



Weekly News SHEET

Numbers Reduced - Remedial Work - Letter Fr John

Weddings and Funerals - Numbers Reduced

As of the 14th September, by Government order, the number of people allowed to attend Weddings and Funerals has been reduced to 30. Please when planning take this figure into consideration and help us by providing a list of those attending as well as their telephone numbers - this list will be destroyed 21 days after the event.

Communication

Weekly News Sheet. Please take a copy for a friend or neighbour. **New Web Site** (<https://www.formbycatholiccommunity.org.uk>) where this News Sheet is available and the photos are easier to see. **Web Streaming** of the Saturday and Sunday Masses is now available on YouTube using the Formby Catholic Community Channel. And our marvellous **FACEBOOK Page** of Formby Catholic Community. Also **email:** fcc@rcaol.org.uk

Weekly Giving

St Anne's.	£105.00
St Jerome's.	£310.65
Our Lady's	£578.18

Mass Timings

St Jerome's:

Saturday: 6pm

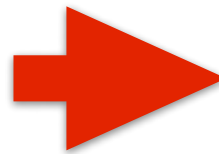
Our Lady of Compassion

Wednesday: 12 noon

Sunday: 9am and 11 am

Remedial Work

As you can see from the photos below the remedial work on the outside of Our Lady's church has started.



The section of the roof has been

repaired, moss removed, the gutters cleaned, the down pipe cleared and the bricks pointed. Accompanied with some work inside the church, to reduce the amount of wet plaster and the drains cleared, these actions should stop water gaining access to this portion of the church. However, we have been informed that the drying out process for the inside walls could take up to 5 years and so no decoration will be carried out until the walls are dry. The situation will be monitored, with damp meters, during the maintenance of the church.

It is hoped that we will see the outside walls drying a lot quicker. But what we have learned is that we will have to put a twice a year maintenance schedule in place to ensure that the building is water tight and that the gutters etc are clear of debris which block the down pipes and allow water to erode the pointing and water accessing through the walls to the inside of the church.

Over the next weeks scaffolding will be erected on the East side of the church to permit the roofers to repair the parapet and guttering.

Please also note not to go into the Motherhood Chapel as plaster is falling from the ceiling.

St Anne's and St Jerome's were inspected this week and no maintenance action is needed.

FLOWERS

This weeks flowers, in Our Lady's, are donated by Chris. He is the loving husband of Irene who is celebrating a special birthday. She is XX1 years of age (+ XL1X). Happy Birthday Irene.

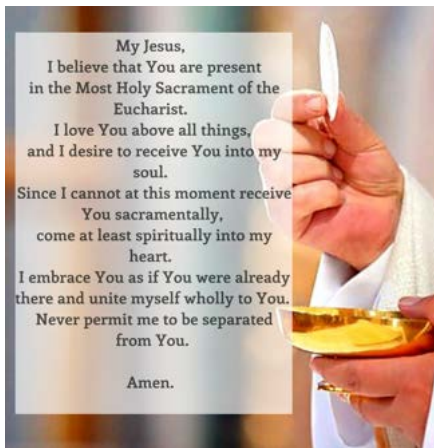
Remember a loved one, a special anniversary or Birthday by donating flowers to church. Put your donation in an envelope and a little note, telling us what the special occasion is. We will acknowledge your special occasion, in the News Sheet, when your flowers go on display in the church.

Fr John

SPIRITUAL

COMMUNION

Through out this Pandemic some of us have not had the opportunity to receive the Precious Body and Blood of Christ. This little prayer provides us with a vehicle to receive in a Spiritual way the real presence of Our Lord. Especially, if we are watching a 'Live Streaming' of a Mass.



Thank You

Over the past months 29 members of our Formby Catholic Community have gone to the Lord - May They Rest in Peace. Each of these loved ones have left a grieving family and we pray for them.

Due to these strange times saying, "Thank You", publicly to all the wonderful parishioners who have prayed and supported them has been difficult. So a big, "Thank You" from ALL THE FAMILIES for your prayers, support and Cards.

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady's, St Anne's and St Jerome's.

I would like to begin this letter with a sincere 'thank you'. In the midst of the most difficult situation any of us can remember, a pandemic... which has uprooted so much that is dear to us, especially our freedom to mix freely with each other and to worship as part of a large, faithful congregation. Thank you to each one of you, the members of our Catholic community here in Formby, for your patience and understanding, especially in the way you have responded to the limiting and frustrating restrictions on our acts of worship; whether enduring the continued closure of your church, the very different atmosphere in our churches, or the distressing experience of being told that the church is full.

Thank you especially to all those who have given their time to steward, to ensure that our churches are cared for, and those who have worked to improve our communication outreach to the parishes. Thank you to those who are working quietly in the background to serve, encourage, care for and reach out to those who most need it. I have witnessed much of this in these past weeks and I am deeply grateful for your example.

We know that we are not out of the woods yet. Further restrictions have been placed on us. It would be very easy to grow angry, frustrated and resentful. We are all weary of this pandemic. Maybe we can have one final push in the weeks ahead to stay safe and to be mindful of those in need around us. It may not seem that we can do much, but it's the little things that matter. A kind word, a smile, a phone call, an e mail. The world has such need of the presence of Jesus. Let us do our part to shed a little of his light on those around us.

A final word to the parishioners of Our Lady's. These last few weeks have been something of a whirlwind. Much work has been done to get our church up and running after the long months of lockdown, particularly the problems of damp which have worsened significantly. The problem is now being gripped. Thank you for all your patience and hopefully things will begin to settle soon. We found disturbing evidence of an intrusion into the church at the beginning of the week. It was disturbing because there was no sign of a forced entry. It is possible that someone hid in the church after Mass and exited through the emergency exit. Nothing was taken, but a number of items were disturbed. It is also possible that a key was used to access the church. We cannot be sure.

The diocese were in attendance and ordered the immediate changing of all locks leading into the church premises. Our security systems will now be reviewed and we are taking advice from the insurance company on how best to proceed. Nothing was taken and no one was hurt, thank GOD. If there is any further news I shall let you know.

To you all, a renewed and sincere thank you.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

Father John