



## Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



### ENGLISH MARTYRS



### PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon  
Mark B Madden  
KCHS FRSA

### ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



The parable of the rich man and Lazarus is one of Jesus' most striking. We can picture it clearly: the rich man feasting daily, clothed in purple, while poor Lazarus lies at his gate, hungry and covered in sores. After death, their fortunes are reversed – Lazarus is carried to the comfort of Abraham, while the rich man finds himself in torment.

It is not that wealth itself condemns the man, but rather his blindness. Day after day, he walked past Lazarus and failed to see him as a brother. His sin was indifference. He had the means to help, but chose not to.

Jesus tells this parable to awaken us. Who are the "Lazaruses" at our gates? Perhaps they are the homeless on our streets, the lonely neighbour, the refugee seeking safety, or even someone in our own family longing for kindness. The challenge is not simply to feel pity, but to act with love.

Abraham's words are sobering: "They have Moses and the prophets; let them listen to them." We have even more – the Gospel of Christ, which calls us to see and serve him in the poor.

This Sunday is a reminder that heaven begins now, whenever we open our eyes and hearts. To notice, to share, to step out of comfort – this is the way of discipleship. In serving Lazarus, we serve Christ himself.

May we be people who see, love, and act, so that our lives proclaim God's mercy.

*Fr Mark*

*Who is "Lazarus" at my gate? What can I do for them this week?*

# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ILL



Joseph Mulhaney  
Michael Lundon  
Margaret Spencer  
Peter Gibbons

## POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER



**For collaboration between different religious traditions**  
Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might  
work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and  
human fraternity  
*Lord in your mercy...*

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Mass on Monday will be held at St Robert Bellarmine's at 10:00.  
Mass on Tuesday will be at English Martyrs, a Funeral Mass at midday for  
Margaret Hirrell. May she rest in peace.



## Celebrating Missionaries of Hope

You, your family, friends, and the  
Red Box supporters in your parish,  
are cordially invited to the



## Liverpool Archdiocesan Mission Mass Sunday, 28th September 2025 at 3.00 p.m.

Our Lady & All Saints Church, Lancaster Lane,  
Parbold, Wigan WN8 7HS

*With Bishop Thomas Neylon*

Please join us for tea/coffee & biscuits/cake after Mass



To assist us with planning, if possible,  
please RSVP by 19th Sept:  
e-mail [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk)  
or tel. Theresa on 07593 544625



# 26th Sunday of Ordinary time 28 September 2025

## WELCOME AND THANK YOU!

A very warm welcome to Fr Alvison Fernandes who will be here for the next couple of weeks. Fr Fernandes is a priest of the Archdiocese of Goa-Daman, in India. He was ordained in the year 2022 and spent two years as assistant priest in his diocese before being sent to Rome for further studies – he is presently working on a Master's Degree: 'The Cultural Heritage of the Church,' at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome.



Fr Alvison leaves us on Tuesday for a few days down south with family before heading back to Rome. It has been lovely having him with us for a little while and we hope to see him again in the future.

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## HOME MISSION COLLECTION

This annual collection will take place after the Masses THIS weekend.

**ASYLUM LINK MERSEYSIDE** will be holding a fundraising concert at St Anne's Church, Overbury Street, L7 3HJ at 6.30pm on Friday 3rd October. Performers will include Good Intentions Duo and Asylum Link Choir and Musicians. Tickets will be £7 and you can turn up on the night or book via [info@asylumlink.org.uk](mailto:info@asylumlink.org.uk)

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## LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2026

Applications for the Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage with Sefton Coach 7 are LIVE now at [liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk](http://liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk). Young people aged from Year 10-age of 22 are invited to be part of Coach 7 this year (22nd-31st July 2026). The cost of the pilgrimage is £720 but fundraising will reduce this cost. For more information email [coach7@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:coach7@rcaol.org.uk)

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## TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF LAUDATO SI' ENCYCICAL

On 2 - 3 October, Pope Leo XIV will lead a global event to mark the tenth anniversary of the Laudato Si' encyclical together with a host of high-level leaders from the realms of civil society, science, and policy. This is anticipated to be Pope Leo XIV's first major statement on climate change and environmental protection. Speakers will reflect on the impact of Laudato Si' and the most effective actions we can take now. This event can be livestreamed via the Laudato Si' Movement: <https://raisinghope.earth/register-for-the-livestream-to-celebrate-the-past-and-look-ahead-to-the-future/>



# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

## ARCHBISHOP MALCOLM

On Friday, 3 October at 7pm at the Metropolitan Cathedral, a Mass in thanksgiving for Archbishop Malcolm's ministry as Metropolitan Archbishop of Liverpool will take place; all are welcome to attend to give thanks to God for Archbishop Malcolm.



A thank you gift will be given in the form of a "spiritual bouquet" in the form of offerings of prayer, Masses, rosaries, holy hours etc. The diocese will then collate this and present it to him.

Thank you to those who contributed to the parish collection last week. If you still wish to make a donation please just place this in an envelope marked 'Archbishop Malcolm' and pass to either of the Parish offices

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## HELP PLEASE!

Irenaeus Outreach and Spirituality Centre, Great Georges Road, Waterloo are asking for our help with donations of food or personal items to help people who are struggling and the homeless.

There is now a box at the back of St Robert's for donations.

Thank you



Donations left at the back of English Martyrs will continue to be given to the hub on Moss Lane - providing support for families in our immediate local area

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## ST CARLO ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC EXHIBITION

St Stephen's Church, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9HS have an exhibition running until the end of October 2025. The exhibition is open every Wednesday from 10am (after mass) to 2pm.

There are also some relics of St Carlo as part of the exhibition but those will only be available to view until Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October.



## ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPACE "200 CLUB" SEPTEMBER DRAW

1st Prize £20 No. 31 I Oakes  
2nd Prize £15 No. 204 M Stoops  
3rd Prize £10 No. 166 M Dickinson  
4th Prize £10 No. 167 M Spofforth



Spare numbers are available for anyone wishing to join, £1 per month.  
Contact Myra on 928 1136

## Exploring Faith, Work and Civic Life: Reading the Signs: Where Are We, Really?

Together Liverpool is running three linked events exploring faith, work and civic life led by Jenny Sinclair, on September 30th, October 30th, and November 27th. The event is aimed at Church leaders, volunteers and activists, Community organisers, local councillors and curious neighbours, anyone interested in a deeper, hope-filled vision of public life. More information at [eventbrite.co](https://eventbrite.co)

## A LOOK AT THE OLD TESTAMENT

The latest Scripture Mornings from the Irenaeus Project will be taking place on 1 October, and 8 October. They will be led by Fr Chris Thomas. All are welcome to attend. A Zoom link is also available if you cannot attend in person. Email [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) for more information.

## FAMILY AND GROUP STAYS AT CASTLERIGG MANOR THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM

Castlerigg Manor is a Retreat Centre in the Lake District, owned by the Diocese of Lancaster, and they are opening their doors to family groups, individuals and other small groups once again during October Half Term (Oct 27-31). A good option for anyone looking for a budget get-away in a beautiful part of the country. Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us/> or contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAYS

The next Eucharistic ministry training days at Irenaeus are on 25th October 2025 & 14th March 2026. Please give your name to either of the parish offices if you are interested or speak to Fr Mark

# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

## **LIGHT OF TRUTH: ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS (ONLINE WORKSHOP), Saturday 6 December, 9.00 to 12.00**

Join the Dominican Sisters on Saturdays, from 9.00 to 12.00 noon for a short course of 3 sessions, to discover the essential nature and principles of catechesis, the sources of catechesis, and the best ways to prepare and deliver our catechesis. This course is open to everyone involved or interested in any kind of catechesis for adults, young people or children. This course is free, and the Dominican Sisters gratefully accept any donation you may be able to contribute.

<https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/essential-training-for-catechists-2025-12-06-09-00>

## **GUILD OF ST STEPHEN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

The Liverpool Archdiocesan Guild of St Stephen's Pilgrimage to Lourdes is currently accepting bookings. The pilgrimage will take place Sunday 26th October – Saturday 1st November 2025 for further information, including booking costs, please contact Rose Curry on 07932 729896.

## **SUPPORT FOR THE DIVORCED AND SEPARATED**

The Restored Lives course is run over six weeks, one evening per week. The talks cover the key issues to help you to move on and highlight the practical steps and tools to enable you to tackle the issues that arise from separation and divorce.

For more information contact Maureen 07967753471 or Jacqui Sellek 0793825815

## **LEFTOVER FOREIGN CURRENCY?**

Holidays probably already seem a life time away. However, you can maybe help Mary's Meals with a new initiative. Do you have any leftover foreign coins rattling around in pockets or purses? Or UK coins that are no longer legal tender (eg old 50p's).

Mary's meals are collecting these and can turn them in to contributions to help those millions of children who are hungry and need help.

We can offer our support as a parish if we work together to collect any coins. So - dig deep! Check pockets, bags, purses and if you have any foreign coins (no matter how small) please pass them in to either of the parish offices. Let's see if we can help feed some children who need our help!



# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

## **DELVE INTO THE BIBLE – Workshop – Wednesday 8 October**

All are invited to a Bible workshop led by Dr Dorothy Jonaitis (Institute of Pastoral Studies, Loyola University Chicago) on Wednesday 8 October 2025, 6.30–9.00pm at the St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Liverpool (L17 1AA).

The evening will explore:

- The reality of biblical authorship and audiences
- How timeframe and geography affect scripture writing
- The books of the Bible and translations
- How to use the right tools to maximise your study.

Refreshments available from 6.00pm. Scan the QR code on the poster to sign up. For enquiries, email: Moses Mui at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

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## **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

We are looking forward to beginning preparation for the children of Year 4 who will celebrate their First Holy Communion in 2026. This is always a special and joyful time for our parish family as the children grow in faith and come closer to Jesus in the Eucharist.



For children who do not attend any of our three parish primary schools but would like to make their First Holy Communion, please collect a registration form from the English Martyrs Parish Office and return it promptly.

Preparation sessions will begin in October, so we kindly ask that all forms are completed and returned without delay. Thank you for supporting your child on this important step in their journey of faith.

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## **TIME OUT ON TUESDAYS October 14<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM - 4:00PM**

**Sisters of Our Lady of The Cenacle Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, Wavertree, L15 6TW**

In the midst of their busy lives, Jesus invited the disciples to "Come apart and rest for a while." Why not take time to respond to this invitation and join The Sisters of Our Lady of the Cenacle for a time of prayer and quiet. No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. For further information, contact Sr Winnie Morley on 0151 722 2271



# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

## FEAST OF THE WEEK ST JEROME

He was born in Strido, in Dalmatia. He studied in Rome and was baptized there. He was attracted by the ascetic life and travelled to the East, where he was (unwillingly) ordained a priest. He was recalled to Rome to act as secretary to Pope Damasus, but on the Pope's death he returned to the East, to Bethlehem, where (with the aid of St Paula and others) he founded a monastery, a hospice, and a school, and settled down to the most important work of his life, the translation of the Bible into Latin, a translation which, with some revisions, is still in use today. He wrote many works of his own, including letters and commentaries on Holy Scripture. When a time of troubles came upon the world, through barbarian invasions, and to the Church, through internal dissension, he helped the refugees and those in need. He died at Bethlehem.



## TWO CATHEDRALS' MESSIAH - OCTOBER 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30PM

The choirs of Liverpool Cathedral and Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, accompanied by the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra, join together to sing Handel's choral masterpiece 'Messiah.'

Soloists Kelsey Thomas (soprano) Danny Townley (alto) Stefan Kennedy (tenor) and Joe Murphy (bass) were all born and educated here in Liverpool.

Conductor Richard Lea will lead the choirs, orchestra and soloists through some of Handel's best loved movements such as 'I know my redeemer liveth' the 'Hallelujah Chorus' and 'Worthy is the Lamb.'

All are invited to experience this unique Liverpool tradition of the Two Cathedrals Messiah on Saturday 11 October. Tickets (£15/20)

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral/>

## Newman Association: A Talk on Medjugorje by Tony Hickey October 16th 7:30pm

The Newman Association presents a talk on Medjugorje by Tony Hickey, a well known speaker on the subject. The event will take place at St Helen's Parish Centre, Crosby, L23 7TQ, and is free, but a small donation is welcome.

## COFFEE MORNING

Join us after mass at St Robert's on Sunday mornings for a cup of tea, coffee and a biscuit in the George Inch Hall. All are welcome.



# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

**COMING UP AT IRENAEUS - contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or 0151 949 1199**

## **SCRIPTURE MORNINGS**

10:30 - 12 noon 1st & 8th October,

## **DAY OF RENEWAL**

10am - 4pm 11th October '25

## **WOMEN AT THE WELL A WOMEN'S WEEKEND**

Friday 17th - Sunday 19th October '25



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## **175th ANNIVERSARY**

29 September 2025 marks the 175th anniversary of the restoration of the Catholic Hierarchy of England and Wales in 1850 by Pope Blessed Pius IX following the Reformation. It therefore also marks the 175th birthday of the (Arch)diocese of Liverpool. All parishes in the diocese have been asked to celebrate that day "in thanksgiving for the gift and mission of our Catholic faith."

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## **ST ROBERT'S OVER 50's CLUB**

The Over 50's Club meet in St Robert's parish centre on Thursday afternoons between 1.00 and 3.00pm. and is open to all.

Why not pop along and join in the fun - tea and coffee are available and, for a small charge, there is a raffle and a couple of games of Bingo for you to enjoy. Regular members are asked to make a payment of £1.50 per week

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## **LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

Every Friday at 6pm at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN, there is a "lectio" prayer group for young adults. There will be a Mass at 6pm, followed by a short time of sharing the Sunday readings at 6.30pm.

It's a friendly group and sometimes they also organise trips and retreats. If you want more information please contact James: [djmoroney@cantab.net](mailto:djmoroney@cantab.net) or 07394 503 911



## **ROSARY MATERIALS - GET INVOLVED!**

The Pastoral Development Department and the communications team are working together to create some materials on the rosary for October and we would love for you to get involved!

If you, or someone in a rosary group in your parish would be happy to speak about one of the mysteries of the rosary and what it means to you – either by being filmed or providing a voiceover – please get in touch! You can email the communications team on: [communications@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:communications@rcaol.org.uk)

## **SAVE THE DATE - ADOREMUS**

Mark your calendars - this year's Adoremus will take place on Saturday 8 November. The theme this year is Ministry, and the timetable of workshops will be released in due course.

## **COME AND SEE DAY: Lord Teach Us To Pray – Fr David O'Malley, Saturday 4 October, 10:00-16:00**

The Irenaeus Centre are pleased to announce the first come and see day of the 2025/26 series led by Fr David O'Malley. A Salesian priest who has worked with young people and whose calling was to help those going through hard times. Suggested donation £10. Please bring a packed lunch. For further details please contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)

## **CSSA PUBLIC CALL FOR SURVIVOR INPUT**

As part of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency's (CSSA) focus on survivor engagement and support, they have created a public survey inviting survivors to contribute their experiences.

The purpose of this public call is to gather information from anyone who has had recent contact with a diocese or a Religious Life Group. This includes experiences that are new or ongoing, as well as those connected to non-recent abuse.

Their primary focus is the period from July 2024 onwards, but they do not wish to limit what survivors choose to share. More information regarding this survey can be found here: [Public Calls for Information](#)

The direct link to the survey is [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB\\_Xy63KLBEXoG2tIVAm\\_9UYqKjMSFUOTc5TzILTEdTWkUySjhaTlUOQURaOU05SC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB_Xy63KLBEXoG2tIVAm_9UYqKjMSFUOTc5TzILTEdTWkUySjhaTlUOQURaOU05SC4u)

This process is being conducted with transparency, respect, and in a survivor-centred way. Cooperation will help the CSSA hear from as many voices as possible, enabling them to identify good practice and areas for improvement across the Church. If you have any questions, please contact their Quality Assurance team at: [qualityassurance@catholicsafeguarding.org.uk](mailto:qualityassurance@catholicsafeguarding.org.uk)



## CHRISTMAS - YES IT IS COMING!!

Tesco have decided that it is already Christmas so it is time to let you have details of our Christmas outings and celebrations/fundraisers.



### FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 - CHATSWORTH HOUSE

Day Coach trip to Chatsworth House for their Christmas Extravaganza and Christmas Markets. This is always a popular trip as the market is excellent with many stalls and places to eat.

Cost is £65 which includes entry to the House, garden light trail and the Markets. The decorations in the house are spectacular with each room having a different theme and the dressed Christmas trees will take your breath away!



### MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2025 - LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC HALL SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

This is a wonderful evening of classic carols, seasonal readings, audience singalongs and festive fun, all wrapped up and delivered by the fabulous baritone Benjamin Appl. He'll be hosting the entire extravaganza and of course treating us to some musical magic along the way. Last year's performance was amazing and was also very popular with everyone. Cost for this one is £60 which includes your ticket and transport to and from the Hall.

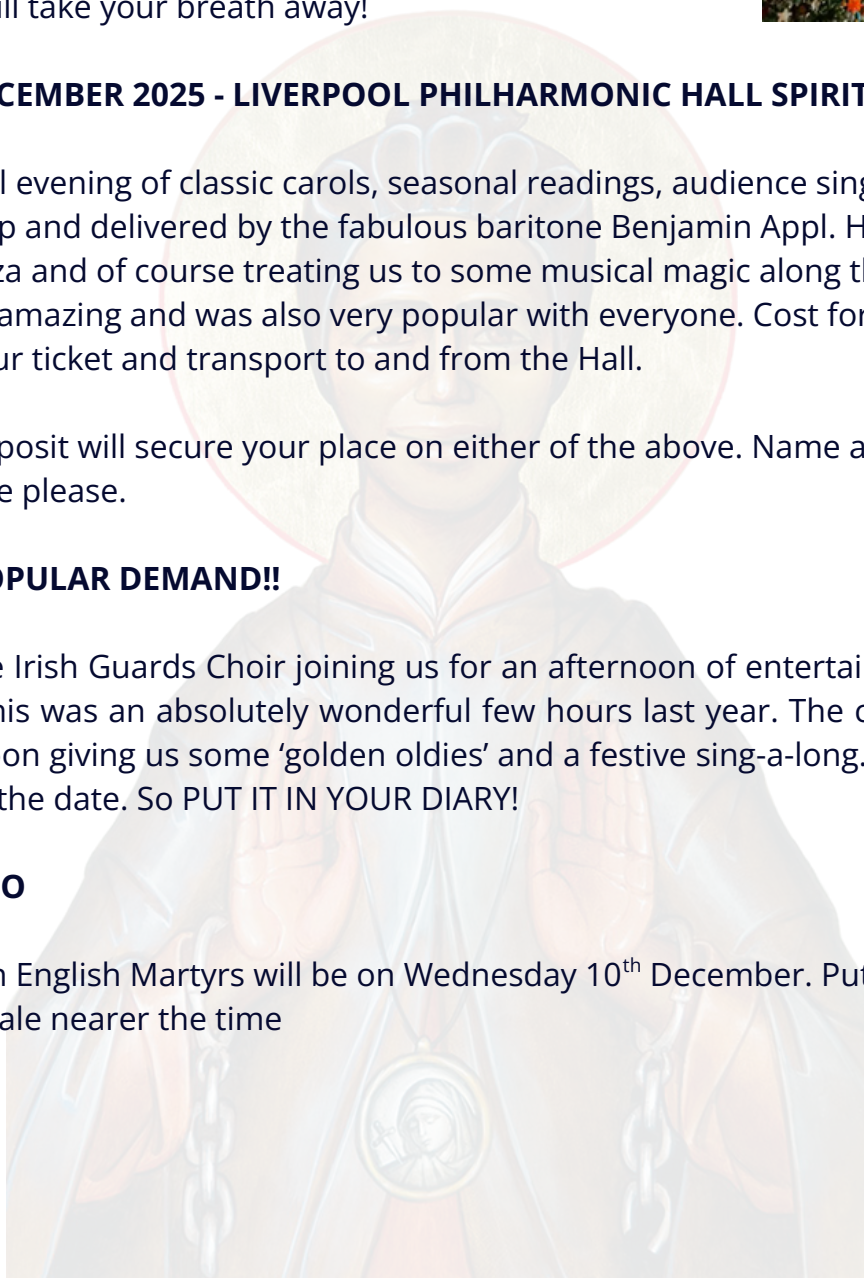
As usual, a £10 deposit will secure your place on either of the above. Name and deposit to either Parish Office please.

### BACK BY VERY POPULAR DEMAND!!

We again have the Irish Guards Choir joining us for an afternoon of entertainment on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November. This was an absolutely wonderful few hours last year. The choir perform twice during the afternoon giving us some 'golden oldies' and a festive sing-a-long. Tickets for this will be on sale nearer the date. So PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY!

### CHRISTMAS BINGO

Christmas Bingo in English Martyrs will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Put it in your diary - tickets will be on sale nearer the time



# 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time 28 September 2025

## Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
<b>Sunday 28th September</b>  <b>Sanctuary Lamp</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Celia Byrne and Tom Smartt  <b>Patrick &amp; Rose Maloney</b>	<b>11.00am</b> Ken Williams  <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Monday 29th September</b>		<b>10.00am</b> Mary Griffin  <b>11.00am</b> Funeral service Linda McKeown
<b>Tuesday 30th September</b>	<b>12.00pm</b> Funeral Mass Margaret Hirrell	
<b>Wednesday 1st October</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday 2nd October</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Magdalen & John Rimmer	
<b>Friday 3rd October</b>		<b>10.00am</b> The Bolger Family
<b>Saturday 4th October</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Sunday 5th October</b>	<b>9.30am</b> People of the Parish	<b>11.00am</b> Anne Kelly

**English Martyrs Office**  
 School Lane, Litherland, L21 7LX  
**St Robert Bellarmine Office**  
 Orrell Road, Bootle, L20 6DZ

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk  
 Office hours Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.30am - 2.30pm  
 0151 922 1352 strobert@rcaol.org.uk  
 Office hours Tues, Wed, Fri 9.30am - 1.30pm

Who is "Lazarus" at my gate? What can I do for them this week?