



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 25th July 2021



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What can I do to alleviate hunger in our community, our city, our country, the world? What can I allocate from my plenty to relieve the hunger of someone else?

ADVICE TO PARISHES

Due to the fact that the pandemic is far from over it is not the intention to restore an obligation to the attendance at Sunday Mass at this point. Please remember the importance of keeping Sunday holy and if possible attending Mass weekly.

1. Face coverings must still be worn for all those coming to church. (Exemptions for genuine medical reasons excluded)
2. Social distancing will not be mandatory in our churches but please be mindful of other people who may want to keep a distance.
3. You must sanitise your hands before you enter a church. There will be no need to sanitise your hands as you leave.
4. The numbers for weddings, funerals and baptisms are limited to a safe capacity of each church building.
5. Holy Communion is now restored to its traditional place. People should approach Holy Communion row by row and not in a haphazard way.
6. Holy Communion is to be given on the hand. Holy Communion under both kinds will not be re-introduced at this time.
7. Mass will end in the traditional way.
8. Singing can gradually be restored and hymn books are allowed but can only be used once a day.
9. The collection bags should still not be passed around.
10. The sign of peace can be restored but without any touching, ie by a handshake.
11. Ministers of the Eucharist can take Holy Communion to the sick & housebound but with the appropriate caution.

Further details may emerge in the coming weeks and we will keep you informed.

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

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

Please note that parking will be restricted at the Cathedral.

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...

ARCHDIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES

An opportunity is available for an experienced cleaner to be based at Philip Neri House, the University Chaplaincy, 30 Catharine Street, Liverpool L8 7NL. The successful candidate will be required to work closely with the parish priest, Fr Neil Ritchie.

This is a permanent post working 4 hours per week, Monday and Thursday 10.00am-12.00pm. The salary is £1,903.20 per annum (equivalent to £9.15 per hour), 5 weeks holiday plus bank holidays (pro- rata) and pension scheme are available.

The successful candidate will be required to provide an efficient and comprehensive cleaning service ensuring the chaplaincy areas are clean at all times.

Closing date for applications is Friday 30th July. To apply, please visit www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs or call 522 1102 for an application pack.

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

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

Fr Mark announced at Mass last weekend that we will resume the Saturday evening Mass after the Summer holidays. The first Mass will be on Saturday 18th September at 4.30 p.m.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 24th July	No Mass Baptism - Gracie McKeown
Sunday 25th July <i>Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am People of the Parish Baptism - George Byrne
Monday 26th July	10.00am John Ashcroft
Tuesday 27th July	10.00am Gabriel Davenport
Wednesday 28th July	No Mass
Thursday 29th July	10.00am Molly Murphy
Friday 30th July	10.00am John & Barbara Percival
Saturday 31st July	No Mass Baptism - Archie Horrocks
Sunday 1st August <i>Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am Michael McDermott Baptism - Jacob Reece

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

SYNOD 2020 UPDATE

After all the Synod votes were counted and considered the next step was a meeting with the Archbishop, his council and the Pastoral Plan Group. This took place at the Pastoral Centre of the Leeds Diocese for 5 days from July 12th.

During this week the votes on the 19 Recommendations took centre stage. These votes, the Synod Themes and the 27,000 contributions of the listening stage were allowed to direct and speak to the development of ideas for the pastoral plan. Alongside this the prayer and liturgy of each day inspired our thoughts and plans. At the centre of this was Christ himself whose light was shed on our Synod and on the realities of the world in which we are called to minister and live.

It was a hard week but one full of life and energy. By the Thursday a way forward was beginning to emerge. It is challenging but also life giving and most of all faithful to Christ experienced through the discernment that has been our pattern of working throughout the whole synod journey.

The ideas, and there were many of them, have surfaced. The next stage is for a writing group to gather (for a week) and to try to present what has emerged in a way that we can put it into place and make a difference. The Archbishop and his council will review the Plan; the Pastoral Plan Group will meet again for 3 days in September and then we will work out how to rollout the Plan towards it being shared at the end of November.

We will keep updating you as steps emerge.



FIRST WALKING GROUP!!

Thank you to those who joined us for our first walk. It proved to be very hot but a lovely enjoyable couple of hours. Sadly our 'tea stop'



at the end was closed! We will make sure that next time we are better planned!!

Watch this space for the next meeting!

FEAST OF THE WEEK

WELSH STRONGMAN?

Mention the name Samson and most of us think of the hero who fell in love with Delilah, had his head shaved and was strong enough single-handedly to make a building collapse.



But July sees the feast of another Samson, who might not have had the physical stamina of his Old Testament namesake but lacked nothing in spiritual muscle.

St Samson was a sixth century Welshman, born in Glamorgan, and became a follower of St Illtyd who at the time was in the monastery of Llantwit. Samson later became a monk at the monastery on Caldey Island where he was joined by his father, Amon, and his uncle Umbrifel. He journeyed with them preaching the gospel in Ireland and in Cornwall where he was ordained bishop and created abbot.



The Welsh language and culture has much in common with that of Brittany, France, and it was not unusual for there to be a good deal of contact between Wales and northern France. So it is not surprising to hear that St Samson decided to leave Britain and live in France as a missionary. He founded monasteries there, including two important centres at Dol, in Brittany and at Pental in Normandy. His feast is celebrated on July 28th.

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.



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 or telephone 07833091852



CONGRATULATIONS!!

To Andrew and Victoria who were married recently. We wish them every happiness in their life together



SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Just imagine going to someone's house for dinner and finding that they provided so much to eat that at the end of the evening there were twelve platefuls over. What a waste!



Just imagine an intelligent being capable of creating the world and providing so much fertile land and water that the whole of creation could exist in a perfect balance of nature! What a surplus!

Just imagine being filled with such goodness that you couldn't keep it to yourself and you created men and women and gave them the opportunity to know you and share your life! What a love!

Just imagine having a relationship with every living being to the extent that you knew their inmost thoughts and desires, cared for them, gave them the chance to develop to the full and to have the most exquisite skills in art, science, music, sport etc! What a gift!

Just imagine being betrayed by those you loved most and yet never abandoning them but instead constantly inviting them back to share all the good things you want them to have! What a sense of mercy! Just imagine giving up the most precious thing you had, your own son, and allowing him to be abused by those who thought they knew better than you so that he could help others to see the true meaning of life! What a sacrifice! Just imagine someone who not only provided us with our daily staple diet of food and drink but offered to continue being with us day in and day out under the form of bread and wine so that we could begin to share on earth an existence that will come to perfection in heaven! What a mystery!



Just imagine a God of prodigality, surplus, love, gift, mercy, sacrifice and mystery! And then you've only just begun. There's still lots left. More than twelve platefuls!

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.

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 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/

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.

