



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 18th July 2021



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCMS FRSA

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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What is it that moves me to feel a real form of compassion toward others? What, then, do I do?

## RESTRICTIONS

Please note that all restrictions are still in place until Monday 19th July. Fr Mark will explain more at Mass this weekend.

## RETIRING COLLECTION

The annual retiring collection which supports the retired priests of the Archdiocese will be taken after Mass this Sunday. Please give generously.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

After one of the strangest and most challenging of school years we wish all children and staff in both our schools a happy and healthy summer break. Let's hope that September brings better times



## POPE FRANCIS

### PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY

#### Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.



*Lord in your mercy...*

## Update from CAFOD

Thanks to your support, CAFOD has been helping communities around the world cope with the pandemic. Just in Zambia, in the past year, our reports show we've been able to reach 1,234,200 people with messages on COVID- 19, provide 13,312 people with access to safe water, train 392 frontline health workers from Zambia's 11 dioceses on how to prepare and respond to COVID-19 in their local communities and donate over 1000 handwashing hygiene stations in communities to support handwashing measures. Thank you for standing alongside people in Zambia and for supporting people in more than 30 other countries worldwide.

We are very grateful to all who keep CAFOD and our partners overseas in their prayers.

## NEW AUXILIARY BISHOP

The Archbishop of Liverpool announced on Tuesday 6 July 2021 that His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed Canon Thomas Neylon of the Archdiocese of Liverpool to be Bishop of Plestia and Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool.



The Archbishop has confirmed that he will ordain Canon Neylon as Bishop on Friday 3 September at 12noon in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King.

There will be unreserved seats in the Cathedral for people who wish to attend, and whilst tickets are not being issued, we need to know if you are intending to celebrate this special occasion and will be attending the Mass by emailing [c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

We would ask that you are in your seats by 11.30am.

Please note that parking will be restricted at the Cathedral.

We look forward to this great occasion in the history of our Archdiocese.

## FEAST OF THE WEEK

### ARSENAL COACH? (July 19th)

Arsene isn't a very common name. I bet you don't know three people who have it. St Arsene (Arsenius) was a deacon who lived in the fourth and fifth centuries. He was a coach to the sons of Emperor Theodosius the Great, tutoring them in their studies. He lived with the monks of Alexandria in Egypt and after the emperor died he went out into the desert of Scetis to live there and became a student himself under St John the Short. Arsene was noted for his great austerity and self-denial. He died about 450AD at Troe.



## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE

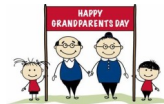
We started this Bible course in 2020 but was interrupted with the first lockdown. Fr Mark is hoping we can restart it from Thursday 16th September, 7 p.m. in the presbytery. Please give your name to the Parish office if you would like to join this exciting course.

Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long passages that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Biblical names and places. This eight-part Bible study helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it’s all about. The evening will consist of a 30 min video presentation followed by a time of reflection. Come and join us.



## WORLD GRANDPARENTS DAY

Pope Francis has released a message for the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly that will be celebrated on 25 July. “The whole Church is close to you – to us – and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone. Even at the darkest moments, the Lord continues to send angels to console our loneliness and to remind us that He is with us always”.



## IRENÆUS PROJECT

The Irenaeus project have extended their outreach programme to the wider community and are looking for volunteers to assist them to cover various aspects of the project. If you have any extra time available and would like to volunteer, please contact us on 0151 949 1199 or email: [therese@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:therese@irenaeus.co.uk)

A series of reflections by Fr Chris Thomas on St. John’s Gospel will take place on zoom on 19th July, 7 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. To book your place please contact Jenny on: [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<b>Saturday 17th July</b>	No Mass Baptism - Olivia Redfern
<b>Sunday 18th July</b> <i>Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am People of the Parish Baptism - Sonny & Eliza Swift
<b>Monday 19th July</b>	10.00am Jean Maloney
<b>Tuesday 20th July</b>	12.15pm - Funeral Mass - Arthur Preston
<b>Wednesday 21st July</b>	No Mass
<b>Thursday 22nd July</b> <i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	10.00am Pat Carroll
<b>Friday 23rd July</b> <i>St Bridget</i>	10.00am Sheila Williams 12.30pm - Funeral service - Ronnie Woolvine
<b>Saturday 24th July</b>	No Mass Baptism - Gracie McKeown
<b>Sunday 25th July</b> <i>Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am People of the Parish Baptism - George Byrne

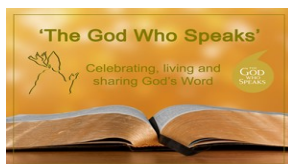
## MASS TIMES

Please note that Mass on Tuesday is at 12.15pm and is a funeral Mass for Arthur Preston.  
May he rest in peace and rise in glory.



## The Society of Saint Gregory's Summer School of liturgy and music

will take place this year from 4-6 August, via Zoom. This year's theme is 'The God Who Speaks: Celebrating, living and sharing God's Word' and we have invited speakers and leaders - Sr Margaret Atkins, Fleur Dorrell, Bob Hurd, Nicholas King SJ, David McLoughlin, Dan Schutte and Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ - who will explore all the different ways that God speaks to us. Bishop Peter Brignall, the initiator of 'The God Who Speaks', will introduce our two days of prayer, contemplation, discussion and debate - and there will be liturgies with music. Further details and online booking are available at <https://www.ssg.org.uk/summer-school-2021/> or by emailing [bookings@ssg.org.uk](mailto:bookings@ssg.org.uk)



## FIRST WALKING GROUP!!

The first walk for our newly formed walking group will be on Wednesday 21st July!

Those people who are interested please meet outside Church at 9.30am.

We just thought that the first one will be a gentle stroll along the canal walk with (hopefully!) a cuppa at the end.

All are welcome to join us for a walking chat!!



## THANK YOU

I've had the most amazing week as you helped me celebrate 25 years of priestly ministry. Thank you for the gifts, cards and good wishes I've been receiving all week. Tuesday's celebrations were fantastic and it was lovely to spend time together in church and in the garden; great company, with good food and drink. I'm eternally grateful to all those who made it special and spent many stressful days and hours making sure it all went well. Tuesday made me proud to be part of our parish and I will always look back on this week with very fond memories. Thank you!

Fr Mark



## PHIL THOMPSON GOLF CLASSIC

We are delighted to invite you to the 15th Annual Phil Thompson Golf Classic on Thursday 16 September. The event will be held at Houghwood Golf Club and will provide attendees with a 'par'-fect opportunity for you to come together with pals and colleagues to enjoy a great game of golf with panoramic views over the Lancashire plain and the Welsh hills. Tickets are priced at £450 (for teams of 4). This includes a hearty breakfast, a 'tee'-riffic day of golf, snacks and refreshments plus a good evening meal with anecdotes shared by Phil and a brilliant guest speaker. All net proceeds from this event will be used to help secure Nugent's future and the vital services we provide across Merseyside. For more information, or to book your place today, please contact: Ainsley Briscoe, Fundraiser - Corporate Partnerships and Major Gifts at Nugent: [ainsley.briscoe@wearenugent.org](mailto:ainsley.briscoe@wearenugent.org) or telephone 07833091852



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!**

1. A parish Christmas day out to York on Saturday 4th December.



2. A pilgrimage to Walsingham from Monday 11th - Thursday 14th July 2022. Staying in Elmham House - the Shrine's Pilgrim Hotel. Twin & triple rooms with only a few single rooms are available. The trip will include a full day pilgrimage in Walsingham and a day out to Sandringham. Price is not yet available. Please give your name to the parish office if interested.

## **THE CENACLE SISTERS**

The Cenacle Sisters who are based in Wavertree are looking to employ bank staff for help with work at the reception and in the Prayer Office. The working hours will be flexible on weekdays between 9.00am and 4.00pm. The work entails answering the telephone, being available to assist callers at the office and dealing with the daily mail. The person would be part of our existing team. For further details and an application form please contact the Manager on 0151 722 2271.

## **SAFEGUARDING DBS CHECKS**



The certificates for those people who had a DBS check in 2017 are all now overdue for renewal.

The system is slightly different now - you need to fill in forms then return those to the Parish Office with your 3 forms of identification. The forms will then be submitted online from the Parish Office.

Can anyone who had a DBS certificate approved in 2017 please call to the Office to collect the forms for completion - this will apply to Eucharistic Ministers, Catechists and Sacristans.

Please contact the office if you have any queries



## SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Jeremiah usually gets called the ‘Prophet of Doom’. It’s rather an unfair title since all he was doing was pointing out that if people continued to ignore what God expected of them then they would suffer dire consequences. And suffer they did; they were exiled to Iraq and lived for years in misery not far from Baghdad.



It would be easy to read what Jeremiah has to say about negligent shepherds and simply apply it today to those in positions of leadership. The political leaders were involved in shady deals and the religious leaders gave the people a religion that they wanted to hear. Maybe we can make a stick out of this to beat modern-day politicians and clergy. But that would be to miss the point.

What Jeremiah actually prophesies is hope not doom. For he tells the people that although they may suffer bad leadership, although they are heading for a fall, they are still God’s people and they will never be abandoned. God will raise up a shepherd who will be called ‘The Lord-our-Integrity’ or ‘The Justice of Yahweh’. And this shepherd will gather those who have remained faithful to the Lord and lead them back to where the pasture is good. It’s a promise not a threat.

In today’s society someone’s always got to take the blame. We blame politicians for the state of our living conditions and we blame clergy when things in the Church don’t go as we think they should. Maybe we ought sometimes to acknowledge our own part in the mess that we are quick to criticise. How active are we in local politics, or do we simply enjoy moaning about what others are trying to do? How involved are we in the Monday to Saturday concerns of our parish, or do we simply turn up on Sundays and expect everything to be fine? Are we using our ‘shepherds’ as ‘scapegoats’, and then complaining that we’re being fleeced?



Jeremiah’s message was one of hope. God is greater than any failure we can concoct. God will never abandon us completely. But the fact that we have shepherds does not mean that we should behave like sheep.

## **SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR**

Could you be a Foundation Governor for one of our schools?

Service as a foundation governor in a Catholic school is one of the most significant and important ways members of the Catholic Faith community can support the Church's divine mission of helping all to arrive at the fullness of Christian life.

There are few specific requirements. However, a Foundation Governor must:

- Be a Catholic who attends Sunday Mass regularly and gives true witness to the teachings of the Church
- Be prepared to work with discretion as a member of the full governing body and attend training events to help build up a body of knowledge and expertise
- Bring a wider skill set to enhance the wider Governing Body in undertaking its collective duties to lead the school and meet the contemporary requirements of the Department for Education and Ofsted

Our two parish schools currently requires new Foundation Governors and there may be opportunities in other Catholic schools in the area. Please contact Fr Mark directly if you feel able to support our wonderful schools in this way.

## **STANDING ORDER**

Fr Mark explained the difficulty in banking coins with HSBC from the beginning of August when the counter service at the Bootle branch comes to an end. On average we bank more coins than notes each week.

Standing Order is an easy way of making your weekly donation to the parish. Just one simple form is all it takes and we encourage you to consider this as it has many benefits:

\*You won't need to look for money each week. You can still use your weekly envelopes and place an empty one in the basket. The amount you specify on the form goes from your bank account into the parish account.

\*Reducing the amount of money left on the premises is better for safety.

\*We reduce the amount of coins banked each week.

Please do consider setting up a Standing Order and we will happily help in completing the one form. Contact the Parish Office.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

It's great to welcome back our happy band of Church Cleaners who would love more volunteers to help them keep English Martyrs looking spotless. Give your name to the Parish Office.



We also desperately need more people willing to wash the church linen as we only have 1 person doing this. Have a word with Cathy Smartt or give your name to the Parish Office.

**SAFEGUARDING** Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Catholic Church of England and Wales, the Church of England or the Church in Wales.

Opening Times:

Monday: Tuesday; Wednesday 10am – 6pm

Thursday: 12pm – 8pm

Friday: Saturday 10am – 6pm

Sunday: Closed

Website: [www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/](http://www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/)

How can we help? - Remote support is provided nationally through our helpline and Live Chat for as long as our clients feel they need it and it is deemed to be helpful. We can help with advocating with authorities and other agencies, giving you emotional support, providing information (including information on church and police procedures), understanding your needs and working together on individual support plans. Our Services are for people aged 18 or over, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the perpetrator is living or deceased. You do not have to have reported the incident to the Church authorities or the Police in order to access support. Our service is for people who have experienced any kind of abuse – this includes (but is not limited to) sexual violence, inappropriate sexual behaviour, physical abuse, financial abuse or exploitation, psychological abuse (including spiritual abuse), domestic abuse, coercive and controlling behaviour.

