



Our Lady & The English Martyrs Litherland

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

12th May 2019



Parish Priest: Fr Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Do I try to hear Jesus' voice in the people that I meet?
Through whom is Jesus speaking to me?

FIRST COMMUNIONS

Congratulations to the children who have made their First Holy Communion this weekend.



WEEKDAY MASS

Mass on Monday will be a Funeral Mass for Maureen Woodcock at 12noon. May she rest in peace.

FINDING THE GOD OF LOVE

“Lord, help me to know You and to know myself”
Saturday 8th June
10 – 3.30pm at St Joseph's Prayer Centre in Freshfield.
A day in company with Fr Michael Hickey. We look forward to this opportunity to reflect, to share and be affirmed in our efforts to live our Christian lives more deeply. Donation £20 includes a light lunch.

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.

There is also an Archdiocesan Bereavement training course on 16th and 23rd October 1.30pm—4pm in LACE. Give your name to the Office if you are interested

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.

SONGS WE REMEMBER

The next meetings take place on
Wednesday 15 May and 29 May
2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. at St. Thomas of
Canterbury, Waterloo. Afternoon Tea will
be served after our sing-along. It will be
an afternoon of singing and enjoyment for
anyone who likes to sing and especially
those living with dementia or their carers.

If you want a morning filled with fun,



laughter, good
company and
nice singing,
come along. All

are welcome.

*The next meeting
of **The Catholic
Men's Society** is due
to take place on
Monday 20th May
7.30 pm - 8.30 pm in
the church hall. Any
men interested in
joining the discussion
are more than
welcome - come
along!
Further information is
available at
the back of
Church.*



Masses & Services for the coming week

| DATE | Our Lady Queen of Peace | The English Martyrs |
|--|--|---|
| Saturday 11th May | 5.00pm - Parishioners | |
| Sunday 12th May <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> | | 10.30am - First Holy Communions |
| Monday 13th May | | 12 Noon - Funeral mass - Maureen Woodcock |
| Tuesday 14th May <i>Feast of St Mathias</i> | 9.00am - Shirley Carver | |
| Wednesday 15th May | | |
| Thursday 16th May | 9.00am - Catherine & John Trevaskis | |
| Friday 17th May | | 9.00am - Mary Kerwin |
| Saturday 18th May | 5.00pm - Parishioners | |
| Sunday 19th May <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> | | 10.30am - Ellen Elsworth 12 noon - Baptism—Jax Joseph Johnson-Steel |

SYNOD2020

There are lots of things going on in the diocese in preparation for Synod 2020. Primary School Headteachers have met and are coming up with creative ideas to involve schools. Similarly, the Secondary School Headteachers are involving their young people.



The diocesan priests are meeting over the next few months to listen to one another and over the coming weeks there will be times of listening in every parish.

We hope you are using the weekly reflections found in the Newsletter which help us to reflect on the Synod questions and in a few weeks you will invited to respond to them. A meeting is also arranged for **Wednesday 19th June, 7 p.m.** in the church hall when we will look at these questions together. All responses will be passed to the diocesan Synod office.

You are encouraged to use the Synod survey which is simply four questions and is completed on line: www.synod2020.co.uk.

The aim of it is to have as broad a constituency of people filling it in. Please encourage friends and family who are not church goers or not Catholics to fill it in. The church is listening to all!

EASTER READINGS

Did you know that the readings at Mass each Sunday during the Easter Season follow a set pattern and lead us on a journey.

The 2nd and 3rd Sunday readings remind us of the occasions when Jesus appeared to the disciples after his resurrection and before his ascension to Heaven.

The 4th Sunday readings brings us into the arms of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

The Gospels of the 5th, 6th & 7th Sunday are drawn from Jesus' Farewell Speech to his disciples and often focus on Christian love and God's love for his children.

These readings lead us to the culmination of the Easter Season when we celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost when we remember God's gift to the Church of the Holy Spirit.

Vocations Weekend for young women

Theme: Discernment and Vocation. Dates: 24-26 May 2019. Location: Liverpool If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

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



THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY



The Church in Africa, a Seed of Unity

That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent

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. | 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.



VOCATIONS SUNDAY 2019

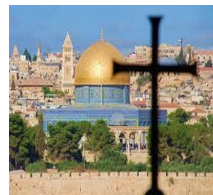
The annual Day of Prayer for Vocations is celebrated this weekend. This day flows from the broader culture of vocation, and is when the universal Church asks the Lord to send more labourers to the harvest. We have nine students at seminary for the Archdiocese of Liverpool and one will be ordained priest this year:

| | | |
|------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Yr 6 | Rev Thomas Clarke | St. Mary's College, Oscott |
| Yr 5 | Peter Murphy | St. John's, Wonersh |
| Yr 4 | Joshua Dixon | Venerable English College, Rome |
| Yr 2 | Joseph Champion-Williams | St. Mary's College, Oscott |
| | Hugh Donleavy | St. Mary's College, Oscott |
| Yr 1 | Peter Ross | St. Mary's College, Oscott |
| | Martin Fyles | Venerable English College, Rome |
| | James Finnegan | Venerable English College, Rome |
| | Michael Harwood | Beda College, Rome |

Please keep our Seminarians in your prayers as we ask the Lord to send more willing to serve as priests.

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 £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.

THANK YOU

"Dear Fr Mark, through you can I say a very big thank you to the team of Flower Ladies who are doing a wonderful job to make sure that our church is looking at its best with their wonderful arrangement of flowers. This Easter has been so lovely and made even more by the display of God's beauty. I hope they and you realise how grateful we are. They lift spirits and make us thank God. May God bless them."

It's always lovely to receive a message like this and the team are doing an incredible job especially over the Easter Season and First Communion celebrations. More people to join us are always welcome.

FR MARK'S THEATRE

GROUP There are still 2 tickets available for the trip to the Empire on Wednesday 23 October to see Les Misérables. Cost of ticket and coach is £64. If you are interested please see Bernie in the Parish Office.



HIS MASTER'S VOICE

People don't like being called sheep. When the public is sometimes accused of following this or that fashion just like a bunch of sheep we instinctively want to stand out ourselves and protest that we are not like the rest; we've got a mind of our own.



Maybe this is because the sheep or lamb is seen as a cute but rather hapless animal. It simply follows. Would today's gospel seem easier to swallow if it talked about a faithful dog that listened out for its owner's voice and followed the owner everywhere?

The scripture readings for the Sundays of Easter were originally targeted at those people who had been baptised at the Easter Vigil and were undergoing their first period of 'aftercare' as Christians. They also served as an annual 'refresher course' for those who were already members of the believing community. So each of the Sundays celebrates one or more of the key aspects of being a Christian.

Today we hear the word of God reminding us that we are not alone in our faith. It is not something we subscribe to and then are left abandoned in the wilderness. Christ is our shepherd and we belong to his flock which is the Church.

Yet if we are to be the sheep of his flock and enjoy greener pastures and fresh water then we have to listen to his voice. New converts to Christianity have no problem with this since they need no second invitation to discuss and savour their new-found faith. On the other hand, those of us who have been Christians for a longer time are less likely to be aware of the shepherd's voice calling us in the ordinariness of daily life. Is this because we have lost the spark?

The new Christians are being shown that the authentic voice of the shepherd is to be found in God's word and in the assembly of believers: in scripture and in the Church community. If they listen out for that voice then Jesus promises that they will never be lost.



But, of course, what applies to new Christians also applies to us too. So where do the rest of us look and listen out for the voice of the Good Shepherd today?

LADIES DAY

Ladies Day in the
Lutyens Crypt,
Saturday, 29



June, 4.00pm-9.00pm. The Cathedral Friends Ladies Day event is back by popular demand and this year it will be taking place in the magnificent surroundings of the Lutyens Crypt. Tickets include a glass of fizz on arrival, a delicious three-course meal and entertainment. Cost is £35. For information and to book tickets email c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk.

BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY

Liverpool Hope University will be hosting a talk given by Br. Peter Bray, Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University on Saturday 8th June at 2.15 p.m. in Liverpool Hope University's Senate Room, Hope Park. Bethlehem University is a Catholic University, founded after the visit of Pope St Paul VI in the 1960's, whose mission is to provide quality higher education to the people of Palestine and is a very high achieving establishment. Br. Peter has been to Liverpool in the past and his talks have always been excellent. All are welcome to attend but it may be of particular interest to those going on the Holy Land pilgrimage in October.



A SERIES OF THEOLOGICAL TALKS ON THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL - CHALLENGES FACING THE CHURCH

REV. DR FRANCISCO JAVIER RUIZ ORTIZ

LECTURER IN SCRIPTURE AT ALLEN HALL SEMINARY

TUESDAY 7TH MAY – THE SOCIAL MISSION OF THE CHURCH

MONSIGNOR JOHN ARMITAGE

RECTOR OF THE CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSHINGHAM

TUESDAY 14TH MAY – THE MISSION OF ALL THE BAPTISED

FERGAL MARTIN

GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY 1995-2019

TUESDAY 21ST MAY – GOING OUT TO THE PERIPHERIES

MARY EBBASI

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN HM PRISON PENTONVILLE

TUESDAY 28TH MAY – THE CHURCH AS LEAVEN IN OUR CULTURE

MONSIGNOR PETER FLEETWOOD

OFFICIAL AT THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE 1995-2003

The Parish Council of St Charles and St Thomas More extend this invitation to the Archdiocese as we listen and 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, L17 9PG

TOWARDS

SYNOD 2020
Archdiocese of Liverpool



**A time to pray
and to listen**

PARISH RETREAT

Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June 2019.

This is an important week for our parish when we welcome the Irenaeus Team who will lead the week of prayer, praise and reflection. The programme each day will be:

Morning Mass

3.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Hour of quiet reflection & prayer

4.30 p.m. Tea and cake with a time to discuss the daily theme

7.00 p.m. Evening session - presentation on the theme

The daily themes are:

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Monday | Are we a welcoming church? |
| Tuesday | Are we a loving church? |
| Wednesday | Are we a forgiving church? |
| Thursday | Are we a joyful church? |
| Friday | Are we an evangelising church? |

PLEASE make every effort to come along, tell others about it and invite them to take part. It will only be a success if people take the effort to be part of the week. Sr. Moira, one of the Irenaeus Team will tell us more about the week at the beginning of June.



CELEBRATE THE CHILD The annual Family Celebration Mass will take place this year at Saints Peter & Paul Catholic College, Highfield Road, Widnes, on Sunday 30th June. Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will be the Principal Celebrant. Mass will begin at 1.00 p.m. and you are encouraged to bring a picnic to enjoy in the grounds before Mass. For more information please contact: (Safeguarding Office) 522 1043.

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.

