



## Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



### ENGLISH MARTYRS



### PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon  
Mark B Madden  
KCHS FRSA

### ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



As the summer holidays begin, I know many of you are looking forward to a change of pace—a time to rest, travel, spend time with family, or simply slow down a little. I'll be taking a break myself over the next few weeks, and I'm grateful for this time to rest and recharge, both physically and spiritually. I leave you in the wonderful hands of Fr Stephen, and I thank him for looking after things.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear one of the most beautiful moments in all of Scripture: the disciples asking Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray." It's such a simple, honest request. And in response, Jesus gives them—and us—the Our Father.

So often, people tell me they struggle with prayer. They feel unsure, distracted, or unworthy. But Jesus doesn't ask for perfect words—He invites us into a relationship. Prayer is not about performance; it's about presence. He tells us to ask, seek, and knock—not once, but continually. And He reassures us that our heavenly Father is eager to give us not just good things, but the very best: the gift of the Holy Spirit.

During these quieter weeks of summer, I encourage you to make space for prayer. Let it be simple. Let it be real. Pray the Our Father slowly—let it become not just words on your lips, but a rhythm for your heart.

May this season bring you peace, rest, and renewal. I look forward to seeing you all soon, refreshed and ready for the journey ahead.

*Fr Mark*

## JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE - 8-15 September 2025

Places are still available for the Holy Year pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni & Assisi, Monday 8 September - Monday 15 September 2025. Fr Mark and the Pilgrimage Company have now finalised the last remaining details of the flights:

Monday 8 September

9:45 am depart Manchester on Ryanair

13.55 Arrive Rome



Monday 15 September

13:50 pm depart Rome on Ryanair

15:40 pm arrive Manchester

The final total cost of the trip is £1588. If anyone one is interested in booking, you need to take a booking form from the parish office, complete it and bring it back

## PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ILL



Ann Hore  
Joseph Mulhaney  
Michael Lundon

## POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY



### For formation in discernment

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

*Lord in your mercy...*

## 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 and further information, including booking costs, is included on the attached flyer. For more information please contact Rose Curry on 07932 729896.

## **WELCOME BACK FR STEPHEN!**

This weekend we welcome back Fr Stephen Giles who is kindly helping us with masses over the summer period while Fr Mark takes his well deserved break. We are blessed to have Fr Stephen available to us.

**Please note that weekday masses from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July to Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September will be at 10.30am. There will be no mass on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August at St Robert's**

## **PILGRIMAGE WALK ST MARY'S SHRINE, ORMSKIRK**

We are having a Pilgrimage Walk on Saturday 20th September 2025, 11am start with Mass at 1.30pm, St Mary's Shrine Church, Prescott Road, Ormskirk, L39 6TA.



**Metropolitan Cathedral**  
of Christ the King Liverpool

This Season of Creation, join us for a pilgrimage walk!  
Starting at 11am 3.5 mile circular route 3 prayer stops on the route Mass at 1.30pm  
For more information contact Chris Higgins: [c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk)

## **MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

Are you planning to marry in a Catholic Church?  
Are you looking for some time out from the busy wedding planning, providing you and your partner with an opportunity to focus on your relationship and to learn more about each other?



The Liverpool Archdiocese is now offering a marriage preparation course for engaged couples. The course will involve four sessions, meeting in group with other couples. To be led by trained lay facilitators, the course will help the couples develop skills which could facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of unconditional love set within a Catholic faith. The course will be starting on 29 September - 20 October. The venue is St Helen's Church, Crosby and sessions are at 6.30pm

There is a fee of £50 per couple to help towards materials and other expenses. Please book online here at [Marriage Preparation Course Link](#). For enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@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.

---

## **PARISH READERS**

We need a few more Parish Readers, willing to read at St Robert Bellarmine. If you would like to volunteer, please give your name to the Parish Office.

---



## **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT, Friday 12th September 10.00-15.00**

Explore ways that we can support people in a time of grief, Consider the stages of grief and what might help people. at The Irenaeus Centre, Great Georges Rd. Waterloo L22 1RD. Book a place with Jenny Tel: 0151 949 1199 or [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk). Donation £10. Bring a Packed Lunch

---

## **UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY**

The Ukrainian Rite Mass is held in Saint Sebastian's Church every Saturday evening at 5.30pm. All are welcome. If you would like to offer help or support to the Ukrainian Community, please contact Fr Taras on 07784 634 136 or email: [liverpool@ucc-gb.com](mailto:liverpool@ucc-gb.com)

---

## **DAY FOR CATECHISTS – FORMATION & REFLECTION**

Are you a catechist looking for spiritual refreshment? No matter what kind of ministry you are serving, there is a good opportunity for you to refresh your vocation of being a catechist.

On 27 September, the Day for Catechists will be organised from 10.00–16.00 at Carmelite Monastery L18 3NU. With the facilitation of Sr Carino and Sr Hyacinthe from the Dominican Sister of St Joseph, there will be spiritual input and practical discussion on the mission of catechesis. If you're interested or for more information, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

## SANCTUARY LAMP

We are running a bit low on dedications for the Sanctuary Lamp at both churches. If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a week please just write the dedication on a piece of paper and pass to the relevant Parish Office with £5 offering. Thank You.



## HAVE YOU TRAVELLED THE CAMINO de SANTIAGO?

The Communications Team at St Margaret Clitherow Centre would love to hear about it!. If you have a story to share on the feast day of St James then please email: [communications@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:communications@rcaol.org.uk)

## PILGRIM'S PASSPORT

As part of the Year of Jubilee, CBEW have selected Jubilee Churches where those making a pilgrimage can make a plenary indulgence. To encourage people to visit these Jubilee churches, a Pilgrim Passport has been created, containing a quick guide to each of the Jubilee Churches and a page to collect stamps from each church. A sample of the passport can be found at the back of church. If you would like your own copy, please contact the parish office, and they will print one for you.

## YOUTH 2000 Summer Festival 2025

Taking place in the grounds of Ampleforth College from Friday 22nd - Monday 25th August, the Youth 2000 Summer Festival provides young adults (aged 16-35) from across the UK the opportunity to come together and explore faith, build relationships and find hope. This four-day festival includes great speakers, social time, break-out sessions, Daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and much more! Register your place at: [youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025](http://youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025).

## FAMILY & SOCIAL GROUP STAYS AT CASTLERIGG THIS AUGUST

Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic residential youth centre in the Lake District and it's opening its doors to family groups and social groups this August. There are single rooms, twin rooms, and large family rooms at very cheap rates. Guests have access to the grounds, chapel, games room, and lounges, with Keswick and the Lake only a short walk away. For more info [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk) or [www.castleriggmanor.com/open](http://www.castleriggmanor.com/open)

## WORLD GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY DAY

Sunday 27 July is World Grandparents and Elderly Day – a day that was established by Pope Francis in 2021. It is held annually on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.



The theme for this year's celebration is  
"Blessed are those who have not lost hope" (cf. Sir 14:2).

The day is an opportunity to recognise the important role of grandparents and the elderly in families and society, and to show them love and appreciation. It is also a time to reflect on how their presence can be a sign of hope for future generations.

## PRAYER FOR THE FIFTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (Sir 14:2)

How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord!

Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time, animated by the hope that comes from You!

Help us in this divisive world, to bring the hope of communion.

Help us in this world, wounded by wars, to bring the hope of peace.

Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing, to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.

Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and for everyone we meet, the memory of your tenderness.

Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You, the Hope of a new life that only You can give!

For in You, Lord, nothing is lost.

For in You, Lord, everything begins again!

Amen.

## 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

## JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

This September, members of our parish community will undertake a very special journey in celebration of the Jubilee Year—a sacred pilgrimage to Italy, visiting some of the most important sites in our Catholic heritage. Fr Mark has now finalised the itinerary with our Travel Company.

We depart from Manchester on Monday, 8 September at 07:45, with Rome as our first destination. For three grace-filled nights, we will stay in the Eternal City, celebrating Mass at the heart of our faith—St Peter's Basilica—and, we hope, also at the Venerable English College, a place dear to the history of the Church in England. The highlight of our time in Rome will be processing together through the Holy Door of St Peter's, entering the Jubilee with open hearts and renewed hope. We will visit all four Major Basilicas—St Peter's, St John Lateran, St Mary Major, and St Paul Outside the Walls—drawing us ever deeper into the spirit of the Holy Year. We will also join pilgrims from around the world for Pope Leo's General Audience, a powerful witness to the universality of our faith.

Leaving Rome, we journey into the peaceful hills of Lazio to visit Subiaco, where St Benedict first embraced the monastic life in silence and solitude. From there, we continue to San Giovanni Rotondo, the home of St Pio (Padre Pio), where we will spend two nights learning from his example of suffering, holiness, and deep devotion to the Eucharist.

Our next stop is Assisi, where we will spend two nights walking in the footsteps of St Francis and St Clare, embracing their message of simplicity, peace, and trust in God's providence. On the way, we will make a special visit to Lancia, the site of a profound Eucharistic Miracle, reminding us of the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Finally, we return to Rome on Monday, 15 September, filled with memories and blessings, arriving back in Manchester later that afternoon.

Please keep all our pilgrims in your prayers as we prepare for this journey of faith, encounter, and renewal during this Holy Year of Hope

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Fr Mark is keen to resume Children's Liturgy at St Robert Bellarmine, but we need volunteers to help with this. Please give your name to the Parish Office and Fr Mark will arrange a meeting. Hopefully, we can start this important ministry in September.



## BLESSED DOMINIC BARBERI

The Parish of St Anne and Blessed Dominic, Sutton St Helens, invites clergy and parishioners to two special pilgrimage Masses at the Shrine of Blessed Dominic Barberi—designated as one of the Jubilee Churches of our Archdiocese.

### Blessed Dominic Barberi Pilgrimage Mass

Monday, 25 August at 12 noon

Principal Celebrant: Fr Giuseppe Adobati Carrara, Superior General of the Passionist Order

### Venerable Elizabeth Prout Pilgrimage Mass

Saturday, 13 September at 12 noon

Principal Celebrant: Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury

All are warmly invited to attend these significant occasions of prayer and pilgrimage.

## LIGHT OF TRUTH: CHILDREN'S LITURGY TRAINING, Saturday 6 September, 9.00 to 12.00.



Online morning workshop for everyone involved in Children's Liturgy, looking at the principles and practical tools we can use to help children participate in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass.  
<https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/childrens-liturgy-training>

## 'SONGS WE REMEMBER' SING-A-LONG

2pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (Dementia friendly). Email: [irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:irenaeus.co.uk) Tel: 0151 949 1199. 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool.

THERE IS NO 'SONGS WE REMEMBER' DURING AUGUST



## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Fr Mark is looking for more Ministers of the Eucharist to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound in their homes. This is an important part of our service to those who are unable to join us for Mass. If you are willing, please give your name to the Parish Office



## 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.



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

## **AGAPE MASS**

7pm 7th August & 4th September '25

## **SCRIPTURE MORNINGS**

10:30 - 12 noon 24th September, 1st & 8th October,

## **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

10:30 - 12noon Thursday 25th September '25



## **DAY OF RENEWAL**

10am - 4pm 11th October '25

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

Friday 17th - Sunday 19th October '25

---

## **PILGRIMAGE MASS- HOLY HAND of ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH**

The annual Pilgrimage Mass to the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith will be taking place at the Church of St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith, Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield (WN4 9NP) on Sunday 24 August 2025 at 3.00pm.

Canon Sean Riley will be the principal celebrant. The Mass will be followed by a blessing with the Holy Hand.

A pilgrim walk will take place beforehand at 12 noon and refreshments will be served after the Mass.

---

## **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

## PARISH NEWSLETTER & GDPR

THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR), which came into effect on May 2018, has imposed some new ways of administration and management of information in different institutions and/or organisations. The Church is not an exception. As a result of this development, there have been some noticeable changes in the administration of our parish, especially when publishing names of the sick, deceased etc in parish newsletters.

It has always been best practice to obtain consent before putting someone's name on a sick list, as some people, for a whole variety of reasons do not want their name published. Changes in data protection law mean that it is now necessary.

1 Do I need the consent of the person before their name can be published in the Newsletter? Yes, if a 'sick' list is put up at church or published in the parish newsletter (whether or not that newsletter is posted on the parish website).

Why? Because a name on a sick list is special category personal data (because it reveals information about the person's health) and can only be disclosed outside the church with the consent of the sick person. Once a name is on a newsletter the church has no control over where that information may end up.

2 Do I need permission before I can add their name to a published list?

If a person is well enough to do so easily, you can ask them to sign a simple form. If you do not think it appropriate to ask the sick person to sign a form, then you can ask them whether they want their name to be on the sick list. You should tell that person what happens to the sick list in your parish, ie whether it goes on the church wall/ newsletter/website. You should then make a note of the conversation as evidence of the fact that you obtained oral consent. Why? Because everyone has a right to know what the parish will do with their information.

We are pleased to restart a sick list, etc, in the weekly Newsletter, but permission **MUST** be obtained from the person or next of kin whose name you wish to submit. To do this, please take a form from the back of the church or the parish office, complete it, and return it. The published list will remain in the Newsletter for six months before it is removed.

---

## **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>

## **PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK & WESTPORT – Jubilee Year 2025**

A special Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Knock & Co. Mayo is taking place from Sunday 31st August to Thursday 4 September 2025.

Organised by Patricia Ronane, this pilgrimage offers opportunities for daily Mass, visits to holy sites, and time for rest and reflection, all set in the scenic surroundings of Westport. This Jubilee Year pilgrimage offers pilgrims the unique chance to receive a plenary indulgence at Knock Shrine. The trip includes:

- Return flights from Liverpool to Knock
- 4 nights at the 4★ Castlecourt Hotel in Westport
- Daily breakfast and 4-course evening meals
- Visits to Knock Shrine, Croagh Patrick, Kylemore Abbey, and more
- Evening entertainment and optional spa time
- Fully escorted with guided tours

Price: £799 per person sharing (Single Supplement: £150 – limited availability) For full details contact Patricia Ronane 01268 762 278 or 07740 175 557  
knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

## **FEAST OF THE WEEK**

### **Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus**

This week, the Church invites us into the warm and welcoming home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus – three siblings from Bethany who were not just friends of Jesus, but family in the heart of His earthly journey.

In their home, Jesus found rest. Not just a meal and a chair, but space to breathe, to laugh, to weep – and to be loved.

Each sibling teaches us something vital about Christian life:

Martha, busy in the kitchen, reminds us that service is sacred – when done with love.

Mary, sitting at His feet, shows us the beauty of simply being with Christ.

Lazarus, raised from the tomb, stands as a witness to the transforming power of Jesus – and the promise that death does not have the final word.

Together, they form a model Christian household – one that makes space for Christ not only in the living room, but in every corner of life.

As we reflect on their example, perhaps we might ask ourselves: Is my home a place where Christ would feel welcome? Do I serve with love like Martha, listen with heart like Mary, and witness with courage like Lazarus?

May our own homes become little Bethanies – places where Jesus is not only invited in, but truly at home.



## Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
Sunday 27th July  Sanctuary Lamp	9.30am Tom Deegan  Jean Maloney	11.00am Robert Jones  Robbie Pennington
Monday 28th July	10.30am Betty White	
Tuesday 29th July		10.30am Mary Hogan
Wednesday 30th July	NO MASS	NO MASS
Thursday 31st July	10.30am Irene Hart	
Friday 1st August		NO MASS
Saturday 2nd August	NO MASS	NO MASS
Sunday 3rd August	9.30am Michael McDermott	11.00am Geraldine Davies

**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