



# SOUTH RIBBLE FAMILY OF PARISHES

Incorporating Leyland, Longton, Penwortham and Tarleton

Frs Michael Barrett, Joseph Bibby, John Goddard, and Ian McParland.

Deacons Bill McMahon and John Sargent

## Lent and Easter in the Family of Parishes

### Stations of the Cross

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 19.00:**

St Teresa's, Penwortham, PR1 ODS

**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 19.00:**

St Mary's, Leyland, PR25 1PD

**Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 19.00:**

Our Lady's, Tarleton, PR4 6BP

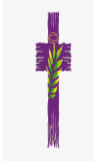
**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 19.00:**

St Oswald's, Longton, PR4 5EE

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 19.00:**

St Mary Magdalen's, Penwortham, PR1

9QD



**Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 3pm**

**Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, L3 5TQ.**

15 people from our Family of Parishes will join many others from across the Archdiocese, in the Cathedral, as they make their final preparations for the Sacraments of Initiation.



**Family Fast Day**

Join us as we share a soup lunch and raise money for people living in poverty around the world.

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February – 1pm**

**St Mary's Community Centre  
Broadfield Walk, Leyland**

**PR25 1PD**



**Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March,  
7pm**

**Romero Room**

**St Teresa's, Penwortham  
PR1 ODS**

### Lenten Taizé Prayer

An opportunity to gather around the candle-lit Taizé Cross to listen to God's Word, sing the Taizé chants, keep silence together and pray for the world. Refreshments served afterwards. Everyone is welcome!



### Lenten Day of Recollection

**"Walking with Jesus in Holy Week"**

**Led by Sr Lynne Baron FCJ**

**Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 10am – 3pm,**

**Romero Room,**

**St Teresa's, Penwortham, PR1 ODS**

The day begins with Mass at 10am. Bring a packed lunch. Tea & coffee will be provided. £10 – suggested donation. Please email [penwortham@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:penwortham@rcaol.org.uk) to register for the day.



**Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King  
Liverpool, L3 5TQ**

**Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April, 7.30pm**

Join us as we welcome clergy from across the Archdiocese to renew their commitment to Priestly Service. Holy Oils used in the celebration of the sacraments throughout the coming year will be blessed.



### Stations of the Cross

**Children's Stations of the Cross**

**Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 13.30.**

**St Mary's RC Church, Leyland,  
PR25 1PD**

### Święconka – Blessing of Easter food

Polish tradition



**Holy Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, 10am**

**St Mary's RC Church, Leyland, PR25 1PD**

### Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Hunt



**Easter Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April**

There will be activities, games and refreshments in St Mary's Community Centre following the **10am Mass**.

## Holy Week Services in the Family of Parishes

|               | St Mary's,<br>Leyland<br>PR25 1PD                          | St Oswald's,<br>Longton<br>PR4 5EB | St Mary Magdalen's,<br>Penwortham<br>PR1 9QD               | St Teresa's,<br>Penwortham<br>PR1 ODS | Our Lady's,<br>Tarleton<br>PR4 6BP                         |
|---------------|--|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Holy Thursday | <b>19.00</b><br>Followed by<br><b>Watching until 21.00</b> | <b>19.00</b>                       | <b>19.00</b><br>Followed by<br><b>Watching until 21.00</b> |                                       | <b>19.00</b><br>Followed by<br><b>Watching until 22.00</b> |
| Good Friday   | <b>15.00</b>   | <b>15.00</b>                       | <b>15.00</b>   | <b>15.00</b>                          | <b>14.00</b>   |
| Holy Saturday | <b>20.00</b>   | <b>19.00</b>                       |  | <b>20.00</b>                          | <b>20.00</b>   |
| Easter Sunday | <b>10.00</b>   | <b>08.30</b>                       | <b>11.00</b>   | <b>09.30</b>                          | <b>10.00</b>   |

**Family of Parishes Consultation:** Last September/October, everyone in our 4 parishes was invited to join in the conversation about how our family of parishes could work together more closely as we move into the future. Thank you for the feedback you gave.

We imagine that we will likely have only 2 priests for our Family of Parishes within 5 years and this will have consequences for the number of Masses in our 5 churches, and the sacramental & pastoral provision in the 4 parishes, 7 schools, 2 prisons etc. We recognise that there has been a significant change in the practice of our Catholic communities and schools.

The working group identified a number of key points that will apply to all the scenarios:

- Reduce the number of Mass times – one Sunday Mass (either vigil, morning, or evening) in each church, and one weekday Mass each day within the Family;
- Expand lay ministry and ensure training for lay ministry;
- Utilise land, buildings, & investments to fund the chosen plan;
- Each scenario has to be financially viable and sustainable into the future without central diocesan funding.

**Summary of the 4 possible scenarios - see the Family of Parishes Scenario document for more detail:**

1. Four individual parishes with a priest & deacon serving 2 parishes each;
2. Four individual parishes with dedicated lay leadership in each parish, and a team of priests & deacons serving the 4 parishes;
3. Four parishes collaborating & coordinating closely on everything with a team ministry of priests, deacons, and other lay ministers serving the whole;
4. One parish with one ministry & leadership team serving the 5 church communities.

### **Consultation**

**For each of the scenarios, please prayerfully consider:**

- **How might living in this scenario enable our parishes to flourish better?**
- **How might living in this scenario inhibit the flourishing of our parishes?**

Feedback either by email to [j.sargent@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:j.sargent@rcaol.org.uk) or by hand to church, to be received by 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**Open parish meetings facilitated by Fr Matthew Nunes:**

- St Mary's Leyland - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 7pm
- St Mary Magdalen's Penwortham - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 12noon
- St Teresa's Penwortham - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm
- Our Lady's Tarleton - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 7pm
- St Oswald's Longton - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 7pm

### **Journey in Faith (RCIA) – Update February 2026**

**It is a real blessing to report that our Family of Parishes Journey in Faith RCIA course is now in 'full swing' and continues to meet each Wednesday evening at St Mary's Community Centre, Leyland.**

We have a wonderful group of 15 participants and a supportive team of parishioners and clergy to accompany them, as they journey towards being received into full communion with our Catholic community this Easter.

Their commitment to the sessions, despite the winter weather, has been really encouraging and we are journeying together as a community of faith with friendships being made and a real sense of togetherness.

We continue to follow the resources and videos of the **Sycamore course** ([www.sycamore.fm](http://www.sycamore.fm)) which offers very clear teaching on the essential of Catholic belief and a great range of discussion questions drawing on people's real life experience of religion and faith.

One of the participants shared that they had expected the course to be a bit like a 'Sunday School for grown-ups'. They have however been pleasantly surprised that it offers a much more engaging and interactive experience inviting deep reflection and an opportunity to discuss and question many aspects of our beliefs and practice.

In recent weeks we have been focusing on the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation, and have also considered the power of prayer and the riches of the bible.

Many of the group will be heading to Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February for the 'Rite of Election' service. This significant liturgy, celebrated on the first Sunday of Lent each year, marks a key moment for all those in the Diocese who are journeying towards full sacramental initiation into the Catholic Church.

Please continue to keep a special place in your prayers for the 15 participants as they journey in faith.

**The Journey in Faith Team**