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, 27th February, 19.00:
St Teresa's, Penwortham, PR1 0DS
Friday, 6th March, 19.00:
St Mary's, Leyland, PR25 1PD
Friday, 13th March, 19.00:
Our Lady's, Tarleton, PR4 6BP
Friday, 20th March, 19.00:
St Oswald's, Longton, PR4 5EE
Friday, 27th March, 19.00:
St Mary Magdalen's, Penwortham, PR1 9QD

Sunday, 22nd 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.

CAFOD

Family Fast Day

Join us as we share a soup lunch and raise money for people living in poverty around the world.
Friday, 27th February – 1pm
St Mary's Community Centre
Broadfield Walk, Leyland
PR25 1PD

Thursday, 5th March, 7pm
Romero Room
St Teresa's, Penwortham
PR1 0DS

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, 19th March, 10am – 3pm,
Romero Room,
St Teresa's, Penwortham, PR1 0DS

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 to register for the day.

Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King
Liverpool, L3 5TQ
Wednesday, 1st 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.

Children's Stations of the Cross
Good Friday, 3rd April, 13.30.
St Mary's RC Church, Leyland,
PR25 1PD

Święconka – Blessing of Easter food

Polish tradition

Holy Saturday, 4th April, 10am

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

Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, 5th 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, Leyland PR25 1PD	St Oswald's, Longton PR4 5EB	St Mary Magdalen's, Penwortham PR1 9QD	St Teresa's, Penwortham PR1 0DS	Our Lady's, Tarleton PR4 6BP
Holy Thursday	**19.00** Followed by **Watching** until **21.00**	**19.00**	**19.00** Followed by **Watching** until **21.00**		**19.00** Followed by **Watching** until **22.00**
Good Friday	**15.00**	**15.00**	**15.00**	**15.00**	**14.00**
Holy Saturday	**20.00**	**19.00**		**20.00**	**20.00**
Easter Sunday	**10.00**	**08.30**	**11.00**	**09.30**	**10.00**

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 or by hand to church, to be received by 5th March.

Open parish meetings facilitated by Fr Matthew Nunes:

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