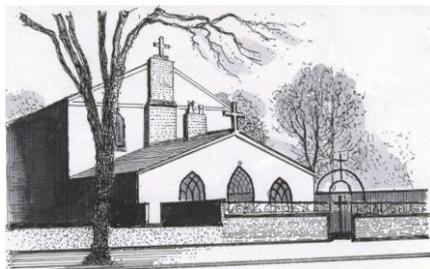


Our Lady

Help of Christians



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EASTER SUNDAY 1st APRIL 2018

(Prayer of the Church Week 2 Parish Mass Book Page 251)

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Saturday	8.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00am	Luke Ryan
	10.30am	John Wylie
Monday	10.00am	Private Intention
Tuesday	9.00am	Ellen King
Wednesday	9.00am	Andrew Barrett
Thursday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Friday	8.30am	Holy Souls

MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday	6.30pm	Nicola Cameron Rew
Sunday	9.00am	Les Johnstone
	10.30am	Maureen Turner

Novena	No novena this week
Confessions	No confessions until further notice
Meditation	Saturday 10.15am

Counters team next Sunday - Team F

Patricia Marsh Brian Keeley Josie & Tom Simms

GIFT AID AND STANDING ORDER FORMS

I am informed by the finance team that all the new Gift Aid forms have been processed and that all completed standing order (SO) forms returned to the parish up to last weekend have been forwarded to the applicable banks. Please check your bank statement to make sure both that your instruction has been activated and that you have not paid twice (unless you want to!). The 2018/19 boxes and envelopes had already been printed before this campaign started so even if you submitted a standing order form you will have been issued with a new set of offertory envelopes. Please keep the box (*but don't use the envelopes*) until you are sure your bank has activated your SO instruction. Once you are sure, you may dispose of the envelopes. For parishioners who have opted not to set up a SO, arrangements for making weekly offerings by envelope or cash in the plate remain exactly as before.

TAKING STOCK

Perhaps now is a good time to stop and take stock of how you support the church to keep it going. Being human, it is easy to drift from year to year. It is so easy to go on giving the same amount year in and year out and forget that money decreases in value. What you could get for £5 20 years ago you no longer can get. It is the same with Mass offerings. When I came here almost 20 years ago most people offered £5 for a Mass offering. As I said £5 no longer buys what it did 20 years ago.. The offering traditionally was meant to support the priest on the day he offered the Mass. Initially it was food that was given and brought up at the offertory. As some of the food was dirty, like potatoes, the priest needed to wash his hands after the offertory. He still does it though there is no longer the need. Money took the place of food. Now £5 won't go far for a priest even in Africa where many of our Masses are offered.

J&P GROUP

Our April meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Thurs 12th in Portico Parish House. All are welcome to join us.

PORTICO BIBLE STUDY GROUP

After our break for Lent and the start of the Easter Season we will meet again on Tuesday 18th April at 7.30 pm in the church house [unless access to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel becomes available before then]. If there is a Tuesday evening Mass, our meeting will start after it. New people are always welcome. There are often profound moments shared as well as laughter. You do not need to be a scholar or an academic but just have a thirst to break God's Word and share it with others. If you require any further details phone Ken on 01744820654.

CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting is on Tuesday 3rd April 2018 – 1pm at St Julie's Presbytery, Howards Lane, Eccleston. It is an opportunity for carers to meet up and gain emotional and practical support. Carers are more than welcome to bring along the person they care for. Do you care for, or have cared for someone with memory problems, then come along, you will be very welcome. For further information please contact Joan O'Hanlon on 07984 735 590

THANKS

I wish to thank the parishioners who helped with the car park work. Also, grateful thanks to Paul Beesley of Beesley & Fildes for his advice, and then generously donating the edging stones and pebbles. Thanks also to the Managers of Linacre Tool Hire and B & Q for advice and financial assistance.