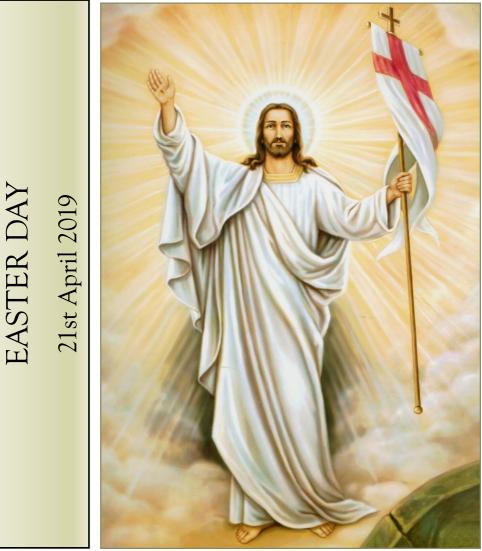


# Our Lady & The English Martyrs Litherland



Parish Priest: Fr Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

How can I proclaim the risen Lord in my life? How does the way I live my life show others what I believe?

**MASSES** Please note that that there will be **NO** Mass on Tuesday or Friday this week.

## 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

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

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We have 3 First Communion Masses this year and we ask you to continue praying for the children:

Saturday 4th May. Sunday 5th May and Sunday 12th May. All Masses will begin at 10.30 a.m. 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 -Polland 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.

## PARISH BEREAVEMENT GROUP

A meeting for those interested in starting a Parish Bereavement Group will take place on Monday 13th May 7pm in the parish hall. It's important that we support those who are bereaved within our community and to pray for those who have died. We need a good number of people who can get involved in many different ways, the more people the better. Come along to find out more. If you cannot make this meeting but want to get involved please let the Parish Office know.

PARISH OFFICE Please note that the Parish Office will reopen on Tuesday. Parish Office times are 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.

## SPRING COACH TRIP - Tuesday 21 May

We are trying something different for our Spring 'get-together! ...... Hayes & Finch are one of the world's finest manufacturers and suppliers of Church Supplies and Church Candles . They supply all our candles for our churches. On



Tuesday 21 May we have arranged a visit to their factory to see how the candles are made and also to visit their sewing room to see how vestments are made.

After our visit to the factory we are then heading to Barton Grange Garden Centre just outside Preston. Barton Grange has two restaurants, a farm shop, a cook shop, a gift shop and a huge all weather plant area. We can have some lunch and explore the garden centre before heading home in the afternoon.



Cost of the trip is just £12 per head to cover the cost of the coach. If you are interested please give your name to the office.

## CHARITY CONCERT

Asylum Link Merseyside is holding its regular fundraising charity concert on Friday, 26 April at 7.00pm at St Anne's RC Church, Overbury Street, Liverpool, L7 3HJ. Tickets £5 or on the door. Contact Wendy for info 709 1713.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Norma Owens who will be confirmed and receive the Lord for the first time in Holy Communion this Easter Day. May the



Lord continue to bless and protect her as she joins our parish community around the table of the Lord.

Do you know of anyone who would like to be received into the Catholic Church? Ask them to contact Fr Mark at the Parish Office.

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	Our Lady Queen of Peace	The English Martyrs
Saturday 20th April		9.00pm -
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter		Parishioners
Sunday 21st April Easter Day		<b>10.30am -</b> Private intention (MM)
Monday 22nd April		12 noon -
		Sick & housebound
Tuesday 23rd April	NO MASS TODAY	
Wednesday 24th April		
Thursday 25th April	9.00am - Private intention	
Friday 26th April		NO MASS TODAY
Saturday 27th April	5.00pm -	
	Parishioners	
Sunday 28th April		10.30am -
Second Sunday of Easter		Anne Fairweather
Day of Divine Mercy		12 noon -
		Baptisms - James & Jennifer Chau
		Grace Taylor

#### Synod 2020 Update

The last couple of months have been a busy time for the Synod and Pastoral Area members, February brought us together for an initial meeting where we had the opportunity to listen to three interesting talks on -

Synods and the Church under Pope Francis - Fr Eamonn Mulcahy CSSp

#### The Church in England & Wales in the 21st Century -Professor Stephen Bullivant



#### The Situation in the Archdiocese of Liverpool - Canon Chris Fallon

For those interested in watching the talks they can be accessed via the Synod 2020 website simply click on 'News' and then 'Initial Meeting of Members'.

The purpose of this initial meeting was to bring those people involved together to give them an understanding of the purpose and timeline of the Synod as well as a knowledge of what will be expected of the members. We also had the opportunity to meet other member's from around the Archdiocese and gain their understanding of what Synod 2020 meant to them and their parishes.

March brought us together again for what were termed 'Listening & Discernment' meetings the purpose of this round of gatherings was to explain how we were to involve our parishes and pastoral areas in the process of the Synod.

#### Looking to the future -

During May the local pastoral area meetings will take place, this will give members and clergy in the Bootle & Litherland area an opportunity to meet and plan how we will involve the parish and wider community in the Synod process.

From these meetings and conversations around our local communities and the archdiocese, the themes of the Synod will emerge, where they will begin to be formulated into the concrete proposals that the Synod will vote upon in October 2020

Any future meeting dates within the parish will be advertised well in advance so please try your best to attend and give your views on how the church in the Archdiocese of Liverpool should move forward in the future based on the four questions which are –

- 1.Where in your everyday life do you experience love, truth, goodness, hope & 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?

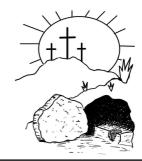
If you would like to answer those four Synod Questions, please write your thoughts down, place them in an envelope and hand it to Fr Mark or the Parish Office. Your responses will be given to Gavin Williams our parish Synod member.

You can also complete the online questionnaire: <u>www.synod2020.co.uk</u> and click on 'resources'.

**THANK YOU** Fr Mark thanks everyone who has contributed in many different ways to make Holy Week, the Sacred Three Days and our Easter celebrations a very special time. God bless you!



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 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

## ARCHBISHOP MALCOLM

We are lucky to have Archbishop Malcolm join us a few times this year for Mass:

Sunday 7th July 10:30 a.m. 28th/29th September Saturday 19th October 11:30 a.m.

Mass with the Order of the Holy Sepulchre Saturday 14th September 11:30 a.m. Mass for the Feast of the True Cross Official Parish Visitation Mass for the Feast of Our Lady Queen of Palestine.

Bishop Tom will also be visiting our two schools in September.

Please put these dates in your diary as we warmly welcome our Archbishop to our parish.



## **METROPOLITAN** CATHEDRAL

Easter Day Choral Evening Prayer, Sunday, 21 April, 3.00pm-4.00pm. Join us for music and prayer as we conclude Easter Day. Choral Evening Prayer will begin in the Baptistry, symbolising the importance of water in the celebration Metropolitan Cathedra of Christ the King Liverpoor of the resurrection and life of the Church.

## NEWSLETTER

This is your Parish Newsletter. If it's of interest to you, it may be of interest to others. If you have something to share, an event or otherwise, let the Parish Office know and we'll always try and find room to share your news of what's going on in our community.

## FR MARK'S THEATRE GROUP

There are still 4 tickets available for the trip to the

Empire on Wednesday 23 October to see Les



Miserables, Cost of ticket and coach is £64. If you are interested please see Bernie in the Parish Office.

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### 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.

The total cost of the pilgrimage, including flights, is now confirmed as  $\pounds 1,887$ . This includes 12 days full board, tips and gratuities, full guided tour and staying in 2 excellent hotels. Single room supplement is  $\pounds 400$ . If you would like to go, please call to the Parish Office to complete a booking form.

### 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



# Easter Message of the Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool.



Whether we recognise it or not our lives have been changed for ever by the Risen Lord at Easter. All too often we fail to see the good things of life when they are right in front of us, it may be the joy which other people can bring us, or it could be something we see in the beauty of the world around us, particularly as new life comes to us in spring time after the darkness of the

winter months.

On the first Easter morning Mary of Magdala stayed outside the empty tomb weeping. She was grieving, mourning the death of Jesus. It was the end of everything that she had hoped for and believed in. Her Lord had been crucified and buried, now his body had been taken. As she wept a man came up to her and said, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?' Mary didn't recognise the man and thought he was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and remove him.' Then the man looked at her and said, 'Mary' and at that point she recognised him as Jesus, the Risen Lord.

In that instant Mary's life changed, all she had hoped for came true, and in the most unexpected way. She didn't recognise Jesus, she even thought he was the gardener, and then she knew him. 'It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb', and with the dawn the darkness of her own life was transformed for ever. If we can hear the Risen Lord saying our name, our lives can be transformed too.

We live in difficult times. These last weeks and months have been filled with uncertainty and division. Political indecision and financial insecurity lead us to worry about the future for ourselves and for our families. We need the light to keep us going and give us hope. Real hope is based on the resurrection of Jesus, otherwise it is just optimism. The trouble with optimism is that it is just a desire for things to get better and is really only wishful thinking. Hope says that they will get better because Jesus has risen from the dead, and that hope is given to us too. So why not enjoy this season of Easter by looking for signs of new life and resurrection in the ordinary things we encounter every day. You will be surprised by what you see, your faith will be enriched, and it will be fun.

+Malcolm, Archbishop of Liverpool

## **REJOICE!**

Enter a Church on Easter Sunday and you're immediately struck by a different atmosphere. Weeks of purple are replaced by white and gold. The lily takes pride of place among the flowers. A huge paschal candle is prominently on view and the font brims with water. Maybe there's even a little Easter garden with an empty tomb.

Easter is about light, water and life. The fire that was lit last night to illuminate the darkness of night and the paschal candle are eloquent reminders that those who walked in darkness now can journey in the light of Christ. We no longer stumble along, prey to every evil and danger. We see things in a new light.

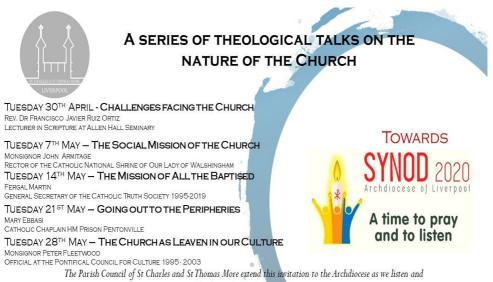
The water symbolises not only the fact that in baptism we are cleansed from our sin but also that our thirst for God is fulfilled by our faith in Jesus. Easter responds to our longing for meaning in our cluttered lives and it points the way to beyond the mundane. Its music fills the hole created by our yearning for something greater than ourselves, for someone who can bring us to fruition, for a saviour and redeemer.

So the vital signs of Easter proclaim new life. But it's not simply the life that our world has become used to; it's life to the full. Easter raises us up to enjoy a life that stretches us in mind body and spirit and that beckons us to eternity. For Easter life is eternal life and we enjoy it on both sides of the grave.

And all of this is because Jesus rose from the dead. The resurrection is at the heart of our Christian faith. As St Paul says, if it didn't happen then we are all wasting our time. An ancient Easter hymn reminds us that sheep are ransomed by a lamb, that an innocent man has served our sentence to reconcile us to the Father and that life's own champion is slain but only to reign.



The resurrection proclaims God's glory and power. Our alleluias today attest to the fact that life can never be the same for us again. Our human existence is radically transformed by the victory that Jesus won against the powers of darkness in our lives. We have been bought back. We have been saved from ourselves. We have been given the chance to live life to the full. This day was made by the Lord; let us rejoice and be glad.



pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit

The talks will begin at 7.00pm in the Church and will be followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall 224 AIGBURTH ROAD, LIVERPOOL, L 17 9PG

## WOODLANDS HOSPICE

April is the start of spring. The yellow, white and blue spring flowers bring cheer. It's the time of new beginnings. part of the spring calendar is the Woodlands Hospice 'Will and Forget-me-not' Campaigns.Making a will is very important and will help to avoid additional stress for family members. Throughout April people are



invited to have their Will updated or written by one of the many solicitors or professional will writers who support Woodlands. The solicitors will waive their normal fee in exchange for a charitable donation to the Hospice at the time of making the Will. For further information please contact Carole Riley on 529 4143 or <u>carole.riley@aintree.nhs.uk</u>

Our Forget-me-not Campaign gives people the opportunity to remember a loved one with a beautiful flower whilst helping their local hospice to flourish. These flowers will be available from April - June and will be displayed in the hospice gardens during the month of July. For a donation you can dedicate a flower in memory of a loved one. For more information please see the leaflets at the back of church.

## 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.