



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

25th April 2021



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaolp.co.uk

www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How is the Lord calling me to guide, nurture, and care for others?

CHURCH RE-OPENING

Please note that all restrictions are still in place.

Face masks to be worn properly over the mouth and nose at all times.

You need to give your details for track & trace purposes or use the NHS COVID app on your phone.

Please sit where you are asked to by the Parish Stewards.

Procedures for the reception of Holy Communion are still in place.



Fr Mark has taken the decision not to reinstate the Saturday evening Mass for the time being as the number of people coming to that Mass was low. The Saturday Mass will begin again as soon as we get back to normality.

If you are vulnerable or show COVID symptoms you must stay at home.

Baptisms can resume after 17th May with only the parents and child present.

Taking Holy Communion to the Sick & Housebound cannot resume until the end of June. Any person in danger of death can receive the Sacrament of the Sick and arrangements can be made by contacting the presbytery.

Can we please also ask that, after having your hands sanitised, you immediately enter Church and take your seat as instructed by the stewards. Please do not linger in the porch. The lockdown is easing but we do still need to be careful and observe social distancing when entering and leaving Church

Thank You!

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

We celebrate three funerals next week. Thursday for Anthony Hitchin & for Baby Esme Smith. Friday for Baby Gabriel Davenport.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.



Archbishop Malcolm invites us to pray together with him through these times:



**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

* **CALLING ALL FLORISTS!!** *
* You will have noticed that we now have *
* our beautiful flowers back on the altar. It *
* is wonderful to see the displays back in *
* place. This is thanks to a very small group *
* of parishioners who give up their time to *
* make our Church look lovely. *
* It would be helpful if we could have a few *
* more people to 'share the load' as things *
* get busier. If you have 'green fingers' and *
* would like to help with this lovely job *
* please pop in to the Parish *
* Office and speak to Bernie. *
* All offers of help gratefully *
* accepted!! *



POPE FRANCIS

PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

The world of finance

Let us
pray that
those in
charge of
finance



will work with
governments to
regulate the
financial sphere and
protect citizens
from its dangers

Lord in your mercy...

SYNOD2020

As we approach our Archdiocesan Synod, taking place online on 19th June, Synod Members are currently discerning how they will vote on the recommendations that have emerged. If you haven't seen them yet, there are three places you can find them:



1. Printed in the April edition of the Catholic Pic
2. On our Synod website:
www.synod2020recommendations.org.uk
3. The recommendations will be published from next weekend within our parish newsletter
4. Printed in our Synod book 'Together on the Road' which also includes resources for discernment and the theological reflections. Available for £3 from Pauline Books & Media, and the Synod Office www.synod2020@rcaol.co.uk

Please continue to keep the Synod in your prayers in the coming months.

Armchair retreats with Denis Blackledge SJ, Jesuit Parish Priest of Saint Francis Xavier's Church in Liverpool

Each week Fr Denis chooses a couple of scripture passages to break open the living word in a homely way to give fresh encouragement and deepen the daily living of folk as friends and followers of Jesus. Follow the link to join in:

<https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/armchair-retreats>

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 24th April	No Mass
Sunday 25th April <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30am People of the Parish
Monday 26th April	10.00am John Allerton
Tuesday 27th April	10.00am Dorothy Whiston
Wednesday 28th April	No Mass
Thursday 29th April <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>	10.15am Funeral Mass - Anthony Hitchen
Friday 30th April	10.00am Gerry Campbell 11.15am Funeral Service Baby Gabriel Davenport
Saturday 1st May	No Mass
Sunday 2nd May <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30am People of the Parish

FEAST OF THE WEEK

ST MARK (April 25th)

I bet there's one thing you never knew about St Mark! Yes, he was a follower of Jesus. Yes, he wrote a gospel. Yes, he went around everywhere with Peter after Jesus' death. But did you know that his mother was the 'landlady' of the Cenacle?



What is the Cenacle?

The Cenacle is possibly the Upper Room where Jesus had his Last Supper with his friends the night before he died. The Cenacle is possibly the place where the disciples gathered after the death of Jesus and where He appeared to his disciples. The Cenacle is possibly the place where the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on Pentecost Day. The Cenacle is also possibly the first meeting place for Christians in Jerusalem. The Cenacle is an important place for Christianity and it is connected with St Mark whose feast day is celebrated today, Sunday and his family.

‘THANK YOU’

Our local CAFOD rep has asked that we share this with you to highlight how your donations make a difference:



Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.

The 2020 appeal was the ‘Walk for Water’ and it proved incredibly popular. Bernie’s final total raised was £760. Thank you to all who donated.

RED BOXES

Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to the Mill Hill Missionaries by having a red box at home. Last year our Parish raised an amazing £1514.00! If you do not have a box and would like one please ask at the Parish office or see Mary Maloney.



MASS ON THE PHONE

For those who have no access to the internet, you can still listen to the Mass in full on your phone. The Mass is provided free of charge, except for the local phone charge. It comes from Middlesbrough Cathedral every Sunday.

Phone: 01642 130 120 and you are connected to the Mass for



that week. You can listen at any time of day or night.

PRIESTS TRAINING FUND

The annual collection for the Priests Training Fund takes place this weekend. This collection is very important as it supports the Liverpool students in our Seminaries with their priestly formation. Please give generously.

WEEKDAY MASS

There will be no public Mass on Thursday because of a funeral Mass taking place that day.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Gift Aid envelopes for the new Tax Year are now available for collection at the back of Church.

giftaid it
Making donations go further

If you do not already gift aid your weekly offering could we please ask you to consider signing a gift aid form. This enables the Parish to receive an extra 25% on top of your contribution. Forms are available from the Parish Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

We are often asked to place the names of those who are sick and in need of our prayers in the Parish Newsletter. We are happy to do this but we must comply with data protection. Names can only be included if that person or their next of kin gives us written permission to do so. Names will then be published for two weeks only unless stipulated, this is to avoid names remaining on the list indefinitely. Forms to help with this are available from the back of church, sacristy or the parish office.



Nugent Appeal - closing the digital divide

6,373 children and young people in Liverpool do not have access to a digital device at home. If you can help, there are a number of ways you can get involved by donating digital packages particularly sim cards, portable hotspots and dongles, new devices such as laptops, used devices which will be wiped and repurposed for our young people, used smart phones which will be wiped and sold to raise funds for their charitable endeavours or simply make a financial donation to enable the purchase of digital kits. Contact Fay Purves at Nugent for more info on 07776 515 762 or email fay.purves@wearenugent.org.

SOUTH SEFTON FOOD BANK

Thank you to those who regularly donate food for us to take to the local Foodbank and to help those who need our help within the local community. Your help is greatly needed at this time and we ask you to be generous and leave some food at the back of church or at the presbytery. A huge thank you to Chris & Mary for co-ordinating this important act of service.



SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Today's first reading takes place one day after Peter healed a man in the temple area who had been paralyzed from birth. He has been called before the Sanhedrin, who were upset that he was preaching that Jesus was raised from the dead. It wasn't that long before that Peter had denied having anything to do with Jesus. But this time Peter does not back down. Not only does he passionately testify that the man was healed in Jesus' name, he accuses them of crucifying the Messiah, the Christ. What gave Peter the boldness he so sorely lacked on Good Friday? Perhaps the first line gives us a clue. He was filled with the Holy Spirit, that source of fortitude, who strengthened him then and us now in proclaiming our faith, even when it is not easy to do so.

Today's readings refer to us as children and as a flock of sheep, suggesting to some that we are subservient or infantile. But this is not the intent. John calls us children of God, and God loves and nurtures us as parents love and nurture their children. Jesus calls us a flock of sheep in the sense of being guided and cared for by the one who watches over us. We are still free to stray, but we know that ultimately the Good Shepherd laid down his life for us.

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray that men and women listen for the Lord's call and respond generously and courageously. Jesus gives us the model of service in his identification as the Good Shepherd, leading, guiding, and protecting his flock. Let us pray for many good shepherds who will care for the flock of the one true Shepherd.



Employment Opportunities within Archdiocese of Liverpool

Follow the link for information packs and application forms for both posts
<http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs>

Communications Manager

Are you seeking a challenge? Can you play a pivotal role in supporting the Archdiocese in the furtherance of its mission and service, driving forward a step change in our approach to communications, using modern communication channels and platforms to reach out and engage with the wider world in fresh and creative ways? If so, then we would welcome an application from you for the post of Communications Manager. The Communications Manager, under the direction of the Trustees, and the Chief Operating Officer, will lead the strategic development, direction and day-to-day delivery of the Archdiocese communications, digital presence, and information management function. This is a new role, and the post holder will act as the principal communications adviser to senior clergy, parishes, and Archdiocesan officers, overseeing media and public relations, internal communications, IT, and information management along with brand and crisis management. • The role is full time, 35 hours per week (Monday – Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm), with the ability to work flexibly as per the needs of the business. • We are offering a salary of £45,000 plus an attractive pension package with 38 days holiday plus a range of other benefits. • A full information pack regarding this role and details of how to apply are available on our website at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs. Communications Manager Closing date: 5pm Monday 10 May 2021 Interviews to be held Tuesday 1 June 2021

Director of Pastoral Development

The Pastoral Development Department is a significant and exciting development in the life of the Church in Liverpool, and we are looking for someone who can lead a new and agile department that responds to the existing and evolving needs of the Church and works alongside the Church to enable it to plan for its own sustainable future. Supporting the Synod process and areas such as Mission Development, Catechesis, Development, Procurement and Training, Ordained Ministry Development, Laity Development, Catholic Social Action and Stewardship this role is pivotal in supporting our Churches to maintain a faithful, healthy, and active presence in every part of the Archdiocese, now and in the future. If you are interested in joining us in carrying the messages of the Synod beyond the traditional walls of the Church into the communities we serve, we would love to hear from you. • The role is full time, 35 hours per week (Monday – Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm), with the ability to work flexibly as per the needs of the business. • We are offering a salary of £45,000 plus an attractive pension package with 38 days holiday plus a range of other benefits. • A full information pack regarding this role and details of how to apply are available on our website at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs. Director of Pastoral Development Closing date: 5pm Monday 10 May 2021 Interviews to be held Wednesday 26 May 2021

A message from Friends of the Holy Land

Christians in the Holy Land are smiling because of your support every day, and we are resolved to keep up the good work. This time is normally incredibly busy, but for the second year in a row, there are no visitors - meaning no income for the majority of local families. The Covid crisis is still in full swing; there is still no government unemployment support and the lack of a coherent vaccination programme for Palestinians means the health, welfare and unemployment situation is likely to remain the same deep into 2021. The smiles you bring Your support, though - by God's grace - is doing a lot of good. In 2020 we increased our grant-giving by more than 50% (compared to 2019), and stories continue to flow in to our office of sustained families and thankful recipients.



GET READY FOR THE PENTECOST CHALLENGE!

Our new virtual fundraising challenge will combine real exercise with a virtual journey across the Holy Land.

This year, we're challenging our supporters to walk, cycle, run or swim the distance from Bethlehem to Nazareth - the usual pilgrimage route - over several weeks. As you do a bit of exercise around your neighbourhood each day, you can plot the miles you've done on our virtual Holy Land map, see where you've got to, have a look around on Google streetview - and we'll send you some unique inside stories from Christian communities we support along the way!

You will be able to take part as a team and combine your miles together - so we would love you to form a team from your group or parish. The great thing is, you don't have to meet up in person to do this - you can exercise separately (or in twos!) and still make it a team effort. As well as a vital fundraiser, it's a great opportunity to get your group active again as we ease out of lockdown. Full details to follow soon!

