



Marple Bridge
(Hollins Lane)

The Catholic Community Newsletter
for the parish of
St Mary and **The Annunciation**
Marple Bridge New Mills



New Mills
(St Mary's Road)

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2ND JANUARY 2022

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Face coverings are once again compulsory in our churches under Government law, and also in the parish halls when not eating or drinking.

Confession times: New Mills – after Sunday Mass. Marple Bridge – Saturday 1800 to 1820. Please ask. Other times available by appointment.

A big thank-you for your cards and gifts over the Christmas period. Many thanks to all those who have been assisting with things during my time in quarantine, and for the offers of help. Thankfully, the symptoms have been very mild indeed. Best wishes to you and your families for the year ahead.

		Place		Intention
Sat 1 Jan 2022 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	1830	MB	Vigil Mass	<i>To be confirmed</i>
Sun 2 Second Sunday after Christmas	0930	NM	Mass	<i>To be confirmed</i>
	12noon	MB	Mass	<i>To be confirmed</i>
Mon 3				
Tue 4				
Wed 5				
Thu 6 EPIPHANY (Holy Day of Obligation)	10am	NM	Mass	People of the Parish
	7pm	MB	Mass	Fr Desmond Baker RIP
Fri 7	10am	MB	Mass	Doreen Furlong RIP
Sat 8	1830	MB	Vigil Mass	William and Alex Snowdon RIP
Sun 9 BAPTISM of the LORD	0930	NM	Mass	Mark Whelan RIP
	12noon	MB	Mass	People of the Parish

Restarting the sick list. We must be careful to ensure that people give permission for their name to be added, as people may not wish their sickness to be made widely known. To ensure this is the case, forms are available at the back of church to give this permission, which need to be signed by the person themselves, or if this is not possible, by one able to give this permission.

Sacramental Programme 2022 (First Confession and First Holy Communion): The sessions will begin on January 9th with a parents' meeting after 9.30 Mass at New Mills. This is for the parents of children at both New Mills and Marple Bridge. The application forms are available in both churches. Please bring the child's baptismal certificate to this meeting.

Anniversaries of death. We hope to publish lists for this, as below, so that we can pray for those who have died and for their families and friends. Please note the following:

- The list will include those who have died in the past ten years, as listed in the parish registers.
- If anyone has any deceased parishioners they would like to include from before this time, please contact the parish office (by e-mail preferably) with their names and date of death, so that they can be included.

Please pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs in January: Anne Lillis, Rafal Gos, Eric Howard, John Hines, Winefride Mertz, John Pearson, Mark Whelan, Jani Abbs-Brown, John Froggatt, Alastair Gillies, Michael Furlong, Patricia Burkitt, Christine O'Hanlon, Eileen Sheeran, Francis Caraher, Doreen Furlong, Rita Froggart.

If anyone finds any small earphones at New Mills, please contact the parish office.

Our second whole parish Synod meeting will take place at 7pm – 8.15pm on Tuesday 11th January, at the main parish hall at Marple Bridge. This is a very important meeting, in which we will ask the Holy Spirit to help us discern the future for our parish. In particular, we need to discuss the establishment of some sort of parish leadership team, whether that is a Parish Council or some other structure. This meeting is open to all, although there is a special invitation to those who would like to be part of such a structure. Below are some reflections from the first meeting, although we now must take this forward with concrete proposals. Can you help?

- Numbers increasing post-pandemic, though still down on previously
- The parish lunch is an attempt to get people together
- A social committee would be useful to provide joint events across the parish
- The need to attract younger people to Church. An idea to ask them what they would like
- The need to 'relaunch' the parish after the various lockdowns and restrictions
- Helping to foster community by publishing anniversaries of death and the list of who is sick (although there are privacy matters that need to be sorted)
- The need to reach out to ecumenical partners and work with them.

To join the electronic mailing list, contact news@stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk