting will begin at 1pm and last about an hour looking at the beautiful readings we will hear at Mass on Sundays. Everyone is welcome to come along.

### **Lenten Prayers at Brindle St Joseph's**

Come together as a community for prayer and togetherness in the Church and Parish Rooms.

The Music Group has volunteered to run these.

From 4.00pm each Saturday.

The format is a 30 minute prayer time using readings, music and silence, with a Children's Liturgy joining the adults at 4.30.

Tea, coffee and a catch up will be available afterwards.

Please join us if you can.

**Tea and coffee** will be served in **St. Chad's Parish Centre** after the **9.15am Mass** and in **St. Bede's Parish Hall** after the **11am Mass on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**. Everyone is warmly invited to come along.



**Red Admiral Brass Band Spring Concert** is on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 – 4.30pm in St. Chad's Church**. Light refreshments are included. Please ring Angela 07761 983041 or Ann 07708 992621 to put your names down for this fabulous concert.

**Spring SVP Gathering** will take place on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 1.30pm in Holy Cross Catholic High School, Chorley. PR7 3LS**. Join us for an afternoon of bingo, crafts, prizes, musical performances by our school choir and afternoon tea will be served. **To book a place please telephone St Bede's Parish Office on 01772 335209**. The office is open on **Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am – 3pm**. It is a big help if bookings can be made at these times.

Some of our parishioners have asked if they can help with the preparation for Masses as a sacristan or with the washing of the cloths used at Mass. Please let Fr Mark know you would like to help and we can put you on our team. Thank you.

Could you join our team that counts the collection each week at St Bede's? If you would like to help, please talk to Fr Mark and we can let you know how to volunteer. Thank you.

We also need parishioners with a current DBS to stay in the sacristy with our priest and deacon when we have altar servers helping at Mass. Please let Fr Mark know if you are willing to volunteer for this role. Thank you.

**Clayton Thursday Group** will meet on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March** for the over 60's, in **Whittle Methodist Church on Preston Road** between 12.45pm and 3.15pm.

**St Chad's Craft Group**. The craft group will meet on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** from 1.30pm to 3.30pm in **St. Chad's Parish Centre**.

Everyone is welcome, no skills or previous experience required.

**Chad's Reading Group** will meet on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April**, 1pm to 3pm in **St. Chad's Parish Centre**. Books are provided from the County Library service and are available to borrow at each meeting. New members are very welcome.

**Parish contact forms** are available at the back of church printed on pink paper. These must be signed by each individual wishing to hand in their contact details to be kept in our parish files. It's a big help to our parish priest to know how to contact people but we need their consent to do this.

**Receiving the weekly newsletter by email.** Please fill in one of the parishes contact forms and tick the box indicating you would like to sign up for our weekly newsletter.

**HELP NEEDED.** Volunteers are needed to help with cleaning our churches. If you think you can help, please talk to Fr Mark. We also need a few more members for our choir at the 9.15am Sunday Mass at St Chad's. Just make your way to the choir loft before Mass if you would like to be part of the choir. Any singers or musicians in our parishes who would like to get involved in helping with music at our weekend Masses are also very welcome. If you would like to volunteer in any way in the parish, please let us know.



### **THIS WEEKEND**

**Our Lent Deanery Service of Reconciliation** will take place at St Gregory's Church, Weldbank Lane, Chorley, PR7 3NW at 3pm on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

After a short time of prayer together priests will be available around the church for people to make their confession and receive God's forgiveness in preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

Confessions are also heard in the confessional at St Bede's Church on Saturday 5.30pm to 5.50pm or at any time on request.

## **Help us shape youth ministry for the future**

We want all young people to flourish and to know that they are cherished by God and are a vital part of the Church. So, as an Archdiocese, we are committed to explore how we can best accompany young people. Your voice is crucial.

*What will happen:* You will meet others and have your chance to share your experiences and ideas about how the Church might best respond to the needs of young people today. All feedback will be carefully listened to as part of a diocesan wide process planning youth ministry for the years ahead.

*Who's invited:* We want to hear from adults, young adults and 11-18 year olds. Please join us. (Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.)

Come to ONE of our open meetings. The nearest one to us is:

**MONDAY 20TH APRIL 7- 9.30pm**

**St Joseph's Crow Orchard Rd, Wrightington, Wigan WN6 9PA**

For more information, contact Sarah McGeehan on [s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk) or 07415099048

Kathryn Jackson, the St Chad's Cafod Rep, is doing the **Lent Walk**, to raise money in support of Cafod's great work supporting the poorest of our brothers and sisters. If you would like to sponsor her, please visit our parish website and click on the link on this week's edition of the newsletter or type in the link below. Thank you.

[https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/kathryns-fundraising-page594?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=dssb-WA&utm\\_content=PPC](https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/kathryns-fundraising-page594?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=dssb-WA&utm_content=PPC)

## **Easter Triduum.**

**Our services for Holy Week and Easter** will be celebrated across our two churches.

**Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper** is celebrated at 7pm at **St Chad's** followed by Watching and Night Prayer.

**The commemoration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday** will be celebrated in both churches at 3pm. Fr Mark will lead one and Deacon Simon the other.

**The Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection** is celebrated on Holy Saturday night starting with the blessing of the Easter Fire outside church at 8pm at St Bede's. During this celebration we will welcome two adults who have asked to be baptised and two adults who will be confirmed and received into full communion with the Catholic Church. We keep them in our prayers.

## **Easter Morning**

**Masses will be celebrated at 9.15am at St Chad's and at 9.30am and 11am at St Bede's.**



**We need some people to attend the 9.30am Mass** as there may be too many people to accommodate at the 11am Mass if we don't divide those attending across both Masses.



Following the 9.15am Mass at St Chad's and the 11am Mass at St Bede's our Little Church teams have organised an **Easter Egg Hunt** around the grounds of our churches

which all our children are invited to join but they must be accompanied by an adult.

Please keep in your prayers all the children who have now begun their preparation for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and their families and the four adults who will be baptised or received into full Communion with the Church at our Easter Vigil - Alan, Duncan, Josh and Kelly.

Any adults in the parish who would like to be baptised, received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church or receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are very welcome to get in touch and we will be very happy to help. Please talk to Fr Mark or to Sr Dorothy and we can look at how we can best support your decision.



**Altar Servers.** New servers are always welcome. Children in Year 4 or older are very welcome to learn how to serve at Mass. It's a great way to learn more about the Mass and help us to pray together. Please let Fr Mark know if you would like to join our team.

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Beattie Tel. 01257 460154

Deacon: Rev Simon Gilbertson

**St Bede's Church.** 598, Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods. PR6 7EB  
**01772 335209**

**St Chad's Church.** 237, Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods. PR6 8AJ.

**St Chad's Parish Hall** 07719718523

**St Bede's Parish Hall** 01257 271818

**Parish Websites** [www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk](http://www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk) and

[www.stchads-southhill.org](http://www.stchads-southhill.org)

[www.brindlestjosephs.org.uk](http://www.brindlestjosephs.org.uk)

**Facebook page** Look for "Parishes of St Chad and St Bede"

**E-mail our parish office:** [stbedesclaytongreen@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stbedesclaytongreen@rcaol.org.uk)

or [stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk)

**or to Fr Mark privately** [m.beattie@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.beattie@rcaol.org.uk)

The parish office is open on **Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** this coming week. **01772 335209**



## Family of Parishes Retreat Day

*Opening our hearts to the gift of Holy Week*

Saturday **28<sup>th</sup> March.**

At St Chad's Parish Centre.

10am – 3.45pm

Led by Fr Mark Beattie

Please bring a packed lunch if you are staying for the full retreat day. Tea and coffee provided.

Numbers for the retreat day are limited but everyone is welcome to attend Mass at Midday and a “Holy Half Hour” of prayer in church starting at around 3.15pm.

**To book a place for the retreat day please telephone St Bede's Parish Office on 01772 335209.**

The office is open **on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am – 3pm.**

It is a big help if bookings can be made at these times.

## Masses and Services This Week

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 6pm St. Bede's Success of an operation

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March **Fifth Sunday of Lent (PW1)**

9.15am St. Chad's Vincent Noblet

11am St. Bede's Jim & Walter

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 9.15am St. Chad's Sefton families

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am St. Bede's Helen Gallagher (A)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March No Mass

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am St. Chad's Fr. Lawrence Mayne RIP

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March **9.45am** St. Bede's Fr. Lawrence Mayne RIP

*The children from St. Bede's & St. Joseph Primary Schools  
will be attending for their end of term Mass.*

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 12 noon St Chad's For our Family of Parishes

6pm St. Bede's Liz Fogarty (RIP)

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (PW2)**

9.15am St. Chad's Patrick Matthew (A)

11am St. Bede's Fr. Michael O'Neill (RIP)

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners: Kath Yates, Jim Holmes, Paola De Sanctis, Eileen Ainscough, Agnes Moss and the residents of Highcliffe, Greenways, Brookside, Willow Bank, Meadow Bank Nursing Homes and Brookhaven.

*If anyone living in our parishes would like to be included on our list of those requesting prayers, please complete one of the prayer request forms at the back of church. We need your consent to publish your name in our newsletter. Thank you.*

Confessions are heard in the confessional at St Bede's Church on Saturday 5.30pm to 5.50pm or at any time on request.