



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

2nd Sunday of Lent
Sunday 13th March 2020



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I be a witness to God's grace in my life?

ADVICE TO PARISHES

While the law concerning COVID rules have changed, Archdiocesan guidelines dictates that face coverings must still be worn in church for all those who come to church for all occasions.

The call of Christian charity requires us to be concerned for each other and, in particular, those who are most vulnerable or who may be anxious. We will therefore continue with the current systems that have served us so well over these last months.

FUNERAL MASS

The Funeral Mass for Michelle McMullen will be celebrated on Wednesday 1.45pm. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

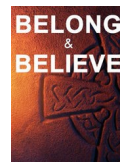


Following on from the success of our Pastoral Development Department's Advent Monday reflections, we are running Monday Reflections from 7-8pm on zoom using the Café resource: Belong and Believe during Lent.

There will be opportunity to reflect and discuss and although the course will be run online. If you need more information, contact the PD department:

pd@rcaol.org.uk

March 14	Growing in Faith Together
March 21	Renewed in the Holy Spirit
March 28	Caring for God's Creation
April 4	Evangelising with Love & Action



You can register for the Zoom reflections here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/701d060qD0sE9GOs3Eewqn1hNhwlpPFpG6>

Or on the website: www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/pastoral-development

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturdays 4.00pm- 4.25pm

SHOULD I COME TO MASS?

The statement released by the Bishops' of England & Wales last Autumn reflected the pastoral situation of public worship in the light of the pandemic at this time. The Bishops have asked for all Catholics to reflect on their pastoral circumstances with respect to their attendance at Mass on Sunday. Questions have been raised regarding the status of the Sunday Obligation. The Code of Canon Law states that '*Sunday is the primordial holy day obligation*' (Can. 1246.1) and '*the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass*' (Can. 1247).

At the beginning of the pandemic, the Bishops recognised that the participation in the Sunday Mass was prevented due to grave cause because of the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic and stated that the Sunday obligation could not be fulfilled due to the inherent danger of people gathering in churches for Mass. On 23rd March 2020, the Government mandated the closure of places of worship.

The Bishops, now having reflected on the current situation recognise that the causes and effects of the pandemic are still present to such a degree that the *absolute* duty for all to freely attend Sunday Mass cannot yet be fulfilled.

As such, they have asked all Catholics now reflect on the centrality of the Eucharist to their own life of faith and take into consideration their personal circumstances and the reasons as to whether they can now attend Sunday Mass or otherwise.

Should a person feel that they still cannot genuinely attend Sunday Mass, there is no sin associated with their non-attendance and they are encouraged to devote themselves to prayer at home. This may be achieved either through personal prayer or be participating with a live-streamed celebration of Mass from a Church.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY This Family Fast Day, we remember that there are many people who need our love and support all around the world. Children experiencing malnutrition like Amie's daughter Lombeh did in Sierra Leone or as we are seeing now in Ukraine, families affected by conflict. Your small act of love can make big things happen. Donations to CAFOD this Lent will reach families around the world, enabling local experts to provide support to families in times of need or conflict. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope or by visiting the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/lent

UKRAINE APPEAL

There are a few ways to donate to the Archdiocesan appeal for Ukraine:

Text HELPUKRAINE to 70085 to donate £2

Text HELPUKRAINE to 70450 to donate £3

Text HELPUKRAINE to 70460 to donate £5

Text HELPUKRAINE to 70470 to donate £10

By bank transfer to

Account name: Archdiocese of Liverpool

Sort code: 40-29-12

Account: 01551493

Reference: Help Ukraine

Or by cheque made payable to “Archdiocese of Liverpool” and with “Help Ukraine” written on the reverse, these can be sent to the Finance Department:

St Margaret Clitherow Centre
Liverpool Archdiocesan Office
Croxteth Drive
Liverpool
L17 1AA

The delivery chain to donate goods is currently at capacity because of the generous and overwhelming response from people. We have been in touch with local and national charities and religious organisations to discuss options of where we can donate goods to and we are awaiting confirmation of this. We do expect there to be a demand for more goods in the near future and we are hoping for an update very soon on this.

Pauline Books & Media in Church Street are praying the Angelus at 12.00 for peace in Ukraine. You are most welcome to join them.

ST JOSEPH'S PRAYER CENTRE

The Meeting of a Disciple Sat 26th March 10am-3.30pm

The Prayer Day will be led by Fr John McCluskey. The day will begin with Mass at 10am. Cost £20. Please bring your own lunch.

For more info and to book Tel: 01704 875850

Email: theprayercentre.stj@psmgs.org.uk

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 12th March	4.30pm People of the Parish
Sunday 13th March <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	10.30am Sick & Housebound 11.45am Baptism - Jacob & Isaac Ball
Monday 14th March	10.00am Rita Blackburn
Tuesday 15th March	10.00am Brenda Booker
Wednesday 16th March	1.45pm Funeral Mass - Michelle McMullen
Thursday 17th March <i>St Patrick</i>	10.00am (in EM school) Dawn Brannigan
Friday 18th March	10.00am Janet Halford
Saturday 19th March <i>St Joseph</i>	4.30pm Joe Condrón
Sunday 20th March <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	10.30am Ann & Harold Buck

LENT ACTIONS

A few ideas for Lent

- * Pray for those who have hurt you
- * 40 acts of kindness – e.g. phone calls to someone who maybe lonely
- * Think about a habit that has kept you from being whom God is calling you to be. Consciously give up that habit for Lent.
- * As a part of your Lenten almsgiving, make a point to learn more about a particular social issue e.g. Ukraine, immigration, human trafficking, racism, the environment, child poverty.
- * Give money to an organisation related to your chosen issue that supports the dignity of the human person.
- * Think of ways that you can be a rainbow in someone else's cloud
- * Think about what you usually spend your money on. Do you buy too many clothes? Spend too much on dinner out? Pick one type of expenditure that you'll "fast" from during Lent, and then give the money you would usually spend to charity.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Patrick (March 17)

He was born in Roman Britain around the end of the 4th century, and died in Ireland about the middle of the 5th century. As a missionary bishop, he endured many hardships and faced opposition even from his friends and fellow Christians. Nevertheless, he worked hard to conciliate, to evangelize, and to educate local chieftains and their families. He is remembered for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God, and for his fearless preaching of the gospel to the very people who had enslaved him in his youth.

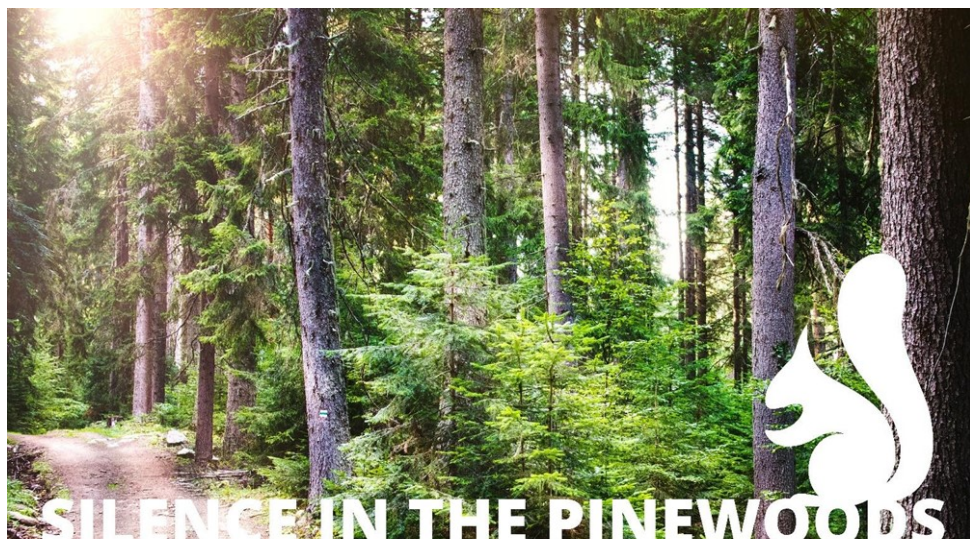


CAFOD's Walk Against Hunger Lent Challenge

There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. This Lent, challenge yourself to walk 200km and help give hunger its marching orders. Do 5k a day, your way, for 40 days, get sponsored and you'll conquer your 200km target in time for Easter – and help people around the world to live free from hunger. To take part go to cafod.org.uk/walk.

Bernie has signed up to take part again this year - if anyone would like to sponsor her walking in the wind and rain!!

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/bernie-walk-for-hunger>



SILENCE IN THE PINEWOODS

Opening to the presence of God

***An Introduction to Contemplation through the gateway of Centering Prayer
led by Fr Richard Sloan***

Centering Prayer is a silent meditation method, rooted in the Christian contemplative tradition. It is accessible to all who want to open themselves, heart and mind, to the Ultimate Mystery. It is an intentional practice, founded on the gesture of surrender, a conscious letting go of thoughts, images and ideas in order to rest in a place of deeper spiritual attentiveness.

It is a methodology par excellence for nurturing the heart, the place where we come into alignment with Divine Wisdom and live authentically out of our true selves.

"It's not about knowing more but about more of you knowing" (Cynthia Bourgeault).

Whether you are new to Centering Prayer or already familiar with it, the day will offer some insights into this transformative method of meditation through:

- understanding the background to Centering Prayer
- introducing you to the Centering Prayer method
- experiencing 2 sessions of Centering prayer
- being with a like-minded group of seekers
- exploring how Centering Prayer offers a path of transformation gathering new insights to weave into your life.

Saturday 2 April 2022

10am - 4pm

St Joseph's Prayer Centre

Blundell Avenue, Formby, L37 1PH

Registration

<https://forms.gle/KSd8saSrTTP3HxAn9>

Suggested donation

£12 (please bring a packed lunch)



Archdiocese of
Liverpool

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

Lord in your mercy...



WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY



Jacob & Isaac Ball
Baptised Sunday 13th March 2022



PASSION PLAY

‘This is our story’ at Liverpool Cathedral
11th April 6.30pm-8.30pm
The Liverpool Passion Play tells the story of the Last Supper, as well as Jesus’ arrest, trial and crucifixion. Using the Cathedral’s architecture and artwork as a backdrop, the audience will ‘walk with Jesus’ through his story, starting as a young boy, and witnessing his entry into Jerusalem, his betrayal by Judas, and his trial and crucifixion. Entry is free but we welcome your donations to support the choir tour fund.

For more information
www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/events

LOURDES 2022

After 3 years the Liverpool Archdiocesan 2022 pilgrimage to Lourdes will be taking place from 22 - 29 July and will be led by Archbishop Malcolm. The cost will be from £599 which includes return flights, 7 nights accommodation in your selected hotel, full board and a full religious programme. To book, contact Joe Walsh Tours on:

0808 1890 468. Sick & Assisted pilgrims are asked to contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office:

lourdespilgrimage@rcaolp.co.uk

Can you help? We urgently need:

doctors, nurses,
healthcare
professionals, adult
helpers (age over
18), musicians and
singers. Contact the
Pilgrimage Office
for more details.



SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Between the first reading and the Gospel, we hear of three of the main figures of the Hebrew scriptures: Abraham, Moses, and Elijah. All three encountered God repeatedly and dramatically. Fire is often used in scripture to symbolise the presence of God. We hear today of the flaming torch that bound the covenant God made with Abraham. We know the stories of Moses seeing God in the burning bush and Elijah taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot. We cannot expect that God will speak with us so dramatically. But if we do not listen, we may fail to realise that God speaks to us today.

Most of us are citizens of the country in which we live, though many of us are not. Some of us may even be citizens of more than one country. St Paul travelled extensively, spending much of his time in foreign countries. But today we hear him tell the Philippians that 'Christians are not citizens of Jerusalem, or Rome, or anywhere on earth. *'Our homeland is in heaven,'* he writes. Think about that for a moment. All of us, no matter where we were born, where we grew up, what language we speak, or where we live now, are fellow citizens, baptised into citizenship with God.

In the synoptic Gospels, Peter, James and John are the three disciples mentioned most often, the disciples closest to Jesus. Here he specifically chooses them to witness his transfiguration. We pray that like them we may be worthy witnesses of the transformative power of God in our lives.

LENT 2022



Sunday 4.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Monday 7.00pm 'No Greater Love' - Lent Scripture Course (give your name to the Parish Office)

Friday 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church

The Carmelites friars from Portsmouth are offering a series of online retreats for Lent & Easter:

www.carmelite.uk.net/online-talks-retreats/lenten-easter-retreats/

Lenten Virtual Pilgrimage of Grace in the Holy Land. 15 minutes daily reflection from the Holy Land: www.magdala.org

CARE FOR UKRAINE

Resources, appeals and prayers for the tragic situation in Ukraine can be found under the 'news' tab on the Archdiocesan website:

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

Fr Taras, a Ukrainian priest ministering within our Archdiocese has sent the following message:

"If you know people who are not sure how best to express their support for Ukraine, the Ukrainian Institute in London has posted a list of suggested actions: www.ukrainianinstitute.org.uk

You will also find a lot of information from the International Affairs Department of the Bishops' Conference:

www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/international/countries/ukraine

Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.

CARRYING OF THE CROSS

Missionaries of Charity

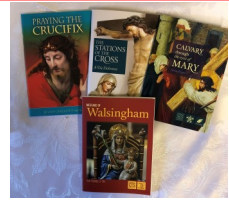
The annual Carrying of the Cross will take place on Saturday 9th April at 2PM The carrying of the cross will begin from Church Street, passing through Bold Street and finishing at St Luke's Church (bombed out church), and will be followed by a short service. Please join us from 1:45pm at the junction of Church Street and Lord Street, Liverpool for a 2pm prompt start.

GLOBAL RECYCLING DAY - 18th MARCH

Have a wardrobe clear out and recycle anything that has been hanging there for too long! You may have noticed the recycle bin by the school gate. If you use that then school receive a donation from the company



PIETY STALL We have got some lovely new books in the shop - many wonderful Lenten reflections. Most cost no more than £3.50. Come in and have a look at the new stock!!



LENTEN ALMS

Lent is the ideal time to do a little bit more in remembering the needy. The call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on **"almsgiving,"** which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving, the Catechism of the Catholic Church says is, *a witness to fraternal charity*" and *"a work of justice pleasing to God."*

A box for financial donations will be available at all Masses during Lent for you to make a contribution. This money is sent to the Diocese and will go to the Ukraine appeal..

You can also help in donating items for our local Food Bank which we regularly support and will be greatly appreciated. Items for food can be left at the back of church.

JOB VACANCY

Safeguarding Administrator

We have an exciting opportunity available to join our Safeguarding Team as a Safeguarding Administrator. The successful candidate will play a key role in the Safeguarding team, managing and processing DBS applications, providing support to parishes and contributing to referrals to statutory agencies in the absence of the Safeguarding Coordinator. The role is 30 hours per week, with the ability to work flexibly as per the needs of the business. • We are offering a salary of £18,000 plus an attractive pension package with 38 days holiday (pro rata) plus a range of other benefits. • A full information pack regarding this role and details of how to apply are available at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs Safeguarding Administrator
Closing date: 5pm on 18th March.





Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

MUSIC AT THE MET LENT 2022

Join us throughout Lent for a special programme of sacred
music sung by our Cathedral Choir:

15:00

All are welcome

Sunday 13 March: *Crucifixus pro nobis* – *Leighton*

Sunday 20 March: *Les Sept Paroles du Christ en Croix* – *Franck*


Sunday 27 March: *Stabat Mater* – *Pergolesi*


Sunday 3 April: *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* – *Tallis*

Sunday 10 April (at 19:30): *the Office of Tenebræ*

Admission free (retiring collection)

www.liverpoolmetrochurch.org.uk

 /LpoolMetMusic

 @LpoolMetMusic