



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

5th Sunday of Lent
Sunday 7th April 2019



Parish Priest: Fr Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

In what way is God working in your life? How is he showing his unfailing love and mercy to you

The Passover in Holy Week - Discussion

*At the start of Holy Week a talk and discussion is being organised by the Catholic Mens Society, it will be held to start our celebrations leading up to Easter. It will take place in the Parish Hall on Monday 15th April at 7.30pm, and is **open to parishioners of all ages.***

A member of the Jewish community will open the evening with an introduction to what the Passover means to a Jew today and what it would have meant to Christ when he was on earth. This will be followed by time for questions and discussion. A good way to focus our thoughts as we begin Holy Week, so come and join us!

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.



Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

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.

Mass with the Order of the Holy Sepulchre

Saturday 14th September 11:30 a.m.

Mass for the Feast of the True Cross

28th/29th September

Official Parish Visitation

Saturday 19th October 11:30 a.m.

Mass for the Feast of Our Lady Queen of Palestine.

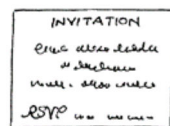
Bishop Tom will also be visiting our two schools in September.

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



TOO MUCH TO LOSE?

For the last month we've been making our way through Lent on a voyage towards Easter. It's as if we've taken to the road with Christ on his journey up to Jerusalem where he (and we) will embrace death so as to rise above it to a life that never ends.



But as we've journeyed with Christ we've been listening to his words guiding us along our route to Easter. These words take on a different colour each year in a three-year cycle that the Church's liturgy uses. But this year the theme of Jesus' message has been unmistakable: you must embrace the wisdom of God that the world considers to be sheer foolishness.

Jesus could have tried to buy us off with some easy words, like politicians who promise everything in return for votes. He could have told us that we can get to heaven just by praying and paying. He could have offered us salvation by keeping the law and being seen in the right places. He could have suggested a quick fix but he chose to offer the tougher route.

We've listened to a series of paradoxes over the last few weeks and Jesus tells us that just as a grain of wheat must be buried before it can sprout, so too we have to die if we are to enjoy life. His message is one of self-sacrifice, cross-bearing, total service and a love which counts no costs. And unlike other philosophies that underline the skills and talents of their adherents, Jesus tells us that we reach our perfection the more like a servant we become, and that we achieve our dignity by putting ourselves last rather than first.



This message isn't for everyone. It's not for people who like to be thought of as important but now find they must consider themselves last of all. Not for people who prize possessions, now being told to give to the poor. Not for those who invest everything in the here and now. Not for those with status who fear that they'll lose their respectability. Not for wise people who see it as sheer foolishness. Is it for you?

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.



Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	Our Lady Queen of Peace	The English Martyrs
Saturday 6th April	5pm - David Hankin	12 noon - Baptisms - Tallulah Duffy Francis Radcliffe
Sunday 7th April <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>		10.30am - Lil & Pat Hughes 12 noon - Baptism - Lilly O'Rourke
Monday 8th April		9.00am - Bill & Bella Durney
Tuesday 9th April		10.00am - Funeral mass - Catherine Madden
Wednesday 10th April		
Thursday 11th April	9.00am - Sick & housebound	
Friday 12th April		9.00am - Survivors of abuse
Saturday 13th April	5pm - Parishioners	12 noon - Baptisms—Lottie Duffy Holly Williams
Sunday 14th April <i>Palm Sunday</i>		10.30am - Frank Cummins 12 noon - Baptism - Pearl Parkes

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: www.synod2020.co.uk and click on 'resources'.



WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY Tallulah Duffy & Francis Radcliffe

Baptised Saturday 6th April 2019

Lillie O'Rourke

Baptised Sunday 7th April 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 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."*

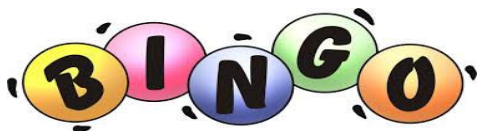
A box for financial donations will be available at all Masses during Lent for you to make a contribution. This money is sent to the Diocese and the Archbishop decides on a cause for this to be sent as a Diocesan donation.

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.



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.

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 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.



Irenaeus

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday 7pm at English Martyrs.



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.

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 carole.riley@aintree.nhs.uk



**Woodlands
Hospice**

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.

DAY OF PRAYER

The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors established by Pope Francis to coordinate the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults within the Church has highlighted the importance of prayer and suggested to the Holy Father that the worldwide Catholic Church should join together in a day of prayer. The Holy Father has welcomed this initiative. On **Friday 12th April** the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales is encouraging the Catholic community to take part in a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse.



Mass that day will be for victims and short reflections for the Stations of the Cross have been written which we will use at 7.00 p.m. Fr Mark encourages us to come along to Mass and/or the Stations next Friday so we can join our prayers with our Catholic brothers and sisters across England & Wales. You are also encouraged to pray the following reflection by Pope Francis which he prayed in Dublin last August:

We ask forgiveness for the cases of abuse in the Church, the abuse of power, the abuse of conscience and sexual abuse on the part of representatives of the Church. In a special way, we ask forgiveness for all those abuses that took place in different kinds of institutions directed by men and women religious and other members of the Church. We also ask forgiveness for cases in which many minors were exploited for their labour.

We ask forgiveness for all those times when, as a Church, we did not offer to the survivors of any type of abuse compassion and the pursuit of justice and truth by concrete actions. We ask forgiveness.

We ask forgiveness for some members of the hierarchy who took no responsibility for these painful situations and kept silent. We ask forgiveness.

We ask forgiveness those children who were taken away from their mothers and for all those times when so many single mothers who tried to find their children that had been taken away, or those children who tried to find their mothers, were told that this was a mortal sin. It is not a mortal sin; it is the fourth commandment! We ask forgiveness.

May the Lord preserve and increase this sense of shame and repentance, and grant us the strength to ensure that it never happens again and that justice is done. Amen.

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.

