

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

Parish News

Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day
24th and 25th December 2023

Dear friends,

It's always a great pleasure at Christmas to say thank you, on my own behalf, and on behalf of all who worship with us, to all our parish volunteers. Cleaners, gardeners, flower arrangers, servers, readers, musicians and singers, counters, catechists, collectors, stewards, our home visitors, SVP, sacristans, social groups and many others – all quietly and faithfully serve God by generously sharing their time and gifts through the year. Without their work our parishes could not be the thriving places of community and service that they are. Thank you.

Thank you also for the cards and gifts I have received in the past few days. I'm very touched by your kindness. Your encouragement is a great support as I try to be a better priest.

I'm praying for you and your families for the joy and peace that comes from knowing that Jesus is with us. May we all know His love in our hearts and know how blessed we are this Christmas.

God bless,

Fr. Mark



Christmas Raffle. We raised £597.20 in St. Chad's and £593.40 in St. Bede's. Thank you to the parishioners who kindly donated the cash prizes and other gifts and to everyone who was able to buy and sell tickets.

Poinsettias at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who made a donation to help us decorate our Churches for Christmas with Poinsettias. A card of dedication has been placed by each plant donated. Our flower team will let us know when it's OK to take your plant home.

Winter Warmer. Thank you to everyone who helps organise the event, to the band, The Symbolics and to everyone who came to make this such an enjoyable evening. We raised £454 for St. Chad's parish.

We will be starting a group in the New Year at St Bede's for anyone who would like to know more about becoming a Catholic, getting Confirmed as an adult, or coming back to Mass after some time away. Please talk to Fr Mark or Sr Dorothy if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who was able to make a donation to their parish when handing in their Pious list in November. The St. Bede's total was £552.50 and St. Chad's total was £349.50. This is a big help towards meeting our running costs this winter. Thank you.

St Bede's Prayer Group will take a break now until the New Year.

St Chad's Craft Group will break for Christmas and restart on January 9th.

St Chad's Reading Group will take a break now until the 8th January 2024.

St Chad's Little Church Volunteers are asked to contact Chris Gardner who puts our rota of helpers together or talk to Fr Mark. We can help you complete your DBS application if you have not already done so.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with the St Bede's SVP group. We will meet again in January. Please talk to Fr Mark if you would like to know more about joining the group.

Our First Holy Communion preparation will begin in February for children in Year 4 and above. If your child does not attend St Bede's or St Chad's Primary Schools and you would like them to make their First Holy Communion this year, please let us know and we can let you know when the classes will begin.

St. Chad's and St. Bede's Parish Centres are available to hire for use by groups and for some private functions. For enquiries about our rates and conditions of use for St Bede's Parish Centre please call Aidan on 01257 271818 and for St Chad's Parish Centre please call 07719718523. Please leave your name and telephone number and we will call you back.

Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council Warm Space. The Second Monday of each month **10.00-11.30am** at 239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods, PR6 7PY (behind Whittle Surgery). Come along to meet people from the community, play games, jigsaws, read a book and enjoy a brew and a biscuit.

Each year after Christmas we sadly put quite a few unclaimed Christmas cards that were left at the back of our Churches into the recycling box. People often don't check to see if there is a card left for them and if the card is addressed with just a Christian name people don't know if it's for them or not. It's probably best to try to hand out Christmas cards in person. Thank you.

Metanoia Project's Homeless Drop-In runs weekly inside St Wilfrid's Church, Preston. We provide clothing, toiletries, warm drinks and biscuits, welcoming all those who come in a way they each have an experience of Jesus. We regularly give out these items and would be very grateful if you were able to donate. Socks and new underwear, men's trainers (especially size 8 & 9), rucksacks, sleeping bags, shower gel and deodorant, T-shirts and polo shirts, men's jeans (especially Size 30-36), men's hoodies, thermal long sleeve t-shirts, tracksuit bottoms, tops and coats. If you have any items you wish to donate but can't get to church or if you feel God is calling you to serve, please ring Jen on 07957566741 or email on jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk. Thank you.

Other donations can be left at the back of our churches too. Food and toiletry donations at St Bede's support the Food Bank at St Aidan's, Bamber Bridge and at St Chad's support Chorley Help the Homeless.

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners



Syd Newton, George Morris, Peter Deacon, Amy Greenhalgh, Thomas Hesse, Ray Briant, Eileen Farnworth, Robert Rainford, Brenda Wrightson, Maria Reynolds, Eileen Ainscough, Tony Miller, Tony Morris, Gabrielle Myerscough, Connie Foy, Katherine Yates, Marie Coleman, Virginia Hayton-Weed, Lawrence Eccles, Vivienne Howard, Patrick Phillips, Joyce Campbell, Agnes Moss, Sandra Farrel, Diane Gunn, Sheila Young and the residents of Highcliffe, Greenways, Brookside, Willow Bank, Meadow Bank Nursing Homes and Brookhaven.

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Beattie. **Telephone 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.

Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk and
www.stchads-southhill.org

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

E-mail our parish office: stbedesclaytongreen@rcaol.org.uk
or stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk

or to Fr Mark privately m.beattie@rcaol.org.uk

The office is open on Thursday and Friday this week for all enquiries.

Masses and Services this week

Saturday 23rd December 6pm St Bede's The family of
Baby Austin Quinn

Sunday 24th December **Fourth Sunday of Advent (PW4) Year B**
9.15am St. Chad's Thanksgiving
11am St. Bede's Cameron Beeby (RIP)

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

5pm St. Bede's Dominic McCrudden
7pm St. Chad's Canon Kevin Kenny (RIP)

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

9.15am St. Chad's Parishioners
11am St. Bede's Parishioners



Tuesday 26th December **Feast of St Stephen**
11am St. Bede's Brian Torevell

Wednesday 27th December No Mass

Thursday 28th December 9.15am St Chad's Service of the Word
and Holy Communion

Friday 29th December 9.15am St Bede's Jack & Lucy Collier

Saturday 30th December 6pm St Bede's Delia Oates

Sunday 31st December **Feast of the Holy Family (PW1)**
9.15am St. Chad's Hughes family
11am St. Bede's Parishioners



Monday 1st January 2024.

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10am St. Chad's William & Ivy Smith
12noon St. Bede's Parishioners

Confessions are heard in the confessional in St Bede's church on
Saturday evenings before the 6pm Mass from 5.30pm until
5.50pm or at any time on request.

