



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 10th October 2021



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What am I willing to leave behind in order to follow Jesus more fully?

## 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

### Pope St John XXIII 11th October

Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born in the village of Sotto il Monte, near Bergamo, in 1881. At the age of 11 he entered the seminary at Bergamo and later pursued his studies at the Pontifical Seminary in Rome. He was ordained priest in 1904. He was secretary to the Bishop of Bergamo but from 1921 onwards he served the Holy See directly in various posts, both in Rome and in Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece, culminating as Apostolic Nuncio to France from 1944 until 1953, when he was created cardinal and made the Patriarch of Venice. He was elected Pope in 1958. He convoked the Roman Synod, instituted the revision of Canon Law, and called the Second Vatican Council, which opened on 11 October 1962. He died while the Council was still in session, on the evening of 3 June 1963. His canonisation took place on 27th April 2014 along with Pope St John Paul II.



## WEEKDAY MASS

Please note the changes to Mass for the coming week:

Monday, Funeral Mass 10.00 a.m. for Agnes Russell.

Tuesday, Mass will be at 9.00am and **NOT** 10:00am.

Friday, Funeral Mass 10:45 for Elsie Fraser.

**PARISH CENTRE EVENTS** Some of the Archdiocesan parish centres host successful monthly afternoon entertainment events. The events, which are open to all, include entertainment such as bingo and light refreshments. The next event is at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Toxteth, on Monday 18th October at 1.30 pm. Cost of entry is £6

## 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...*



## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS BOOK

A new book called 'Christmas Voices from the Holy Land' has been published and Fr Mark has ordered some copies. The book contains poems and reflections written especially for the Holy

Land by Fr Richard Nesbitt with contributions from Christians living in the Holy Land. Proceeds of the book will go to 'Friends of the Holy Land'. The book is £9.99 and you can order your copy from the Piety Stall or Parish Office and they will arrive in time for the start of Advent.



## CATHOLIC PIC

October's Catholic Pic is now available from the church porch.

## 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 droplet 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

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<b>Saturday 9th October</b>	<p>12.00pm - Baptism - Phoenix Fairclough</p> <p>4.30pm - People of the Parish</p>
<b>Sunday 10th October</b> <i>28th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<p>10.30am Patrick Green</p>
<b>Monday 11th October</b>	<p>10.00am Funeral Mass - Agnes Ann Russell</p>
<b>Tuesday 12th October</b>	<p>9.00am Jennifer Dowd</p>
<b>Wednesday 13th October</b>	NO MASS
<b>Thursday 14th October</b>	<p>10.00am Charlotte Lee</p>
<b>Friday 15th October</b> <i>St Teresa of Avila</i>	<p>10.45am Funeral Mass - Elsie Fraser</p>
<b>Saturday 16th October</b>	<p>12.00pm Baptism - Amelia &amp; Freddie Griffin-Brown</p> <p>4.30pm - People of the Parish</p>
<b>Sunday 17th October</b> <i>29th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<p>11.45am Baptism - Nancy &amp; Robyn Cousins</p> <p>10.30am Maude &amp; Frederick Percival</p>

## CONGRATULATIONS BISHOP TOM

Last week Bishop Tom Williams received the city's highest civic honour - the Freedom of the City of Liverpool - during a special ceremony at Liverpool's Town hall. Bishop Tom said: "I am very surprised and humbled at this great honour. "Five generations of my family have been part of this city and it has been a privilege to serve here for 49 years. This is truly home to me and I will always be grateful for the support which I have received." Congratulations Bishop Tom on this well deserved honour.



## CTS SUNDAY MISSAL 2022

The ideal companion for the liturgical year, the CTS Sunday Missal 2022 features the Order of Mass and readings for all Sundays & Solemnities, all helpfully presented in calendar order. If you would like to order a copy please give your name and £7.95 to the Piety Stall or Parish Office and we will order them ready for the beginning of Advent at the end of November.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Climate Change:

We are all invited to sign a Catholic petition regarding COP15 and COP26 - details of resources and the petition can be accessed online at:

[www.thecatholicpetition.org](http://www.thecatholicpetition.org)

## IRENAEUS NEWS

### *'This then is my prayer'*

Zoom Reflections on the Book of Ephesians

Mondays 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

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.liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk/](http://www.liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk/)

For more info Tel Fr Simon Gore  
01704740467

## PRISONS WEEK 10-16 October



Prison is, among other things, a safety valve for society's anxieties. There is a desire to forget people who have been found guilty of wrongdoing once the key turns in the lock, and signs of sympathy are regarded as a weakness and a tolerance of what they have done. They are outcasts who do not deserve anything. But a considerable proportion of the prison population in the UK are suffering from mental health problems which left untreated will cause further harm in the future, and even the worst offenders deserve to be treated as human beings.

The Prisons Week theme for 2021 is **'Journeying from Despair to Hope.'** It is based around Luke 12:24: *'Consider the ravens: they do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!'*

For more than forty years Prisons Week has enabled the Christian community, through individuals and churches, to pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the many people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime on the inside and outside of our prisons.

Prisons Week raises awareness and generates prayer. It motivates volunteers to step forward and give their time and gifts, in prisons and in their own communities. It provides an annual focus and reason for Christians to work together, building capacity and motivation to make a difference for people who are out of sight and often out of mind.

For more information and how you can join the special week of prayer - [www.prisonsworld.org](http://www.prisonsworld.org)

Use this special prayer during the week:

*Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen.*



**WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY**

**Phoenix Fairclough**

Baptised Saturday 9th October 2021



## **ST OSCAR ROMERO**

Archbishop Malcolm will preside at a special Choral Evening Prayer in the Metropolitan Cathedral on Thursday 14th October at 6pm which will include the reception of the relic of St. Oscar Romero. The service which will include ecumenical leaders will include stories from a recent visit to El Salvador by Fr Stephen Pritchard and information on the history of the relic. All are welcome.



## **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](http://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

Jesus asks the eager inquirer in today's Gospel to do two things to inherit eternal life. One is already habit, but the other requires a complete transformation. One is straightforward, but the other seems impossible. The first requires keeping the commandments. He eagerly tells Jesus that he has done this since he was a child. The second requires him to *'Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, . . . then come, follow me'* (Mark 10:21). This leads him to go the other way, back home again. He is not willing to leave his lifestyle behind or pay the price Jesus requires. He preferred what he already had to what he could have had. Any change requires letting go of something. A transformation demands a radical abandonment of part of the past. To follow Jesus is the greatest treasure of all, but it is easier to choose the treasures we already have.

Before asking him to make this radical transformation, Mark tells us that *'Jesus, looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said . . .'* The phrase *loved him* consists of only two words in this rather lengthy Gospel passage, but Mark thought them significant enough to include them. It is not a stretch to include them in what Jesus asks of us. We know the commandments and have tried to keep them for a long time. So before asking any of us to render the cost of following him, Jesus assures us that he loves us.

Even the disciples, who had indeed left their families, homes, and possessions behind to follow the Lord, couldn't fathom that anyone could possibly inherit eternal life. Jesus acknowledges that it is impossible for any of us to do it on our own. But it is not a matter of doing but in being: being a disciple. With God all things are possible. God is the doer. God offers to do it for us as well. We are called to be open to it, to be disciples. We pray that God's living word penetrate our hearts, opening them up to a transformation, readying us for God's saving grace.

## UNIVERSAL SYNOD

For a Synodal Church: On Sunday 17 October, the Archdiocese of Liverpool is going to mark the opening of the local phase of the universal Synod 2021-23 with a choral evening prayer in the Metropolitan Cathedral (3pm-4pm). This will be also an opportunity to pray for the forthcoming pastoral plan, the fruit of our own archdiocesan Synod 2020. All are welcome to attend.

*"A synodal church is a listening church, aware that listening is more than hearing. It is a reciprocal listening in which each one has something to learn."*

Pope Francis

## MINISTRY OF READER

Thank you to the new volunteers who have offered to join the Ministry of Reader but we would still love some more. If you feel you would like to help people to listen and understand the Word of God at Mass please let the Parish office know.



## ADVENT REFLECTIONS

On 29 November the Archdiocesan Development Department invite you to a zoom time of reflection and discussion for an hour each Advent Monday from 7pm. Set in this time of waiting and preparation we will focus prayerfully on some aspects of the newly launched Pastoral Plan. All are welcome. More details to follow.

## PARISH VOLUNTEERS

The Archdiocese has asked Parish Priests to remind people that any work undertaken on church or parish hall premises must have the agreement of the Parish Priest. Work, especially any maintenance, must not be carried out without his consent and knowledge.

## COP26 Climate Emergency Summit

November 1st - 12th 2021

It has been announced that Pope Francis will be making a brief visit to the United Kingdom when he attends the COP26 meeting in Glasgow. The announcement was made by the Catholic bishops of Scotland welcoming Pope Francis to the COP26 conference. Pope Francis has been an inspirational global leader in urging humanity to change in the face of this "pandemic" which especially threatens the poor and vulnerable.

### WHAT CAN WE DO?

- \* Use your voice - We are the first generation to know we're destroying the world, and we could be the last that can do anything about it.
- \* Unplug your devices when you're not using them.
- \* Clean the back of your fridge. Dusty coils can increase energy consumption by 30%.
- \* Slow down - Driving at 50mph uses 25% less fuel than 70mph.

## MUSIC IN CHURCH

A reminder that the Archbishop informed the priests in 2020 that following a request for clarification on the issue of secular/non-religious music in church, it has been agreed by him and the Archbishop's Council that there is now a policy across the Archdiocese of no secular music in Church Services i.e. Funerals, Weddings etc. This follows the Church's general principle of only sacred music within the liturgy.

## HELP NEEDED

Preparation for  
First Communion  
begins next



Wednesday and we need a few more willing volunteers to help us provide refreshments and to sanitise the tables. Preparation takes place a couple of hours one Wednesday a month for 6 months. If you can help please let the Parish Office know.

## PRAYING THE ROSARY

Fr Mark mentioned to those who come to weekday Mass the chance of praying the rosary a couple of times a week after Mass but we need volunteers to lead. Have a word with him if you would like to do this and we will arrange for it to begin as soon as possible.



## NOVEMBER PIOUS LIST

Lists and envelopes will be available at the back of church shortly. Please place completed lists along with your donation in with the offertory or post into Parish Office. Through the month of November, weekday Mass and one weekend Mass will be offered for those names on the lists.



The **FCJ sisters** of Merseyside extend a warm welcome to parishioners, friends and colleagues to join us in a

### Mass of thanksgiving

for God's faithfulness to our little Society of Sisters **Faithful Companions of Jesus** as we celebrate our 200th birthday and the jubilees of several sisters.

**St Clare's Church**, Arundel Avenue, L17 2AU

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2:30pm**

followed by refreshments.

RSVP to [fcjcentresthughs@gmail.com](mailto:fcjcentresthughs@gmail.com) Thank you!



