

Sunday 10th April

9.30am William & Theresa McLeod
 11.00am Peter Evans (A)
 6.30pm Oswald Corcoran (A)

Weekday Masses

Mon. 8.30am Nadine Pennington (sick)
 Tues. 8.30am Valerie Bretherton
 Wed. 8.30am Damian Woods (A)
 Thurs. 8.30am Jack Simmonds (A)
 Fri. 8.30am Tom Noblett (A)
 Sat. 8.30am Bill & Barbara Tennant

Sunday 17th April

9.30am Connie Walmsley (A)
 11.00am Joseph Kenyon (birthday)
 6.30pm Frank Smith (birthday)

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Jayne Hodge · Kathleen Reynolds · Bridget Cain · Hazel Lee · Mary Patten · Agnes Martindale · Robert Stretton · Hilda Haworth · Mildred Bridge · Margaret and Fred Wood · Harold Sutton · Josie Down · Mary Campbell · Margaret Bower · Thomas Moss · Winifred Marshall · Gerard Baker · Hugh O'Daly · Margaret Dearden · Maureen Jackson · David Lynch · Dorothy McDonald (Howarth) · Howard Line · Maureen McIver · Bill Burns

Please remember John Lilley who died this last week. John, larger than life, was a faithful member of our Parish Community. We offer our sympathy to Marie, Julie, Jackie and Martin and all the family. John's Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Monday at 3.00pm. May he rest in peace.

Offertory

Thank you for last week's collection of £1014.

Catenians

Bill Critchley has been elected as President to the Chorley Circle to follow David Walmsley who has completed a successful year as President. We wish Bill every blessing in his year of Office. If any parishioner wants to know more about the Catenians, do contact any of them – we have a number of parishioners who are members.

Fr. Firth

I hope to visit Fr. Firth this week. Canon Kelly (who looks after our retired priests) is visiting those who live in Ireland – I'm carrying the cases! Fr. Firth keeps well, thank God, and is still celebrating Mass each morning. I will remember you all to him – and assure him of our prayers for him.

Vocations

And that note about Fr. Firth reminded me that next Sunday is 'Vocation Sunday'.... There are many vocations in which people serve the community, but the one we concentrate on next Sunday is the vocation to the priesthood.... when I was ordained (a long time ago now!!) there were 481 active priests working in the Diocese, with 16 retired. Today there are only 151 active priests (many of them over the retirement age of 75) with 64 retired priests (including our own Canon Firth and Canon Mullen).... those numbers speak for themselves.

The need for prayers is obvious. Have you ever asked your children if they have ever thought of being a priest.... go on, ask them! I wonder do the Schools Career Service ever ask the same question.

There will also be a collection in support of the training of the few candidates we have!

And it's not only priests who are disappearing.... Religious Sisters (nuns) are few and far between. The FCJ sisters are organising a weekend for young women who might think of a "vocation" (27 – 29 May). I have some "free" tickets to cover expenses of the weekend which will be held in Kent.... anyone interested... have a word after mass or give me a ring when I get back from Ireland.

Mass Cards

There are mass cards "for the dead" available at the back of church – beautiful cards produced by Lydia. They are for masses to be said here at Weldbank, so there is no charge for them (other than the "Mass Offering").

Little Church

Welcome back to the children for Little Church which starts again this morning.

Ministering to the Assembly

Counters (11th April) Derek and Cecilia Birchall

Rotas (17th April, Fourth Sunday of Easter)

S.A.S. Margaret Scard

Dial a Ride Barry Crossen and Catherine Jackson

Readers Angela MacLeod Elizabeth Green

Ministers David Chadwick Sharon Hobin

Richard Jackson Edward Brierley

Christine Crossen

Paul Rynn