



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 26th September 2021



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What aspect of my life leads me to sin? What must I do to remove that aspect?

ADVICE TO PARISHES

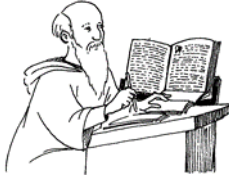
Due to the fact that the pandemic is far from over it is not the intention to restore an obligation to the attendance at Sunday Mass at this point. Please remember the importance of keeping Sunday holy and if possible attending Mass weekly.

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.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

ST JEROME (September 30th)



‘What name do you give your child?’ asked the priest at the baptism. ‘Eusebius Hieronymos Sophronius’ replied the parents. It’s not surprising that his friends shortened it to Jerome, or maybe even Jerry!

St Jerome was born in the northern Adriatic around the year 342. After studying in Rome he dedicated himself to the service of the gospel. His own language was Illyrian, but he quickly learnt Greek and Latin and began working on the scriptures. In his day there were two versions of the bible, one in Hebrew and the other in Greek that was called the Septuagint. Jerome translated this Greek version into Latin. Latin was the common (or ‘vulgar’) language of the day and so his new Latin version of the bible became known as the Vulgate and it is still the ‘official’ Latin translation of the scriptures. Of course, those who don’t like Jerome are quick to point out that he translated the bible without knowing any Hebrew!

FIRST COMMUNION 2022 Preparation for First Communion will begin in a few weeks and this is the last chance for people to register their children. If you know of any families who have children in Yr4 please ask them to collect a form from school or the parish office as soon as possible.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

Missionary Disciples

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

Lord in your mercy...



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 7th October, 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.



FACE MASKS

We remind you of the current rule, issued by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and endorsed by the Archdiocese, with regards to the wearing of face masks:

“Face coverings will remain mandatory for all those coming to Mass and/or a church service. (Exemptions for genuine medical reasons excluded.) We must ensure that people wear face coverings properly over both nose & mouth which will reduce aerosol or drop-let spread.” CBCEW Covid-19 Route Map: Step 4 Guidance.

Archdiocesan Letter to Priests (14th July 2021).

We ask everyone coming to church to follow this rule. Thank you.

TEST & TRACE

In order to support the NHS Test and Trace programme, we are taking contact details for all those coming to church. If you have downloaded the NHS Test & Trace App on your smart phone you can scan the QR code instead which is displayed in church.

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 25th September	4.30pm - Magdalen & John Rimmer Baptism - Bohdi Daley
Sunday 26th September <i>26th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am People of the Parish Baptism - Evelyn Melia-Hoare
Monday 27th September <i>St Vincent de Paul</i>	10.00am Beryl McMullen 11.30am - Funeral service Derek Forrest
Tuesday 28th September	10.00am Lil Bowling
Wednesday 29th September	NO MASS
Thursday 30th September <i>St Jerome</i>	10.00am Anne Daley
Friday 1st October <i>St Teresa of the Child Jesus</i>	10.00am Mary McNicholas
Saturday 2nd October	4.30pm - Mary Hoban Baptism - Louie Redfern
Sunday 3rd October <i>27th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am People of the Parish Baptism - Renae Barnes

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Eucharistic Ministers can now take Holy Communion to the sick & housebound who haven't been able to receive communion since lockdown. Please inform the Parish Office if you are willing to resume.



We are updating the list of parishioners who receive Communion in their homes so would be grateful if you could please let the Office have details of names and addresses of those you visit.



MAY HE REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN GLORY.

Derek Forrest— Funeral Service Monday 27th September
11.30am

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - 1 OCTOBER

Our local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. This Family Fast Day, donate in the parish using a CAFOD envelope or online through the [CAFOD website](https://cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) (cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) and help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. You can also add your voice to our online [petition](https://cafod.org.uk/petition) calling for our Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, cafod.org.uk/climate. And thank you for your generosity for our emergency appeals to support our sisters and brothers in crisis in Afghanistan and Haiti. You can read more about CAFOD's response at cafod.org.uk/emergencies.

CAFOD
Just one world

WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY



Bohdi Daley

Baptised Saturday 25th September 2021

Evelyn Melia-Hoare

Baptised Sunday 26th September 2021



TAKING LITURGY SERIOUSLY

The course is an introductory year leading, hopefully, to courses of greater depth in following years. The target audience is people who have a serious interest in Catholic liturgy but have not had the opportunity to develop their knowledge. There is no written work attached to the course.

*"The Church evangelises by the beauty of the liturgy.
Let us ask for the personal and sincere meeting with Christ who lives in
the liturgy
that our lives may be a spiritual sacrifice offered to God". [Pope Francis –
February 2021]*

The Society of St Gregory is committed to promoting and supporting the liturgy of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. They offer this modular course as their contribution to the development of liturgical understanding and study in twenty first century Britain. It is offered in partnership with the London Jesuit Centre.

Over the course, there will be the opportunity to explore the Catholic liturgy through a series of distinct yet complementary modules of study. Each module will provide a theological and historical overview which will form the background for a deeper study of how we celebrate the liturgy today. From this, the hope is that students will feel skilled to foster and lead liturgy in their own parish and community.

Within each theme, the focus will be on how we apply general principles of liturgy, how music and space affect the way we celebrate, and above all how we are enabling people to pray together.

Each module will take three one hour sessions, offering time afterwards for questions and comments.
Between sessions leaders would be able to offer some reading/research.

A Certificate of Attendance will be available at the end of each module/the course.

Course fee
£30 for an individual module.

Discounted cost for the full course [six modules] paid in advance,
SSG members: £150 Non SSG members: discounted price of £175 for
the full course [six modules], including a complementary SSG
membership.

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.

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL JOB VACANCY

There is a job vacancy for a Team Co-ordinator at Animate Youth. More information can be found on the notice board.

ASSISTED DYING BILL

Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has written an open letter inviting Catholics to pray for the defeat of the Assisted Dying Bill to be debated in the House of Lords in October.

It encourages all Catholics to write to peers at the House of Lords stating the reasons why they oppose this legislation and particularly explain from personal experience the reasons why this change in the law should be opposed. It urges discussion and communication about this important matter.

A copy of the letter can be found at: www.cbcew.org.uk
Bishop Sherrington asks...

Take action...

There are three important actions in the next weeks: **praying, writing** and **sharing**.

First, I ask you to pray that the Bill will be defeated.

Second, I ask you to write to the Peers from your personal experience and share stories which will argue the reasons for opposing the Bill as well as narrate the importance of precious time during the final stages of life. The testimony of healthcare and legal professionals will also be important. This needs to be done before the Second Reading on 22 October.

Third, I ask you to engage and share stories and reasons against the Bill on social media.

Briefing papers will be available on the bishops' conference website to assist you as this work develops.

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

It is much easier - and more enjoyable - to judge others rather than ourselves. Two esteemed figures from scripture demonstrate this phenomenon. Joshua, Moses's second-in-command, and John, Jesus' beloved disciple, each were quick to point fingers at those whom they judged unfit. Moses, stop Eldad and Medad! They didn't bother to attend the orientation. Jesus, stop that guy! He's just a copycat. Joshua and John each had to be instructed that they should look for God's grace in the results before making judgments. Additionally, they—and we—should look at our own features and judge them by what they lead us to do. If they lead us to sin, not virtue, they must go.

'Whose side are you on?' is a common refrain in relationships, politics, and society. We disagree with each other and then we divide ourselves by where we stand on issues, by whom we want to associate with. Jesus strove to bridge those divides. The Church has not grown through exclusivity or competition. Recall, Moses opined, 'If only... the Lord gave his spirit to them all!' (Numbers 11:29). Well, that's exactly what happened. The Holy Spirit animates and sanctifies all creation, bringing us into a unity that supersedes whatever divisions we have created. Disagreement need not lead to division.

What uncompromising words James uses to talk about the rich. He leaves no stone unturned in condemning the behaviour of people who foolishly and greedily hoard their wealth. Their hearts are not animated by a desire to share with those in need. In fact, they are impoverishing the very people who do the work to increase their profit. This leaves their hearts as bloated as their wallets. Their wealth will rot away. Their wealth is not eligible for eternal life.

No doubt Jesus did not want people literally cutting off their hands or feet, even though those were two of the examples he used. But like a malignant tumour in one part of the body, sometimes major surgery is required. For most of us, that surgery would involve an important part of our self. It may be our personality or our drive or our temperament or our attitudes, all of which could be healthy in others but which have grown malignant in us.

HELP NEEDED!!!

We desperately need more people to be Ministers of the Word for the weekend Masses. We are particularly short of readers for the Saturday evening Mass. If you are interested in helping with what is a lovely 'job' being part of the Mass please let Fr Mark know or pass your name in to the office.



IRENÆUS NEWS

'This then is my prayer'

Zoom Reflections on the Book of Ephesians
Mondays 4th, 11th & 18th October

7.00 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

'He sent me to give good news to the poor'

Zoom Scripture Mornings on St. Luke's Gospel
Thursdays 4th, 11th, 18th November

ANIMATE YOUTH

We are planning to have a normal Lourdes Pilgrimage if possible next summer. If events mean that we cannot run the pilgrimage there will be a full refund.

It's Back Lourdes 2022

Be part of the Liverpool Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Ages 15-22 yrs. old Thursday 21st July 2022 – Sat 30th July 2022 Online applications from 4th Oct

www.liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk/

For more info Tel Fr Simon Gore
01704740467

CONFIRMATIONS 2021

If you know a young person who has registered to be confirmed later this year, please remind them of the preparation sessions taking place in St. Monica's church in Bootle on 3rd, 17th & 24th October, 2.30 - 4.00 p.m. Registration has now closed for this year.

WALKING CLUB

While the weather is still being kind to us

we are having another walk next Wednesday (29th). Please meet at Church at 9.30am.

Come prepared for all weathers!



Season of Creation

CAFOD'S Harvest Fast Day

As we enter the last week of the Season of Creation, we are invited to give thanks to God for the gift of creation and the fruits of the earth which sustain us. Many churches and schools do this through Harvest Festivals – bringing the fruits of the earth and the work of human hands and sharing these offerings with those in need.

In the UK, for the last sixty years, the Catholic Church has marked harvest time by observing CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day on the first Friday in October. So, this coming Friday, 1 October, we are invited to give thanks by going without a meal or some form of amusement and giving what we save in this way to CAFOD. CAFOD uses our offerings to help those across the world who don't have access to the fruits of the earth because of extreme poverty, food shortages, conflicts and natural disasters.

You can find out more about this Friday's Fast Day here:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

Prayer for CAFOD'S Harvest Fast Day

Walk beside us, Lord, in the cool of the day,
in the garden you have created as our common home.

Walk beside us, Lord, as the cries of the forest pierce the dawn,
and flames rip through our common home.

Grant us courage, Lord, as we walk beside all those
who struggle to protect our common home.

Grant us hope, Lord, and the vision to walk dark paths
in the light of a single sunbeam.

Grant us grace, Lord, to put the flourishing of all people
and the wonder of your creation at the heart of all we do,
as we strive to be guardians of our common home.

St Francis, pray for us.

