



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 2nd August 2020



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk
www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

THE MINISTRY OF READER

One sign that we are trying to resume some normality in church is that Parish Readers are now allowed to resume their important ministry but keeping to restrictions. Readers can either bring their own missals to read from or use the single-use sheets which will be on the lectern. Readers **MUST NOT** touch the lectern, microphone, sheets or lectionary when reading. If you would like to read please have a word with Fr Mark.

LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE- SAN DIRECTORY 2021

It's time to order the Archdiocesan Directory for 2021. This is an annual publication which gives details of all the parishes, clergy, departments and activities taking place in the Liverpool Archdiocese. The ring bound directory is £4.00 and the standard directory is £3.50. Place your order at the Parish office by Monday 14th September.

MASS TIMES

Please note the revised Mass times which will hopefully allow more people to attend Mass during the week:

10.30 a.m. Monday - Friday & Sunday. (No Mass on Wednesday)

4.30 p.m. on Saturday.

All Masses at English Martyrs.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY RADIO SERVICE

A new dementia friendly internet 'ad-free' radio station has been launched recently. It's called **Music for Dementia** (m4d) and listeners can select from five different eras to listen to their favourite tunes. It's a great resource for people with dementia and their carers, but also great for anyone who enjoys music.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alice Power , Mary Jennings ,
Bet White , Joan Johnson,
Mary Cleary, Dorothy Frodsham
Rene Jackson, Eileen Hannon,
Peg Gray, Nora Wright,
Pauline McGrath, James Halpin
Kath Murray



A CAUTIOUS REOPENING OF CHURCH

In order to reopen our church it's important that the many guidelines laid down by the Bishops and the Government are kept to ensure the safety of everyone who comes to church:

1. The vulnerable should carefully consider the wisdom of returning to Mass too soon. They are not obliged to do so.
2. The Sunday obligation to attend Mass has not been re-instated.
3. Those who are able might be encouraged to come to Mass on a weekday rather than a Saturday evening or Sunday, to release the pressure on weekend Masses.
4. Each church is limited to how many people they can safely hold at any one gathering. Only one church in a parish may be used.
5. All people MUST wear a face mask. Hands must be sanitised as people arrive and leave church.
6. Social distancing guidelines are still in force.
7. Parish stewards must show people to the church benches, filling from the front and working backwards.
8. Church doors and windows should be left open.
9. Single use newsletters or other papers may be used but must be taken home.
10. Collections should be in a basket on the way in and the way out.
11. People MUST leave church immediately after they have received Holy Communion
12. Lingering clusters of conversation in the porch or outside the church must be avoided and outside the church gates.
13. Toilet facilities are not in use. Piety Shops are to remain closed.
14. The church is to be cleaned and sanitised after each Mass or Service.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS
Saturday 1st August <i>18th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	4.30pm - Robert Boyle
Sunday 2nd August <i>18th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am - People of the Parish
Monday 3rd August	10.30am - Anthony Purcell
Tuesday 4th August <i>St John Vianney</i>	10.30am - Joe Lovelady
Wednesday 5th August	NO MASS
Thursday 6th August <i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	10.30am - Tim Quigley
Friday 7th August	10.30am - Tom Deegan
Saturday 8th August <i>19th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	4.30pm - People of the Parish
Sunday 9th August <i>19th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am - Peter Kelly

WITH YOU 2021

ALWAYS

Registration forms are now available for the celebration of First Holy Communion & Reconciliation in 2021. This is open to children who return to school after the summer holiday in Year 4 or upwards. Forms have been distributed in school and any child not in one of our schools can collect a form from the Parish Office. Forms need to be returned to the Parish office by the end of August.

Please keep the children and families in your prayers.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST

The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Lord, in your mercy...

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When have I felt emotion when seeing a family member, friend or stranger in need? Do I turn to God in my need?

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

A casualty of the lockdown was that we were not allowed to celebrate First Holy Communion with the children and their families in April/May, but thankfully we now have the go-ahead for the children to receive Jesus for the first time in this special sacrament whilst keeping to the conditions and restrictions in church.

Fr Mark has written to the families inviting them to celebrate sacrament throughout the month of August & October and this means that we will have very small groups of families join us for Mass either during the week or at the weekend.

Sadly we can't celebrate in the way we usually do, but it's good that the children can at last receive Holy Communion and share the occasion with their closest family members. Thank you for your understanding.

THE TRANSFIGURATION *(August 6th)*

When they were feeling pretty low, the Transfiguration helped the apostles to increase their faith and recognise the divinity of Jesus, his union with the Father and the Spirit as well as with the prophets of the Old Testament. Maybe there is another kind of transfiguration that is needed for us so that, like the apostles when the vision was over, we may be able to “look up and see no one, but only Jesus.” The transfiguration to which we refer is the indwelling of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in our neighbour as well as in us. The kind of transfiguration will enable us to see the common things of earth, sky and sea with a new wonder and fresh joy. It will also enable us to see the presence of



Jesus within ourselves and in the people who cross our path, even if they drive us crazy! We may think that such an attitude is too difficult to acquire but it is only one of the many things that today's feast invites us to pray for. The more God is in us the more we see him in all people and things.

PARISH WEBSITE Don't forget to keep checking the parish website for the latest news and updates:
www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS

To Kobi Barton who receives Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion on Sunday.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Have you missed Lourdes this year? Leisure Time Travel offers the opportunity to be in Lourdes for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Fly from Manchester 7-11 December 2020. Full board in Lourdes. Spiritual Director is Fr Vin McShane. For more information please contact LTT on: 524 1476. Limited availability.

WELCOME BACK

Fr Mark is very happy to welcome Bernie & Nigel back to work in the presbytery on Monday after a 4 month absence. The house has been very quiet during lockdown and so it's nice, even with social distancing and many restrictions, to have more life around.

WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY

Jessica Kennedy & George Walsh

Baptised Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd August 2020

PIETY STALL

Our parish piety stall remains closed but you can still buy Mass Cards or Guild Cards from the sacristy or the presbytery.

CATHOLIC PIC

The August edition is now available from the back of church, free of charge. The main feature reports on churches slowly reopening after lockdown and the various challenges that has brought to parish communities. We only receive a small number of copies but you can also access the Pic online:
www.catholicpic.co.uk

SYNOD 2020

When we set off on our Synod journey with the words Together on the Road, we never imagined what God had in store for us. The last few months have been unexpected and they have taught us all that the road has many twists and turns on it and, as the Synod journey continues, God is calling us to listen, often in new and exciting ways.

Archbishop Malcolm has issued a video message and a revised Synod timetable has been published. Our Synod weekend will now take place on 18, 19, and 20 June 2021. You can watch the message and find full details of the changes on the Synod 2020 website: synod2020.co.uk

Please continue to pray for our Synod 2020 journey.

Our parish Synod members are Fr Mark & Gavin Williams. Sara Coxon is one of the Pastoral Area Synod members.

CATCHING A GLIMPSE

On Thursday we keep the important Feast of The Transfiguration of the Lord.

When priests preach about the Transfiguration they usually follow a well-trodden path. They talk about the need for setting aside a quite time for prayer like Jesus and the disciples. They cash in on the fact that the Transfiguration gives us glimpse into the divine nature of Jesus. They show that Jesus gave a boost to the disciples' faith after predicting his own suffering and death. And then they speak about how Peter, James and John wanted to keep the moment going and not come down from the mountain. They usually finish off by pointing out that we all have to come back down to earth, to the real world where Christians still have plenty to do.



There's nothing wrong with any of this. But what about the actual experience itself that the three disciples had? Peter, James and John had a profound sense of the presence of God in Jesus. They felt good. So good that they didn't want it to end.

When did you last have a Transfiguration experience? What are the moments in your life when you've felt particularly close to God? There are certain times when we sense that God is really close and that we are lucky to be loved by him. Some people come across it when they fall in love with the one they're about to share the rest of their life with. Others at the birth of their children. Many people seem to find God near them in the beauty of a country landscape, a mountain view or a coastal sunset.

It's easy to laugh at Peter who wanted to put up some tents where Jesus, Moses and Elijah could stay and where the three disciples could enjoy and savour the experience. But why should we? For those occasions when we gain a deeper sense of God, those defining moments, increase our faith and bring us great encouragement, not to mention joy. They're worth keeping hold of.

We can't conjure up these special moments; they're gifts from God. What a pity if we didn't enjoy them when they come our way. For they're God's way of saying to us, *"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."*