



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday 29th November 2020



ADVENT

Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk

www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

As we begin Advent, how can I give control over to God?

TIER 2 GUIDELINES

From Wednesday 2nd December we fall into Tier 2 of restrictions and this will have an effect on what we do in church:

30 people maximum at a Funeral Mass/Service.

Only 15 people allowed to attend Wedding Mass/Service.

Only 1 household allowed to attend Baptisms. (Godparents will have to be by proxy).

No congregational singing allowed even at Christmas.

All other rules and regulations regarding the wearing of face masks, hand sanitising and how Mass is celebrated remain unchanged.

DIRECTORY

2021

The 2021 Archdiocese of Liverpool Directory is now available for those who have ordered them. They can be collected from the Parish Office



LOCKDOWN This current lockdown is almost over and it won't be long before we can get back together. Church will re-open for public Mass on Thursday 3rd December at the new time of 10.00 a.m. Fr. Mark looks forward to seeing all your lovely faces!

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Alice Power, Mary Jennings , Bet White , Joan Johnson,
Mary Cleary, Dorothy Frodsham Rene Jackson, Eileen Hannon,
Nora Wright, Pauline McGrath, James Halpin,
Kath Murray, Gaetano Scappaticci, Peter Maloney, Olive & Eric Forest,



SUNDAY THOUGHTS



We want to be in control of our own lives as much as possible. We long to be the homeowner in the Gospel, organising our responsibilities for ourselves or others to handle. But there is only so much we can do. We can adopt a healthy diet and lifestyle, but that doesn't guarantee we will live to be a hundred. In the end, we are the clay and not the potter. We pray for the grace to accept how the Lord is moulding us.

'We have all withered like leaves' is an apt image at this time of the year (Isaiah 64:5). Leaves have fallen from the trees, their life drained. How appropriate we hear these words at this celebration of the Eucharist, when we will receive the bread of life, the Body and Blood of eternal life, which can transform our lifeless withered spirits into vessels of the living Christ.

Our lives are filled with schedules. We may have a different calendars for the various aspects of our lives: work, social. Family activities etc. We check the TV schedule or maybe our sports team's schedule. And parishes have Mass schedules as well.

God does not work on schedules.

Jesus has a habit of bursting into our lives when we least expect and certainly not according to a prearranged timetable. As he told his disciples, *'You never know when the time will come'* (Mark 13:33). It is important that we are prepared at all times. The end of our lives may come tonight. The end of the world may come tomorrow. Jesus' arrival into our lives in an unexpected way may come at any time.

Advent gives us the time and space to get our lives in order for the Lord's return so that we are ready to greet Him. Will we take this opportunity?



Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS
Saturday 28th November	Pious List
Sunday 29th November <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	People of the Parish
Monday 30th November <i>St Andrew the Apostle</i>	Pious List
Tuesday 1st December	Funeral Mass - Mary Robertson
Wednesday 2nd December	NO MASS
Thursday 3rd December <i>St. Francis Xavier</i>	Marie Riley
Friday 4th December <i>St. John Damascene</i>	Jim & Ann Bowling
Saturday 5th December <i>St. John Almond</i>	Baptism - Theo Moran Ben Moss
Sunday 6th December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	People of the Parish Baptism - Isabelle North

MASS TIMES

Some weeks ago Fr Mark announced a review of Mass times in light of the current situation and the publication of the 2021 Diocesan Directory. Thank you to those who expressed their views. A couple of minor tweaks to Mass times will be made:

Saturday: 4.30 p.m.

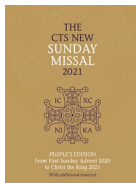
Sunday: 10.30 a.m.

Weekday: 10.00 a.m.

Changes will take effect from **Thursday 3rd December** and will become our standard Mass times.

THE SUNDAY MISSAL 2021

Copies of the 2021 CTS Missal are now ready to collect from the Parish Office for those who have ordered them and Fr Mark has ordered a few more if you would like to buy one, £7.95. The Missal begins this weekend Sunday and will end in November 2021. It contains all the Sunday and holyday readings and the order of Mass in English & Latin.



SOUTH SEFTON FOOD BANK

We are fast approaching a time in the year when families need our help more than any other time. The food bank provides a great service for those families who are struggling. If you can help please leave any donations at the back of either church and we will ensure that they are given to those who need help.



REST IN PEACE We celebrate the Funeral Mass for the late Mary Robertson on Tuesday 1st December. May she rest in peace.

*Requiescat
in pace.*

CAFOD FUN RUN 2020

The Coronavirus Pandemic may have stopped many things this year, but it won't stop our annual CAFOD Fun Run! That's right folks, you heard it here first. This year's CAFOD Fun Run will go ahead on Sunday 27th December 2020, but with a twist...! After the success of the Great North Run, the London Marathon, and CAFOD in Lancaster's Summer of Hope 5k, this year's CAFOD Fun Run will be a virtual event! See the back page for further details.

CAROLS ON THE DOORSTEP We can't sing Christmas Carols in church this year but we can sing them on our doorstep!



Sunday, 20 December at 5.30pm join a national carol sing on your doorstep with your neighbours, it's so easy to join in. Download and print the Carol Sheet and invitation from www.premierchristianradio.com or www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org Pop them through your neighbours' doors inviting them to join you.

5.30pm on 20 December tune your radio to Premier Radio or Freeview 725 or download the Premier Radio app on your phone, then sign along to the carols played

Why not wear your festive jumpers too and even bring out something to shake or rattle?

SYNOD2020



You can find the four Synod2020 leaflets on the parish website or the Synod2020 website which gives further information: www.synod2020.co.uk

These leaflets highlight the many proposals submitted for consideration and if you like any of them please let us know by the beginning of December. You will find the Synod box in the church porch.

Please continue to pray for the success of the Synod which takes place in June 2021.

SAFE SPACES

Safe Spaces is a new, free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

From Tuesday 29 September 2020, a telephone helpline and live chat facility is available from Monday – Saturday from 10am – 6pm, apart from Thursdays when the service is open 12 – 8pm. **Telephone** 0300 303 1056 (answerphone available outside of opening times)

Email

safespaes@victimsupport.org.uk

CHRISTMAS 2020

The way in which we will celebrate Christmas this year will be very different and the Archbishop has asked all parishes to follow the same set of guidelines.

Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day will be ticket-only and this is to ensure that we keep to the maximum number of people allowed in church during the pandemic. Two types of ticket will be available: a single ticket which admits one person or a family ticket which admits upto four people living in the same household.

Tickets will be available from the church door or Parish Office from Saturday 5th December. Regular Mass-goers will have the first opportunity to obtain tickets before they are widely distributed. Entrance to the Masses on these two days will be ticket only. Tickets cannot be reserved to be collected at a later date but they must be collected as you request them.

Times of Christmas Masses are:

Christmas Eve:	5.00 p.m.	The Vigil of Christmas
	9.00 p.m.	The First Mass of Christmas
Christmas Day:	10.30 a.m.	

Fr Mark will arrange another Christmas morning Mass if all tickets are distributed and there is need for more Masses. All Masses at English Martyrs.

This arrangement for ticket only Masses applies to all parishes within the Archdiocese.

The Archbishop has also decided that there will be NO Saturday evening Masses on 26th December within the Archdiocese to allow the priests and parish stewards some rest time. There will be midday Mass on 26th December.

The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holydays is still not reinstated. The week between Christmas Day - New Years Day is the Christmas octave which means that you can come to Mass anytime that week to celebrate the birth of the Lord and to visit the Christmas Crib.

Sadly because of national restrictions, Masses over the Christmas period will be different as we are still not allowed to sing and the Archbishop has reminded the priests that Masses must still be short. We will have the parish Christmas Crib but this must also be different this year.

NEWS FROM JOSPICE

St. Joseph's Hospice is planning its usual Christmas events this year and hopes that you can join in from your homes.

Both the Christmas ladies Day and Light up a Life service will take place between now and December 4th.

On 29th November, when Christmas Ladies Day would have taken place, the hospice will stage activities on its Facebook page including a raffle, the prize draw and an online Christmas market.

The annual Light up a Life appeal will take place on 4th December with a service when the hospice's Christmas tree lights will be switched on. You can contact the hospice and dedicate a light to a loved one who has died.

For more information on these two events please contact the hospice; 0151 932 6044 or fundraising@jospice.org.uk



DEMENTIA FRIENDS



Should a person with dementia wear a face mask for coronavirus?

Due to coronavirus, many of us now wear face masks or coverings while out shopping or on public transport. Some people with dementia may not like wearing a face covering or understand why they should wear one.

Read advice on how to help those you care for. <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk>

CATHOLIC PIC

The November issue still available online: www.catholicpic.co.uk

POPE FRANCIS

PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER



For a life of prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer

FEAST OF THE WEEK St John Almond - A Scouse Saint!



John Almond was born in Allerton near of Catholic parents about 1565 and went to school in Woolton. After studying at Reims he went to the English College in Rome, where in due course he was ordained priest. In 1602 he returned to England as a secular priest and ministered to Catholics there. He was arrested briefly in 1608, and then again in 1612. In November of that year, seven priests had escaped from prison, and this may have sharpened the zeal of those who interrogated him. He displayed to the last great skill in argument; the account of his death describes him as *“a reprover of sin, a good example to follow, of an ingenious and acute understanding, sharp and apprehensive in his conceits and answers, yet complete with modesty, full of courage and ready to suffer for Christ, that suffered for him.”* He refused to sign the Oath of Allegiance in the form in which it was offered him, but offered to swear that he bore in his heart *“so much allegiance to King James as he, or any Christian king, could expect by the law of nature, or the positive law of the true Church, be it which it will, ours or yours.”* He was committed to Newgate and within a few months was brought to trial as a seminary priest. Having been duly convicted he was hanged, drawn, and quartered on 5 December 1612 at Tyburn, London.

GRIEF AWARENESS WEEK

**Wednesday, 2nd - Tuesday,
8th December**

An opportunity for us to show our love and support to those who mourn and have been grieving during this very difficult time.

For help and advice:
www.nationalgriefawarenessweek.org



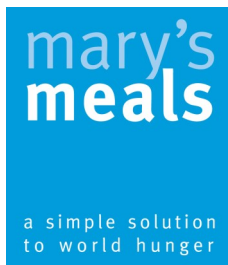
NUGENT CARE The Epsom Street Community Centre Service in Kirkdale, would gratefully receive any festive food hampers and items of mince pies, chocolates, Christmas puddings, Christmas cakes, crisps, biscuits, selection boxes etc so they can arrange Christmas hampers to be distributed.

Donations need to be delivered direct to the centre, either on a Monday (during office hours) or a Tuesday afternoon, which can be arranged with Nugent.

The deadline Monday 14 December

A MESSAGE FROM MARY'S MEALS

So much can be asked of us at this time of year. It may be hard to always say yes. Mary said yes to being the Mother of Jesus and as a young, unmarried girl this must have been a terrifying moment for her. Yet her 'yes' brought Jesus into the world and changed lives forever. Throughout this year of many challenges, thanks to our generous supporters, Mary's Meals has continued to say yes to feeding desperately hungry children with a daily meal in a place of education.



Now we are delighted to share with you a new opportunity to say yes and provide 43,000 hungry children in Bong County, Liberia, with a life-changing meal at school. From 2 November until 31 January 2021, donations made to our 'Double The Love Campaign' will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Please consider setting a place at our **Big Family Christmas dinner table** or buying a Christmas gift card on our website.

More information on how to support us can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove.

Thank you



THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS

The Irenaeus Team have arranged online Advent Reflections on the Prophet Isaiah taking place on zoom on the 3rd & 10th December, 10.30 a.m. - 12noon (zoom link will open at 10:00) To book your place you are asked to email Jenny: jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

ST MARY'S COLLEGE



Entrance exam
Friday, 29th
January
2021. Register now for
September 2021 admissions at
www.stmarys.ac or ring 924
3926.

SYNOD 2020 DIOCESAN PRAYER



Father, we thank you

for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.

We thank you for the gift of the Church, through which you show

us that you are always with us

and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2020 help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be.

May your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among us.

Strengthen each of us and guide Francis, our Pope

and Malcolm, our Archbishop.

Help us to respond to the challenges of our times in new ways

to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

The Archbishop has asked that the following prayer be widely circulated and prayed at this time of crisis:

A PRAYER IN TIME OF DANGER AND ILLNESS.

God Our Father,

each person is precious to You.

You are the Giver of life.

Have mercy on us and protect us

at this time, as the Coronavirus

threatens health and life.

You are an ever-present Helper

in time of trouble.

Watch over those who are

suffering, give strength to those

who are aiding the Sick and give courage

to all in this time of anxiety.

We ask this of you in the name of your Son

Jesus Christ. AMEN



THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS

**ADVENT
REFLECTIONS
ON THE PROPHET ISAIAH
ON ZOOM**



**THURSDAYS 3RD & 10TH
DECEMBER**

**FROM
10.30 - 12 NOON
THE LINK WILL OPEN AT 10.0 AM**

No charge but any donation gratefully received.

***To book your place
email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk***