



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

4th Sunday of Lent  
Sunday 31st March 2019



Parish Priest: Fr Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 [englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk)

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Who do I need to reconcile with? What can I do over the next three weeks before Easter to seek and offer forgiveness?

## MOTHERING SUNDAY

We wish all mums in our parish a very happy Mother's Day. We ask the Lord, through the intercession of his own mother, for his blessing upon them. May he continue to shower you with many graces this coming year and we wish you a very happy and blessed day.



## THE MASS OF CHRISM

The annual Chrism Mass in the Metropolitan Cathedral will take place on Wednesday 17th April, 7.30 p.m. This is the highpoint of the Diocesan year when priests, deacons and faithful from across the Archdiocese gather with Archbishop Malcolm who will bless the three oils to be used in our parishes in 2019. During the Mass the priests also renew their priestly promises.



We will be providing transport and if you would like to attend please write your name on the list at the back of church.

## NUGENT CARE

There will be a retiring collection this week for the Nugent Care Society, our official Archdiocesan caring service. Our appeal this year **"In Your Name"** focuses on our core Caritas projects serving children and adults with learning disabilities, people who live in poverty and people who are vulnerable and isolated. These services receive little or no statutory funding and are entirely reliant on the good will and generosity of our supporters. Thank you for supporting the appeal last year which raised £19, 000 from parishes across the Archdiocese.



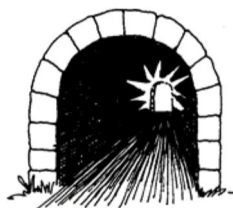
## St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Formby, L37 1PH

Come and learn more about **'Raising Awareness of Human Trafficking and Combating Modern Slavery in the UK Today'** on Tuesday, 9 April, 10.30am- 3.30pm, donation £20 includes lunch. For more info call 01704 875850.

## SEEING THE LIGHT

In the Old Testament, God tells the prophet Samuel something very significant. Samuel thinks he's found the man to be king but God puts him right and says, *'No, I have rejected him. For God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.'*

Time and time again we find that God's choice is the last one we would ever make. That's because God goes beyond the obvious and views things in an entirely different light. It just shows how utterly different God is. Our narrowness of vision is constantly found wanting in the light of God's judgements.



Lent is a time for broadening our vision, for trying to see things as God sees them. Those who will be baptised as Christians at the Easter Vigil are at present going through a Lenten 'purification and enlightenment' period. They are being shown that faith in Christ alters our vision. We become 'enlightened'. We see the same things that everyone else sees but we view them differently because we have seen the light. And the light is Christ.

How does Christ light up my life? Do I feel any different from my friends who are not believers in Jesus? Do I use my eyes of faith to see the presence of God in the events that unfurl before me in my life, in my family and work, and in my world?

Sometimes we can take our Christian faith for granted. We can let it grow jaded and our sensitivity can be dulled. The people who stood around the blind man saw all the same things as he did. But his encounter with Jesus made him more appreciative of what was around him. He saw them in the light of Christ and he couldn't believe his eyes.

This Lent is a reminder that we see life with eyes of faith. We can rejoice in our vision of a world in which God is always present and active. But if we find that our faith is predictable and unsurprising, if we find that it's become humdrum, then perhaps it's time we took a Christian eye test.

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	Our Lady Queen of Peace	The English Martyrs
<b>Saturday 30th March</b>		<b>5pm -</b> Parishioners
<b>Sunday 31st March</b> <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i>		<b>10.30am -</b> Margaret & Septimus Murphy <b>12 noon -</b> Baptism - Alfie Watkins
<b>Monday 1st April</b>		<b>9.00am -</b> Ellen & Herbert Taylor
<b>Tuesday 2nd April</b>		<b>10.00am -</b> Funeral mass - John Mullin Kennedy
<b>Wednesday 3rd April</b>		
<b>Thursday 4th April</b>	<b>9.00am -</b> Perpetual mass list	
<b>Friday 5th April</b>		<b>9.00am -</b> Sick & housebound
<b>Saturday 6th April</b>	<b>5pm -</b> David Hankin	
<b>Sunday 7th April</b> <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>		<b>10.30am -</b> Lil & Pat Hughes <b>12 noon -</b> Baptisms - Tallulah Duffy Francis Radcliffe

## SYNOD2020

Members of the Diocesan Synod in 2020 were formally commissioned recently by the Archbishop in the Metropolitan Cathedral and the next stage of the journey towards 2020 has begun. Discussions will take place, which will begin from the fact that we are not only about managing decline, but we are trying to catch a vision that will move us forward towards missionary discipleship, so that we do not simply follow Jesus but we take the Gospel message to others.

The four Synod Questions that will inform and inspire our project of listening over the coming months have been published. They are:

- 1 Where in your everyday life do you experience love, truth, goodness, hope, and joy?
- 2 When you reflect on your life now, and as you look to the future, what causes you concern or worry?
- 3 What is the purpose of the Catholic Church in the world today?
- 4 Having reflected on these things, what are the topics you would like to see on the agenda of Synod 2020?

These questions begin from the truth that God speaks to us in our everyday lives and, as we reflect on our lives, we encounter Christ (c.f. Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium* 8). We are then invited to think about what the Catholic Church is for. This will allow the Spirit of God to open our hearts so that, finally, we can reflect on the questions, issues, and topics that our Synod should make recommendations on.

We are all invited to reflect deeply and respond to these four Synod Questions. Listening will be done through our online survey, focus groups facilitated by Fr Peter McGrail at Liverpool Hope University, and by Synod Members in our local communities. It is through this great project of listening that we will begin to discern the Church God is calling us to be.

If you would like to answer those four Synod Questions, please write your thoughts down, place them in an envelope and hand it to Fr Mark or the Parish Office. Your responses will be given to Gavin Williams our parish Synod member. You can also complete the online questionnaire: [www.synod2020.co.uk](http://www.synod2020.co.uk) and click on 'resources'.





## WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY

**Alfie James Watkins**

**Baptised Sunday 31st March 2019**



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Marie O'Neil, Martin Hook,  
Karen Ormsby, Bernadette Clark,  
Emma Kelly, Eileen Monaghan, Colin  
O'Donnell, Terry Kelly, Marjorie  
Cramp, Roisin Dooley, Brenda  
Wallace, Pat Goulby, Joan Johnson,  
Thomas Niblock, Vera Ryan, Alice  
Manning, Patricia Vina, Mary Wilson,  
Flo Johnson, Fiona Barlow, Margaret  
Strong, Cheryl Green, Julie Wolfarth,  
Paul O'Farrell, Francis Clare, Joan  
Brewer, Elizabeth Cannon, Martin  
Hook, Mary Cassidy, Mary Patten,  
Jill Lyster, Tommy Hesse, Ann  
Rawlings, Jack Mahon, Catherine Potts,  
Mary Cleary, Olive Forrest, Margaret  
Kay, Derek Forrest, Susan Green,  
James Halpin Joan Niblock,  
Al Jackson, Norah Wright,  
Hannah Mahon, Alice Power,  
Betty White Catherine Madden,  
Mary Spofforth, Eileen Hannon  
Cornelius Powell



### THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL



#### Doctors and their Collaborators in War Zones

For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others

Lord in your mercy.....

Our Lady & The English Martyrs  
School Lane  
Litherland  
Liverpool  
L21 7LX  
0151 928 3471  
englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk

Parish Office:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.

Archdiocese of Liverpool : Registered Charity 232709

## LENTEN ALMS

Lent is the ideal time to do a little bit more in remembering the needy. The call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on **"almsgiving,"** which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving, the Catechism of the Catholic Church says is, *a witness to fraternal charity*" and *"a work of justice pleasing to God."*

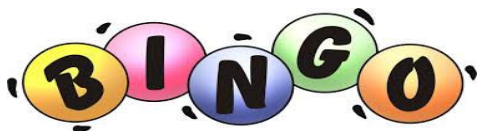
A box for financial donations will be available at all Masses during Lent for you to make a contribution. This money is sent to the Diocese and the Archbishop decides on a cause for this to be sent as a Diocesan donation.

You can also help in donating items for our local Food Bank which we regularly support and will be greatly appreciated. Items for food can be left at the back of church.

## EASTER BINGO!

Please come and join us on  
Wednesday 10 April in English  
Martyrs Hall for our Easter Bingo.  
Doors open at 7pm and 'eyes down' is at  
7.30pm. Entry is £1 and tickets are on sale at  
the back of Church or you can pay on the door

We are also holding a grand Easter Raffle.  
Tickets available at the back of both Churches  
from this weekend.



South Sefton  
Foodbank are  
consistently short of  
the following food  
Items:

Tinned Rice Pudding  
Tinned Tomatoes  
Tinned Fruit  
Tinned Fish  
Chicken Noodles and  
snacks  
Tinned Potatoes  
Instant Mash  
UHT Juice  
UHT Milk  
Coffee  
Jam



## **MAY HE REST IN PEACE**

**John Mullin Kennedy**



Funeral mass -  
Tuesday 2nd April  
10.00am



## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Friday 7pm at English  
Martyrs.



## **PARISH PILGRIMAGE**

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land has been arranged from 3rd - 14th October 2019. Flights from Manchester to Tel Aviv with Easyjet. We will stay in the Manger Square Hotel Bethlehem, 2 minute walk from where Jesus was born and the Ron Beach Hotel Tiberius which is situated on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.



We will visit the major sites associated with Jesus, Mary and the apostles in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Galilee & Nazareth. Other highlights include: Sunday Mass in a local parish so we can meet the local Christian community, a visit to the Christian ladies of St. Martha's House, a meeting with Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa at the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and dinner with the Rector, staff and seminarians in the local Seminary.

Mass will be celebrated every day in some memorable and unforgettable places such as the Church of the Nativity, The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Nazareth and an outdoor Mass on the shores of the Sea of Galilee

The total cost of the pilgrimage, including flights, is now confirmed as £1,887. This includes 12 days full board, tips and gratuities, full guided tour and staying in 2 excellent hotels. Single room supplement is £400

If you would like to go, please call to the Parish Office to complete a booking form. You also need to pay your deposit of £450, cheques made payable to 'Leisure Time Travel'.

Fr Mark will hold various meetings throughout 2019 to help us prepare for the pilgrimage.



## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2019**

Please note the times of Masses & Services for this most important time of the year. We MUST make every effort to participate.



### **Monday 15th April**

11:40 a.m. Midday Prayer  
12noon Mass

### **Holy Monday**

English Martyrs  
English Martyrs

### **Tuesday 16th April**

11:40 a.m. Midday Prayer  
12noon Mass

### **Holy Tuesday**

Queen of Peace  
Queen of Peace

### **Wednesday 17th April**

11:40 a.m. Midday Prayer  
12noon Mass  
7.30 p.m. Chrism Mass

### **Holy Wednesday**

English Martyrs  
English Martyrs  
Metropolitan Cathedral

### **Thursday 18th April**

7.00 p.m. Mass of the  
Lord's Supper  
10:30 p.m. Night Prayer

### **Holy Thursday**

English Martyrs  
English Martyrs

### **Friday 19th April**

3.00 p.m. Celebration of  
the Passion of  
the Lord

### **Good Friday**

English Martyrs

### **Saturday 20th April**

9.00 p.m. Easter Vigil &  
1st Mass of Easter

### **Holy Saturday**

English Martyrs

### **Sunday 21st April**

10.30 a.m. Mass

### **Easter Day**

English Martyrs

There will be a Syro-Malabar Mass at Queen of Peace at 9.30 a.m. to which you are welcome to attend.



## PARISH RETREAT

Fr Mark has invited the Irenaeus Team to visit our parish in June to lead us in a week-long retreat. Irenaeus, led by Fr Chris Thomas, have brought together a team of people from around the Diocese who are willing to give of their time and their skill to help others grow in and share their faith. This special week we will help us to strengthen our faith and understand more the image of God. It will be a spirit-filled week where we will grow as individuals and as a parish family. We need your support to make this a success! The date is Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June 2019. Put it in your diary and more details will follow soon.

## Mental Health Awareness

**“Unbind them, let them go free”** (John 11:44).

An afternoon at LACE on Wednesday, 15 May, 2.00pm-4.30pm. Keynote speakers will be Father Conor Stainton-Pollard who is Parish Priest of St Matthew's and St Cecilia's Parishes and is also Chair of the Wigan Family Welfare Charity and Kathy Devlin who is Clinical Manager at the Beacon Counselling Trust. Call 0151 522 1000 for more information and to book your place.

## BILL HUEBSCH RETURNS TO THE ARCHDIOCESE

This wonderful author and theologian is returning to the diocese in May. Bill writes and teaches extensively on the catechetical mission of the church and was an important guide as the Archdioceses developed our own policies of Family Catechesis. Inspired by 'The Joy of the Gospel' and later writings of Pope Francis Bill will lead **'An Introduction to the New Pastoral Theology emerging in the era of Pope Francis'**. This is a one day workshop and will be held:

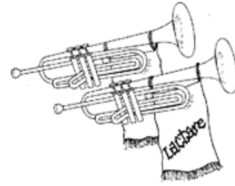
Friday 10 May at St Joseph's, Wrightington or  
Saturday 11 May at LACE. From 10am to 4pm.

Tea/coffee and lunch will be provided. Suggested donation is £10 per person. Please give your name to the office if you are interested



## IN THE PINK

We get used to purple being the colour of Lent. Feasts of apostles and martyrs give us red. We use white and gold for Easter and other feasts and occasionally you even come across black. When things are just run-of-the-mill we find ourselves with green. But what about pink or rose? Most people would bet you that this colour doesn't exist as a liturgical colour. But it's not so far fetched as it might sound because on two Sundays in the year our churches can be decorated with rose (pink) and the vestments may be of the same colour.



The 3rd Sunday of Advent and the 4th Sunday of Lent both have the same word at the beginning of their official Latin entrance song at Mass: **Rejoice!** In the Latin this is 'Gaudete' for Advent and '**Laetare**' for Lent. It's a sign that we are now halfway through our Lenten journey so we can relax a little more today and celebrate that Easter is very near. Traditionally in the U.K. Laetare Sunday is also Mother's Day.

But after this weekend our Lenten journey continues and we go back to the colour purple. But now, Lent gets deeper as we head towards passion-tide and the colour red. From next Sunday all statues and crosses in churches will be removed or covered so we can focus our sights on the passion of Jesus and will remain so for the next two weeks.

So when you go into church this weekend for the 4th Sunday of Lent you may just be able to win your bet: **Happy Laetare Sunday!**

## WASHING OF FEET

An important aspect of Mass on Holy Thursday evening is when we remember Jesus bending down to wash the feet of his disciples, a job reserved for servants. We need 12 willing volunteers to have their feet washed by Fr Mark. Please sign the list in the sacristy.



## Street and Prayer Pastors:

Liverpool City Centre is currently recruiting for new Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors. On Sat 6th April there will be an information morning from 10am to 12noon at St. Aiden's Centre, 20 St James Road, L1 7BY. For more info Contact Mark Latham on 07729 001 331

## THE APOSTLES CREED

During Lent & Easter, the Church recommends we pray the Apostles Creed at Mass rather than the Nicene Creed, the version usually prayed at Mass. The reason this option is recommended particularly for Lent/Easter Time is because of its close relationship with baptism. The Apostles' Creed is the basis for the baptismal promises made by the elect before they are baptised. It is also used for the renewal of baptismal promises at Easter and by parents and godparents when bringing a child for baptism.

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
*At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.*  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.

