



Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



ENGLISH MARTYRS



PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon
Mark B Madden
KCHS FRSA

ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



Filled with the Spirit, Sent in Joy

This Sunday, we joyfully celebrate Pentecost—the great feast that marks the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church. Fifty days after Easter, the Spirit descended upon the apostles like wind and fire, transforming them into courageous witnesses for Christ. That same Holy Spirit continues to enliven and empower the Church today.

During this Easter season, our parish has been richly blessed. Many children have been baptised, welcomed into the life of Christ and the community of faith. Others have received their First Holy Communion, approaching the Lord's table for the first time with reverence and joy. And many of our young people have been confirmed, sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent forth to live as bold disciples. These sacraments are powerful signs that the Spirit is alive and active among us—bringing renewal, growth, and grace.

Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit is not confined to history books or holy cards—the Spirit is with us now, working through our daily lives, our words, and our witness.

With this feast, the Easter season comes to a close, and we return to Ordinary Time. But “ordinary” in the Church doesn't mean boring or routine. It means ordered—a season for growing steadily in faith, guided by the Spirit we received at Pentecost. It is a time to live out, day by day, the extraordinary love we have celebrated in Easter.

So let us move forward with renewed hearts, trusting that the Spirit who began this good work in us will continue to lead us.

Come, Holy Spirit—fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love!
Happy Pentecost!

Fr Mark

How do I envision the Holy Spirit renewing the face of the earth? How can I, with the Holy Spirit working through me, be a part of that renewal?

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

10:15 am depart Manchester on Ryanair

13:55 pm arrive Rome

Monday 15 September

21:30 pm depart Rome on Ryanair

23:30 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

PARISH NEWSLETTER!

This is your newsletter and we welcome any contributions that you may wish to have included in future weeks.

Any items for the newsletter need to be with either of the parish offices by Thursday morning.



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE

That the world might grow in compassion

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with

Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

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.

Walking the Synodal Path Together

The Synod on Synodality concluded last October echoing Pope Francis' words that synodality 'is the path that God expects from the Church of the third millennium.' The Final Synod Document lays out an expectation of how we walk this path at every level within the life of the Church.

The Final Synod Document can be accessed here:

https://www.synod.va/content/dam/synod/news/2024-10-26_final-document/ENG---Documento-finale.pdf

Bishop Nicholas Hudson, auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, has prepared a helpful guide to the document: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2025/03/Synod-Take-Outs-Final-Doc.pdf>

We have some experience of beginning to walk this synodal path in recent years in our archdiocese. We were able to respond very directly to one of the calls in the Final Document with the process of consultation that led to the appointment of our new archbishop, who we look forward to welcoming in just over a week. The outcome of that consultation was sent to the then Cardinal Robert Prevost, now Pope Leo XIV, who responded personally with thanks for the work that had been done. Pope Leo's first remarks on the balcony of St Peter's have already affirmed his own commitment to this continuing journey.

The School for Synodality is a project working across the dioceses of England and Wales, and further afield, to support the lived experience of synodality in the life of the Church. The Archdiocese has been working with the School in developing programmes and resources to support this work, see: <https://www.schoolforsynodality.org.uk/>

To help unpack the Final Synod Document the School has brought together several speakers who were all participants in the Synod on Synodality for a webinar series which started Wednesday (21st May). Over 6 weeks Dr Jos Moons SJ, Professor Anna Rowlands, Dr Estela Padilla, Professor Cathy Clifford, Fr David McCallum SJ, Sandra Chaoul and Archbishop Jason Gordon, Archbishop of Port of Spain, will take us through a section of the document with time for questions afterwards.

For more information and to register: <https://www.schoolforsynodality.org.uk/our-resources/final-document-book-club-2025>

We will be having a Parish meeting in the very near future to discuss how we move forward. In the meantime please access these documents and webinars which will hopefully give you some insight into how things will progress

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PARISH SUMMER EXCURSION - FRIDAY 11th JULY

We are super pleased to again have our 'annual' trip to the world famous International Musical Eisteddfod in the beautiful Welsh town of Llangollen on Friday 11th July. Fr Mark's favourite day of the year!



We will leave the parish and travel by coach to Llangollen and we can stroll around the maes (Welsh for field) with its hundreds of stalls, food and drinking places. Your ticket will guarantee you a reserved seat in the Pavilion to watch the competitions - one of the world's most unique festivals, celebrating music, dance, and international culture.

You can walk around the town and enjoy the many shops and beautiful scenery.

The day includes transport, entry to the Eisteddfod and a reserved seat in the Pavilion.

We finish off the day by enjoying a 3 course evening meal together in The Hand Hotel in Llangollen. The Hotel stands above a beautiful stretch of the river Dee close to the centre of the town with its stunning riverside garden.

Total cost for this lovely day out is £74

If you would like to join us please give your name to the office with a £10 deposit as soon as possible as numbers are restricted.



DAY FOR LIFE 2025

Sunday 15 June is this year's Day for Life and Archbishop John is encouraging everyone from across the archdiocese to participate. The theme for this year is 'Hope does not disappoint: Finding meaning in suffering.' An assisted suicide bill has recently been approved in the Isle of Man (the first place within the British Isles to do so) and the Terminally Ill Adults Bill is scheduled to return to parliament on 13 June. This Day for Life is more important than ever.

Ahead of the Third Reading in parliament, contact your MP about the Assisted Dying Bill. Our MP, Peter Dowd, voted last time for assisted suicide. You can send him a message by using the following link: www.righttolife.org.uk/asvote. It takes just 30 seconds to do so, but we all must do it over the next couple of days.

Our Archbishop is the lead Bishop on Life matters. You can watch a video of Archbishop John talking about the Day for Life: www.cbcew.org.uk/dfl25-interview

A prayer booklet has been created so you can pray on or around Day for Life: www.cbcew.org.uk/dfl25-bishops-message-and-prayer-booklet

A Day for Life collection will be taken at the end of Masses next weekend. Please give generously.

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Exam Season Prayer to St Joseph of Cupertino for success in examinations prayed before an examination.

O Great St Joseph of Cupertino
who while on earth did obtain from God
the grace to be asked at your
examination, only the questions you knew,
obtain for me a like favour in
the examinations for which I am now preparing.
In return, I promise to make you known
and cause you to be invoked.
Through Christ our Lord.

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.

TIME OUT TUESDAYS - 10 JUNE 2025 10:00AM - 4:00PM

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

RECRUITMENT FOR BOY & GIRL CHORISTERS 2025

Do you know a child who would like to be a chorister at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King here in Liverpool?

The search is now on for our next generation of Boy and Girl choristers.

All choristers are educated at

1. Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School (yr 3-6)
2. St Edward's College (yr 7-13)

meaning that a first-class Catholic chorister education for boys and girls in Liverpool is available at no cost.

If you know of a Catholic family who might be interested in this wonderful opportunity, please share this information with them. Full details of choristerships at the Metropolitan Cathedral, go to:

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs



MARRIAGE PREPARATION

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

The Archdiocese of Liverpool is now offering a marriage preparation course for engaged couples. The course, led by trained lay facilitators, will involve four sessions, meeting in groups with other couples. These sessions will help couples develop the necessary skills to facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of unconditional love set within a Catholic faith.

There is a fee of £50 per couple to help towards materials and other expenses.

Please book online here at: archdioceseofliverpool.org/MarriagePrepCourseFor
enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS!

This past week marked the last of our four First Communion Masses, and we also held two Services of Confirmation, during which some of our young people received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Congratulations to all, and a huge thank you to the catechists and our three schools for their part in preparing our children and young people.

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Journey into Silence: An introduction to Christian meditation

Saturday 14th June 10:00AM - 3:00PM

Come along to the Irenaeus Centre on Saturday 14th June to discover the beauty of Christian meditation. You will need to book by contacting jenny@irenaeus.co.uk because you will receive a pack of resources to help you to pray.

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

The Blessed Virgin Mary has been given the title of Mother of the Church since she gave birth to Christ, the Head of the Church, and she became the Mother of the redeemed people before her Son had given up the spirit on the Cross. Pope Paul VI solemnly confirmed the title in an address to the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council on 21 November 1964 and decreed that the whole Christian people should, by the use of this beautiful title, give still greater honour to the Mother of God.



'The joyous veneration given to the Mother of God by the contemporary Church, in light of reflection on the mystery of Christ and on his nature, cannot ignore the figure of a woman, the Virgin Mary, who is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. In some ways this was already present in the mind of the Church from the premonitory words of Saint Augustine and Saint Leo the Great. In fact the former says that Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church, while the latter says that the birth of the Head is also the birth of the body, thus indicating that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God, and mother of the members of his Mystical Body, which is the Church' (Decree of the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship).

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The Archdiocesan Young Adult Group meet fortnightly at Pauline Book Centre (84 Church Street, Liverpool, L1 3AY). As usual, we will start at 6.30pm with food and refreshments provided, then followed by prayer at 7pm. This year we will explore different types of prayer. The next meeting will be on 10 June and the theme will be 'Praying with Music'. Anyone aged 18-35 would be most welcome. For enquiries, contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

WELCOME ARCHBISHOP JOHN

The Most Reverend John Sherrington has been installed as the tenth Archbishop of Liverpool during a Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King.

It was announced in April, just a few weeks before his death, that Pope Francis had elected Archbishop Sherrington as the successor of Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP who is retiring after 11 years as Archbishop.



Thousands of Catholics of all ages from across the archdiocese gathered at the cathedral for the celebration which included Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, bishops and clergy from across England and Wales and civic leaders and representatives from other faiths.

Archbishop Sherrington said: "The Mass of Installation was a joyous occasion; it was wonderful to see so many people from across the diocese and beyond gather together in prayer as we continue to preach Christ to the people of our time.

"I give thanks to Archbishop Malcolm who has served the archdiocese with love and generosity, and I am honoured to succeed him.

"I look forward to serving as a shepherd to this historic and faith-filled archdiocese and to bring the hope and joy of Christ to all people."

You can see some lovely photos of the celebration at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/liverpoolcatholic/albums/72177720326466474>

FAMILY PICNIC

All families are welcome to attend this Family Picnic as part of the confirmation preparation process on Saturday 28 June, 11am-3pm at St Anne Church, Prescott Rd, Ormskirk, L39 4TG. We especially wish to invite those families with children who are being baptised, making their holy communions or confirmations. Families are encouraged to bring their own food. There will be games for younger children, children's liturgy for older children and Animate Youth activities for teenagers.

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.



CATHOLIC PIC

June Catholic Pic is now available free of charge. Main article has some wonderful pictures of Archbishop John's Mass of Installation



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‘CELEBRATION OF PENTECOST/2 CATHEDRALS WALK, 8 JUNE 2025 3-5pm PILGRIMS OF HOPE

On Sunday, 8th of June at 3 pm, walk with us in a powerful celebration of Pentecost, as we journey together between Liverpool Cathedral and the Metropolitan Cathedral. Starting at Liverpool Cathedral this symbolic walk unites all communities in faith, reflection and joy. Come and be part of this special tradition! The celebrations will begin with a short act of worship at Liverpool Cathedral and include the story of Pentecost, hymns and stalls on the piazza of the Metropolitan Cathedral. The choirs of both cathedrals and a Salvation Army Band will be involved. All are welcome!

‘SONGS WE REMEMBER’ SING-A-LONG

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



WeBELIEVE FESTIVAL

Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve, a festival of Catholic Life gathering the Church to share the hope that we have in Christ. From 25-28 July, join us for four days of music, keynotes, conversation & worship at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. Early bird tickets available now at www.webeliefefestival.com

LATE SPRING RAFFLE

St Robert's are holding a 'late spring' raffle in aid of Parish funds. Tickets will be on sale at the back of church.



ONE HEART CONCERT

The Metropolitan Cathedral

Thursday 19th June 2025, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Join us for an uplifting evening of music and solidarity at the One Heart Concert, featuring powerful performances from the Asylum Link Choir and the Choir with No Name, supported by students from St Edward's College and other Edmund Rice schools.

The evening will be hosted by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, current Children's Laureate and best-selling author.

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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.

ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPACE "200 CLUB" JUNE DRAW

1st Prize £20	No. 104	P Garrigan
2nd Prize £15	No. 29	C McDonagh
3rd Prize £10	No. 61	K Garrigle
4th Prize £10	No. 88	B Crosbie



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

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PARISH STRATEGY PLAN

We are looking for a couple of people to join the small group to complete the survey for the Parish Strategy Plan, being conducted in every parish in Sefton over the next few months. The work is not difficult, but a couple of people would be appreciated. Please have a word with Fr Mark.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV

Faithful God

You guide us on the path of life and your goodness is our constant companion

Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, in his service of the Church

Fill him with the power of your Spirit, the peace of your presence and the compassion of Christ.

May he walk with you, in wisdom and humility,
and lead us, together with all God's people
to embody your love for the world

Amen



JOIN US AT THE ART SCHOOL FOR A SUMMER SOIREE...

We are delighted to be able to collaborate with Chef Paul Askew, one of the UK's most pioneering figures in hospitality, and his team once again, and we have arranged with them to provide a three course meal with a glass of prosecco on arrival and an amuse bouche for just £50.00 per person. Chef Askew has a firm reputation as a pioneer of excellent modern British cuisine and this is a dining experience not to be missed! The date you need to keep in your diary is Thursday 26 June 2025 from 7pm onwards. Dinner will be served in The Lantern Room. We hope that you will book some tickets and come and enjoy a convivial evening in surroundings that are timeless and yet modern enjoying the company of new friends and old ones, whilst raising money for the Cathedral. To book your ticket and to arrange payment please contact Claire Hanlon at c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

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Masses & Services for the Coming Week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
Sunday 8th June Sanctuary Lamp	9.30am Bridget McDermott Lucy Kennedy	11.00am People of the Parish Siobhan Noakes
Monday 9th June	10.00am Bob Stam	
Tuesday 10th June		10.00am Thomas Callaghan
Wednesday 11th June	NO MASS	NO MASS
Thursday 12th June	10.00am Sophie Dale	10.00am Funeral service Brian Daley
Friday 13th June		NO MASS
Saturday 14th June	NO MASS	NO MASS
Sunday 15th June	9.30am People of the Parish	11.00am Ken Williams

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

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