

Introduction We come together as a community in loving relationship with our neighbour and with all living creatures. "Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary" (Pope Benedict XVI). We trust in God's compassion and mercy. Time spent in reflection during the season of Lent can help us to change and to grow in faith.

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

God establishes a covenant with Noah, his descendants and every living creature. God sets a bow in the clouds as a sign of the covenant.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22 - Peter gives hope to his listeners. As we prepare to renew our baptismal vows at Easter, we are called to repent, to change and to believe in the Gospel.

Gospel Mark 1:12-15 - Jesus stays in the desert for forty days. He emerges to tell the crowds that the kingdom of God is close at hand.

Please pray for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:

FEBRUARY

19 David Bailey, Ann Myerscough **20** Margaret Connolly, Bert Holtom

21 Fr Edmond McCartan (pp), John O'Brien, Agnes Hind, Marjorie Shaw

22 Pat Ellis, Andrew Cooney **23** Helen Minchin

24 John Strathdee, Fr Ken Hodson, Fr Fred Hamer (pp). Frank Dillon

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal
at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030

to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need.

Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Lourdes Diocesan Pilgrimage 23 July to 30 July 2024.

Please join Bishop Paul Swarbrick on the Diocesan Pilgrimage. Youth Section (Coach Travel - 22 July to 1 August) will travel by coach with an evening and a day sightseeing in Paris.

Email youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk for details.

For all other Pilgrims and for further information please check the Diocesan Pilgrimage Website www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk or email operationsdirector@lancasterlourdes.co.uk

Parishes of St Andrew & Blessed George Haydock, Cottam, and St Mary, Lea Town

1st Sunday in Lent 18th February 2024

Parish Priest: Canon Adrian J. Towers VF

114 Hoyles Lane, Cottam, PR4 0NB

Tel: (01772) 726166 E-mail: adrian.towers@lrcd.org.uk

Deacon: Rev. John W Cliffe

Tel: 01257 264445 john.cliffe@lrcd.org.uk

Baptisms and Marriages by Arrangement.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday (4.30pm to 5pm) or on request. Please call in to the Presbytery or speak to Canon Adrian before or after Mass.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Tony Murphy 07557 373534 (St Andrew's)

Mike Fitzpatrick 07739 880965 (St Mary's)

Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk

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**Jesus came to Galilee
proclaiming the gospel:
"The reign of God is at hand!"**

Mark 1:14–15

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SATURDAY 17 February

5.30pm (Vigil) Shirley Parker (8044)

Mass will be live streamed from Parish website

SUNDAY 18 February (PMB p148)

9.00am(Lea Town) People of the Parish

10.30am Repose of the soul of Elizabeth Wilson (8053)

3.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

6.00pm Peace in the Holy Land

MONDAY 19 February

9.15am Joan Bradley (8059)

TUESDAY 20 February – NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 21 February

9.15am (Cottam) Blessings for 100 Years (8057)

THURSDAY 22 February

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle (Feast)

8.15am (Lea Town) Deceased Members of SABS & Benefactors
(8065)

FRIDAY 23 February - LENT FAST DAY

9.15am) Mildred & Stephen Ogdin (8063)

SATURDAY 24 February

9.15am EOHSJ Lieutenancy of England & Wales

5.30pm (Vigil) Paul Edwards – Anniversary (8048)

Confessions next Saturday 4.30pm to 5.00pm at St. Andrew's

Mass Intentions All Mass offerings and intentions are most welcome. If you require a Mass on a particular day, please let Canon Adrian know or place the intention, offering and details in an envelope on the collection plate at the weekend Masses. Mass intention envelopes are at the back of church.

Lenten Wednesdays 7- 8 p.m. (Haydock Room) It has been suggested parishioners might like the opportunity to watch some episodes of the series **The Chosen**.

This is an American Christian historical drama television series. Created, directed, and co-written by filmmaker Dallas Jenkins, it is the first multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series centres on Jesus and the different people who met and followed or otherwise interacted with him.

Sacramental Preparation All classes will take place at 3.20pm, apart from 19th March, see below) in St Mary's annex. We are looking forward to starting our preparation classes again this year.

First Reconciliation classes 27th February, 5th March

The children will make their First Reconciliation St Mary's church 3.20 pm on the 12th March.

First Holy Communion classes

19th March (3.15pm to 5.15pm), and 16th April

The children will make their First Holy Communion at St Mary's church during the 9 o'clock Mass on **Sunday 21st April**.

You are welcome to contact me via Canon Towers if you have any queries. We look forward to the privilege of guiding the children in their preparations. Jackie Fitzpatrick and Angela Pye.



Welcome to Jasmine Joshi who will be baptised today.

Afternoon Club This will be for all age groups. If you are interested in attending, please fill in a leaflet which are at the back of church.

The Roman Catholic Bishops of Lancaster

As part of the celebrations of the centenary of the diocese, please join Bishop Paul Swarbrick for Mass at Boarbank Hall, Grange on **Tuesday 9th April at 10am**. This will be followed by a talk given by Paul Severn on the Roman Catholic Bishops of Lancaster; this is based on his book of the same name. Lunch will be served at 12.30pm, please advise of any special dietary or other requirements.

There will be a charge of £10.00 for catering costs.

To book a place email p.severn@freeuk.com