

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

Tel: 01695-724476 (Fr Kenny)

Parish Administrator: Frank Reppion **Office Hours:** Tue, Wed, Fri: 10am-2pm

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*'Why is this granted to me
that the mother of my Lord
should come to me?'*

Luke 1:39-45

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; St John the Evangelist, Burscough.

SUNDAYS READINGS:

Mic 5:1-4a
Psalm: 79:2-19
Heb 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

Sunday 22nd December 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year C) - Psalter Week IV

4th Sunday of Advent: Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers

The Gospel on the 4th Sunday of Advent focusses on the role of Mary in our salvation. Over the three year cycle the gospel tells of the betrothal of Mary to Joseph, the Annunciation and the Visitation. The stories prepare us for the Birth of our Lord at Christmas.

God has brought gladness and light to the world through the Virgin Mary's delivery of her son.

Grant the prayer of all mothers to be as they ask for the birth of a healthy child.

*May they safely deliver a son or daughter to be numbered among your family,
to serve you in all things, and to gain eternal life. Amen.*

Saturday	21st Dec	Day: St Peter Canisius Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent	St Mary	5:00pm	Brian Carr, Kerry
Sunday	22nd Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent	St Richard	9:00am	Carol & Joh Dunne, Parishioners
			St Francis	11:00am	Shirley Conley Family & Friends Marie & Norman Hall
Monday	23rd Dec	Advent Day, St John of Kanty,	No Mass		<i>Pray with Joy</i>
			St Richard	10:30am	Funeral Service: Mary Davenport

Christmas Masses, Carols and Mass Intentions



Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

6:00pm St Marys - Carols
6:30pm St Marys
- Christmas Vigil Mass

Terence Nordoff
Many thanks for prayers answered
Tommy Manning
Cath Elgin
Joe Ludden
Terry France

Tuesday 24th December Christmas Midnight

11:30pm St Richards - Carols
Midnight St Richards
- Midnight Mass

People of the Parish
Peggy and James Dunne
Bert Suffield
Monica Nelson
Paul Swords
Charlie Byrne

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Morning

10:00am St Francis'
- Christmas Mass

Shirley Conley Family & Friends
Thomas Manning (RIP)
Philip Hyde
Marie & Norman Hall
Anthony Ferris
Ann Miller

Thursday	26th Dec	St Stephen, the first Martyr	No Mass		<i>Pray for the vision of Heaven</i>
Friday	27th Dec	St John, Apostle, Evangelist	No Mass		<i>Pray all may hear the gospel</i>
Saturday	28th Dec	Day: The Holy Innocents Vigil: Feast of the Holy Family	St Mary	5:00pm	Charlie Byrne, Joe Ludden Parishioners
Sunday	29th Dec	Feast of the Holy Family	St Richard	9:00am	Eddie Manion, Gerry Duffy
			St Francis	11:00am	Shirley Conley Family & Friends

Recently deceased:

We pray for the repose of the souls of all who have recently died: Terence Pearson, Irene Grady, Agnes Olive Chilstone, Mary O'Connell, Charlie Byrne, Ann Monaghan, Cath Eglin, Dennis Ball, Gerard Taubman, Monica Nelson, Edward Roberts, Bernard Sweeney, Linda Maria McCaffrey.

Mary Davenport, Funeral Service and Burial, Monday 23rd December at 10:30am at St Richard's.

Mary Kelly, Requiem Mass, Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 10:30am at St Richard's, onto West Lancs Crematorium.

Margaret Manion, Requiem Mass, Thurs 9th January 2025 at 11:45am at St Richard's, onto West Lancs Crematorium.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Remember Those Who Need Our Prayers

Rita Almark, Jennifer Walker, Sr Margaret Schutt, Cathy & Tommy Segar, Dee Kelly, Jan Mercer, Nick Sales, Jean Turner, Catherine Turner, Debbie Martin, Mark Everest, Josh Byrne (aged 12), Paul Burton, Bill Ware, Clare Ware, Sr. Eva McHale, Brenda Lockhart, Beverly Howard, Clare Gillard, Ronita Ireland, Adelaide Houghton, Pauline Perry, Babs Carroll, Nina Leigh, Billy & Joyce Rainford, Dorothy Halsall, Don Smith, Tammy Hawkins, Marilyn Sutemire.

Feast during the Christmas Season

Stephen or Stephan - Tuesday 26th December:

Traditionally venerated as the Protomartyr or first martyr of Christianity, in the Acts of the Apostles we learn he was a deacon in the early church at Jerusalem. His teachings aroused the enmity of members of various synagogues. Accused of blasphemy, at his trial he made a long speech denouncing the Jewish authorities. While being stoned to death he proclaimed: *"Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."* Saul of Tarsus (St Paul) witness this, a Pharisee who would later become an ardent follower and proclaimer of Jesus.

St John the Apostle - Wednesday 27th December:

An Apostles and friend of Jesus. We learn from the New Testament he was the son of Zebedee and Salome. His brother was James, who was another of the Twelve Apostles. He died about 100 AD. John and the Johannine community gave us the beautiful Gospel and Letters of John, and the Book of Revelation with a profound teaching - that God is love, who Jesus is as Son, as the eternal Word of God and witness of the Father, his union with the Father and the Holy Spirit and with his followers; and the future in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Holy Innocents - Thursday 28th December:

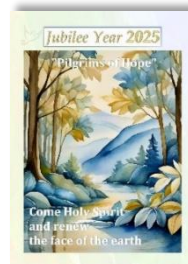
Herod "ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under" in order to kill Jesus. The horror of the massacre and the devastation of the mothers and fathers led Matthew to quote Jeremiah: *"A voice was heard in Ramah...sobbing and loud lamentation...Rachel weeping for her children..."*. We recognise the greatest treasure God put on the earth - a human person, destined for eternity and graced by Jesus' death and resurrection.

CHRISTMAS GREETING

In this holy season of great celebration I wish your all and your families the Peace and Joy brought to you by the Infant Jesus.
Fr Kenny

A Prayer & Calendar for the Parish, & Jubilee Year 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope"

"Come Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the earth"



The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.

Romans 16:25-27

Archbishops Malcolm's Christmas message:

See and listen to his message on YouTube - link:
<https://youtu.be/DJH35DW2DuU>

Blessing of Miraculous Medals"

- the medal of the Immaculate Conception.

Fr Kenny will bless and distribute "Miraculous Medals" at the end of each Mass this weekend.

"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."



Postage Stamps Collection for RNIB

R N I B

See differently

For several years used postage stamps have been donated to the RNIB. Please place your used postage stamps into the boxes situated at the back of churches.

The boxes will be emptied after Christmas and sent to the RNIB.

The 2025 Jubilee Year

The Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope" begins with the opening of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome, on Tuesday 24th December 2024 and concludes on 6th January at the Feast of Epiphany 2026.

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate Mass for the Solemn Opening of the Year at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Sunday 29 Dec 2024 at 11am; and this celebration will also take place at our Co-Cathedral, St Mary of the Isle on the Isle of Man with Mass celebrated by Bishop Tom Neylon.

Live stream: Liverpool

<http://www.youtube.com/c/TheMetropolitanCathedralLiverpool>

Live stream: Isle of Mann:

<https://manxcatholic.org.uk/#livestream>

