

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
WORSHIPPING AT
SACRED HEART CHURCH.**

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Saturday 11th April 2026	6.00pm Vigil Mass	Divine Mercy Sunday
Sunday 12th	9.30am Mass	
Monday 13th	10.00am Mass	St Martin I Pope M
Tuesday 14th	10.00am Mass	Weekday of Eastertide
Thursday 16th	5.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6.15pm Benediction. 6.30pm Mass	
Friday 17th	10.00am Mass	Weekday of Eastertide
Saturday 18th	11.00am - 11.30am	Confessions during Exposition
Saturday 21st	6.00pm Vigil Mass	3rd Sunday of Easter
Sunday 22nd	9.30am Mass	

Key:	Ap.	Apostle
	Ab	Abbott
	Bp	Bishop
	D	Doctor
	M	Martyr
	P	Priest
	R	Religious
	V	Virgin

The Second Sunday of Easter was appointed as the Sunday of the Divine Mercy by Pope St. John Paul II.

The devotion of the Divine Mercy was revealed by Jesus to a Polish nun called Sr. Faustina Kowalska who died in 1938. In addition to revealing himself with red and blue rays of light coming from his heart, symbolising the grace of the Sacraments of Baptism (blue - water) and the Eucharist (red - blood) he also spoke to her at length and what he told her she recorded on the instruction of her spiritual director.

In many ways, the revelation of Jesus as the Divine Mercy (the Mercy of God proceeding from the heart of Jesus) is very similar to the revelation of Jesus as the Divine Love proceeding from the heart of Jesus.

Whilst Love and Mercy are closely associated with each other in God, we can profitably spend time meditating on each in turn.



**JESUS
I Trust in You**

Fundraising for the church roof

We are delighted to announce that we have secured the enthusiastic support of a professional quiz master, who has generously offered to host a quiz event for us at no cost. In addition, there has been a suggestion to organize a tabletop sale in the church hall, with all proceeds dedicated to the roof repair fund.

To move forward, we need to select suitable dates and venues for both events. The committee will convene for further updates and planning on Sunday the 19th, immediately following the 9:30 am mass, in the Sts. Peter and Paul room in the Presbytery.

If you have any suggestions or ideas, please feel free to share them, or better yet, join us at the meeting. Your input is always valued.

Forming Catholic Student Leaders

A summer course exploring faith, ethics and leadership for sixth form students, offered by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst.

Join us for 6 days in the beautiful Ribble Valley to explore themes linked to The Common Good (Year 12, 10-15 August) and to The Human Ecology (Year 13, 5-10 July). Meet new friends, discuss and share with peers, tutors and academics, learn new skills, develop your relationship with Christ, build your character.

www.christianleadershipformation.com

[Download the JPG flier here](#)

Catholic Family Holidays in the Lake District

Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to www.castleriggmanor.com >> stay with us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

Youth Ministry Gap Year Opportunity

Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and also work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. Interested? Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com >> join the team

Sr Veronica Howell: 23rd May 1924

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Veronica was born on the 23rd May 1924, in Woolwich, South East London, the second of six daughters. She often recalled with a smile that her older sister was her mother's right-hand man or woman! And she was her father's, and loved nothing better than helping him in the garden and any other odd jobs that had to be done. No doubt the family gathered here today could tell of many other family tales ...

Veronica was educated by the Daughters of Jesus in St Joseph's Convent, Abbey Wood. The idea of becoming a Sister crossed her mind as she grew up, but it was firmly resisted as she had her own ambitions. She loved dressing up, had a particular flair for hats, and envisaged a career on the stage. However, her parents nipped that idea in the bud and she returned to St Joseph's Convent where she joined the novitiate since travel to the Mother House in Brittany was not possible during the war.

She made her vows on the 4th August 1944, and was sent to Mount Pleasant Teacher Training College where she qualified with high grades in English, music, History and Scripture. She tells the story that unknowingly she had a habit of walking with one hand held out, and to her surprise and embarrassment the good people of the North would place coins in her hand. She recalled this story as an insight of the differences of culture and habits even between the North and the South of England. It was useful knowledge when she joined the Colne community in 1946 as a teacher.

In 1951 Veronica was sent to Princes Risborough to teach in the school, continue LRAM studies of music and singing, and to take responsibility for the initial formation of young women considering their calling to religious life. She took this latter task seriously and created a programme which served to create a mature and positive atmosphere. She probably knew, but refrained from mentioning it, that the girls used to leave their studies when she would be practising her singing, and sit on the stairs outside the music room to enjoy listening to her.

In 1963 Veronica's gifts as teacher and leader were recognised and she was asked to join the Welling community and be Headmistress of St Stephen's Parish School where she remained until 1976 with a one year sabbatical break at Corpus Christi College. This course made a deep impression on her and enflamed her desire to share the insights of the course. An opportunity to fulfil this desire more fully came when she was invited to be part of the Catholic Information Service, within which she also devoted herself to Vocations' Promotion

work. Her great boast and joy was to be part of the welcoming team for the visit of Pope John Paul in 1982.

In 1985 Veronica was asked to take responsibility of a new community foundation in High Wycombe and take on pastoral work there, while continuing with the Catholic Information Centre. A similar post was asked of her in 1991 in Rickmansworth. In community Veronica was generous with her time, and creative in liturgical services at a time when the Church was implementing the renewal of the second Vat. Council. This period led to much discussion in parishes as well as in communities, and Veronica would often take the position of “devil’s advocate” to stimulate and deepen exchanges. It didn’t always make her the most popular member of a group but it had the intended effect!

By 2021, Veronica was beyond retirement age but still enthusiastic about pastoral work. When asked, she was eager to accept a new foundation in Colne at the request of the parish, which had remembered and regretted the closure of the community some 40 years earlier. She and her two companions revived the dynamism within the parish, and prepared groups to take on the work for when they had to leave in 2016.

After these many years of whole hearted commitment, Veronica accepted a place in the community in Westgate-on-Sea where she loved to contemplate the sea and the horizon from the chapel window. In 2018 she moved into the nearby Ursuline community care home. A further move was asked of her when the Sisters’ home was closed and Veronica joined other sisters in St Michael’ Care, where she was lovingly cared for. Veronica lived these years peacefully in thanksgiving for her life. which was celebrated in style on her 100th birthday two years ago. She was grateful for a fulfilled and totally given life, lived in the simple, yet profound attitude of daily acceptance - “It’s life” ... she would often say! We thank her for sharing that long and gifted life.

May she rest in peace. Amen.