

# The Catholic Parish of St Richard, Skelmersdale

Serving the Churches of  
St Mary Queen of Apostles, St Richard's and St Francis of Assisi.  
184 Liverpool Road, Skelmersdale, WN8 8BX

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Kenny Hyde

**Deacon:** Rev Anthony Callaghan

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**Parish Administrator:** Frank Reppion

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His commands  
are these: that  
we believe in  
his Son  
and that we  
love one another.

1 John 3:18-24

## West Lancashire Pastoral Area

St Richard, St Mary & St Francis Skelmersdale, St Teresa Upholland, Skelmersdale,  
St Marie of the Annunciation, Standish and St Bernadete Shevington;  
St Joseph Wrightington; St James Orrell; Our Lady & All Saints Parbold;  
St Anne Ormskirk; St Elizabeth Scarisbrick

## SUNDAYS READINGS:

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm: 21:26-28, 30-32

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Year B) - Psalter Week 1

Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> April		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
St Mary	5:00pm	Larry & Nell France (anniv RIP)
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
St Richard	9:00am	Parishioners Michael Myles (Anniv)
St Francis	11:00am	Thomas Flaherty Anniv
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April		St Catherine of Siena
No Mass		Praise the Lord who seek him. <i>Psalm 21.</i>
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April		Weekday of Easter
St Francis	9:30am	Jimmy Greenall
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May		St Joseph the Worker
St Mary	9:30am	Hubert Davies
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May		St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
OLQP	7:45am	Student Support
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May		Ss Philip and James, Apostles
St Richard	9:30am	Alan Grant
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> May		The English Martyrs and 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
St Mary	5:00pm	Dorothy Robertson Hubert Davies
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> May		6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
St Richard	9:00am	Frank Graham, May Phillips
St Francis	11:00am	Parishioners, Patricia Cushion

## First Holy Communions and Confirmations

**First Holy Communion Masses** are at 10.30am

St Francis - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May

St Richard - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May

St Mary - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May

**Parish Confirmation Mass:** at 11:00am

St Francis - Pentecost Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Presided by Bishop Tom Neylon.

**Please all those who want to be confirmed need to come to Sunday 11am Mass in St Francis on either MAY 5<sup>th</sup> or MAY 12<sup>th</sup> for preparation and practice. Thank you.**

## Parish Walsingham Pilgrimage

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Fr Kenny is planning a Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham to take place in June.

**Please complete a 'pro forma' this week, so we know there are enough expressions of interest for a successful booking.**

**Please hand in you 'pro forma' at church or the parish office. Thank you.**

Two half-board nights staying at Elmham House in Walsingham. Leaving after Masses on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June; returning daytime on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

Please see poster and 'pro forma' for more details.

[www.walsingham.org.uk/accommodation](http://www.walsingham.org.uk/accommodation)

## Pope's Prayer Intention for May

*For the formation of religious and seminarians*

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



## Remember Those Who Need Our Prayers

Bill Ware, Sr. Eva McHale, Brenda Lockhart, Beverly Howard, Clare Gillard, Ronita Ireland, Adelaide Houghton, Pauline Perry, Cathy Segar, Debbie Martin, Joyce and Bill Rainford, Dorothy Halsall, Nick Sales, Nina Leigh, Babs Carroll, Jennifer Walker, Mark Everest, Sr Eileen Ryan, Sr Margaret Shutt, Dee Kelly.

## Saints to celebrate this week

**St Catherine of Siena, 29 April:** c. 1333-1380, A member of the Dominican Third Order, Catherine Benincasa was the youngest of twenty or more children of a Sienese dyer. She devoted time to prayer and penance, helping the sick in hospital. She later journeyed in a call to reform and repentance. In the last five years of her life, she was involved in the politics of Church and State, working for the return of the papacy from Avignon to Rome. This makes her one of the leading figures of the fourteenth century. Both a contemplative and ascetic, her writings are remarkable for their spirituality and theology.

**St Joseph the Worker, 1st May:** Responding to the "May Day" celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pius XII instituted the feast of St Joseph the Worker in 1955. But the relationship between Joseph and the cause of workers has a much longer history.

**St Athanasius, 2nd May:** (c.296-373) was bishop of Alexandria and attended the first Council of Nicea. Athanasius was the greatest champion of Catholic belief on the subject of the Incarnation that the Church has ever known and in his lifetime earned the characteristic title of "Father of Orthodoxy"

**Ss Philip and James, 3rd May:** Philip an apostle, came from Bethsaida and after following John the Baptist became an early follower of Jesus. He persuaded Nathaniel (probably Bartholomew) to follow Jesus too.

**Recently deceased:** We pray for the repose of the souls of all who have recently died: Christine Ann Bromley, Ellen Massey, Fred Shillto, Jimmy Greenall, May Phillips, Margaret Rose Shaw, Bruce Smith, Doug Scobie, Christina Farrell, Christine Saunders, Michael McNulty, Mary Whalley. *Rest in peace. Amen.*

**Edward Thomas Hunter** – Funeral Service and Burial at St Richard's, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 11:00am.

(*Ss Philip and James cont*): When the Greeks wanted to meet Jesus they approached Philip first. Tradition has him preaching the Gospel in Phrygia and dying in Hierapolis. James, son of Alphaeus is sometimes identified with the James whose mother stood by Jesus on the cross. Also he is often called the first bishop of Jerusalem and identified with the author of the Epistle of St. James, otherwise nothing is known with certainty about him. His traditional iconographic emblem is a fuller's club because he was believed to have been beaten to death with it, after being sentenced by the Sanhedrin in AD62 to be stoned.

**The English Martyrs, 4th May:** In the New Calendar for English Saints the 40 canonised martyrs (previous feast on 25th October) have joined the 85 beatified martyrs for today's Feast, with other martyrs from the 16th and 17th centuries. These are now known as 'The English Martyrs'. It was on 4th May 1535 that three Carthusian monks were put to death at Tyburn, the first of many martyrs. Of these martyrs 42 have been canonised and a further 242 declared blessed, but the number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in prison, or suffered harsh persecution for their faith in the course of a century and a half cannot now be reckoned. They came from every walk of life; there are among them rich and poor, married and single, women and men. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith, and courage in the face of persecution.



**Parish SVP:** The **retiring collection** this weekend is for the SVP. We are grateful for your kind donations and support for our work. Donations are welcome of canned and dried food, toiletries and cleaning goods. Contact the SVP team on: **07470 351 042**.

## Weekly Planned Giving – Gift Aid

Just a reminder: to help update our Gift Aid records please advise if you are no longer a taxpayer, as you will no longer need to give each week with the envelopes. **Gift Aid** is a Government scheme that allows charities to reclaim the tax that has been paid on donations.

**However, if you are no longer a tax payer, or if your total gift aid is greater than the annual tax you pay, you become liable to pay the gift aid as well as your donation. See: [www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid](http://www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid)**

- But please sign up for Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer and do not already use the Planned Giving Envelopes. Forms are available at the back of church. Thank you.

**Sunday Collections:** Thank you for your kindness to the parish.

**21<sup>st</sup> April 2024:** £885.04    **Building Fund:** £25.00    **Priest Training Fund :** £180.21    **Survive-Miva:** 61.00

**Second collection** next week 4/5 May is for the Building Fund.