



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord
Sunday 10th April 2022



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What sacrifice is God calling me to make?

ADVICE TO PARISHES

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 follow Archdiocesan guidelines and continue with the expectation that face coverings will be used by those attending church.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

REQUEST Fr Mark respectfully asks that people check that lights are switched off in the church, porch or sacristy area as often they can be left on for many hours or overnight.

SCRIPTURE FESTIVAL

Come to the most exciting St Albans Scripture Festival -
godwhospeaks.uk/our-dioceses/st-albans-scripture-festival

The Society of St. Gregory is offering these Scripture workshops:
Wednesday 27 April 2022 at 7.30-9pm: Scriptures for Eastertime
(Mgr Kevin McGinnell)

These are online interactive sessions, with lots of practical help and tips. £10 per person, or £25 if you book for more than two workshops. Bookings, together with all the details, are available on their website - www.ssg.org.uk

On 11th May, Mgr Kevin McGinnell will lead us in a bonus session, 'Shadows in the Gospel', for which there's no charge. You can reserve your place when booking for the other sessions online.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & BENEDICTION

4.00pm Sunday afternoon.

Commission on Dialogue and Unity Accompanying Ramadan Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald

Ramadan, the ninth month of the year according to the lunar calendar followed by Muslims, started on 2 April. It is a holy month, marked especially by a fast each day during the hours of light. This way of fasting sets Muslims apart from others. In the southern Philippines, on the island of Mindano which has a large Muslim population, the Christians devised a programme which they called Duyog Ramadan, “Accompanying Ramadan”. The idea was taken from music. When people sing, they are often accompanied by someone playing the guitar. The guitarist doesn’t necessarily sing, but he or she backs up the singers by strumming. In a similar way Christians, who are not observing Ramadan, can accompany the Muslims who are doing so. In 2020, the priests and people of St Vincent de Paul parish, in Liverpool 1, decided to do just this. They wished to accompany their Muslim brothers and sisters, especially by their prayers. In order to sustain this effort some information about Ramadan, or about Islam in general, was provided every day on the parish Facebook account. It is these daily posts that have been collected in the booklet which can be found at: www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/Accompanying20Ramadan

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

THANK YOU!!!

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who attended the Easter Bingo on Wednesday evening. We raised an amazing £630! But more importantly we had a lovely fun evening being back together after what has been a long two years apart!



Watch this space for our next event!!

CATHOLIC WOMEN: INTERNATIONAL SYNOD SURVEY

Catholic Women Speak is an international forum for dialogue, theological discussion and awareness-raising around issues to do with women in the Catholic Church. They have produced a survey for the synod link below:
www.catholicwomenspeak.com/catholic-women-international-synod-survey/

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

Health Care Workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

Lord in your mercy...



SOCIAL MEDIA The Archdiocese of Liverpool now has official accounts on Facebook & Instagram. Please follow us for the latest news, updates and events from across the archdiocese.

FR MARK'S THEATRE GROUP

Two tickets have become available for the trip to the Empire on Friday 10th June to see 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'. If anyone wishes to join us please give your name to the Parish Office.



Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 9th April	4.30pm Stephen McQuade
Sunday 10th April <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10.30am People of the Parish
Monday 11th April <i>Holy Monday</i>	10.00am Funeral Mass Alice Connolly 11.40am Midday prayer 12.00pm George Walsh
Tuesday 12th April <i>Holy Tuesday</i>	11.40am Midday prayer 12.00pm Frank Pike
Wednesday 13th April <i>Holy Wednesday</i>	7.30pm Chrism Mass in Metropolitan Cathedral
Thursday 14th April <i>Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	7.00pm Private intention (MM) 10.00pm Night Prayer
Friday 15th April <i>Good Friday of The Passion of The Lord</i>	3.00pm Solemn Service of the Passion & Death of the Lord Jesus
Saturday 16th April <i>Holy Saturday Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter</i>	8.30pm People of the Parish
Sunday 17th April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10.30am Private intention (MM)



The Walk of Witness on Holy Saturday (16 April) is returning this year. The walk, led by Archbishop Malcolm, will start at 2pm outside the Metropolitan Cathedral and will finish with prayers and refreshments

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.

BRITISH REGION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECCUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP

The International Ecumenical Fellowship (IEF) is to hold its 46th International Conference from 25th July to 1st August at Hope University in Liverpool. The theme of this year's Conference is "I will heal my people" (Jer.33:6) - Together in hope, prayer and action for a renewed world'.



We welcome participants who want to attend the Conference on a daily basis, rather than being residential. They are welcome to join the Conference on one or more days between Tuesday 26th and Sunday 31st July. This will include lunch and dinner and attendance at all events on the programme during the chosen day(s).

The Conference will focus on the idea of Encounter and will include visits to many exciting venues where we will witness projects of hope and social justice being undertaken by local churches and other groups working together in this exciting and vibrant city. It will reflect the progress made in recent years between members of many different churches in Liverpool and will be a real opportunity to see and experience hope, faith and collaborative work in action. The Conference will also provide the truly enriching experience of meeting with fellow Christians from many different countries across Europe and beyond.

IEF was founded in 1967 by ecumenically concerned Christians from across Europe. It now has a presence in many countries, with both lay and ordained members and people from every denomination and none.

For further information, please see our website <http://briefoecumenica.uk/> or send an email to iefliverpool22@gmail.com for further information on the Conference, including how to register and the price. The closing date for registrations is Saturday 30th April (although late applications will be considered). For further information, please contact FI Rosen, fiona.rosen1@gmail.com or 07719 279851

"A LIFE LIVED WITH GRACE"

On 2 June 2022 choirs throughout the four nations of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth are being invited to join in a unique musical celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. 'Churches Together in England' is encouraging churches, congregations, parishes and individuals throughout England to get involved. For more info visit www.cte.org.uk/song-for-the-commonwealth/

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2022

Please make every effort to come along to church over the coming week, especially Thursday - Sunday. This is the greatest week in the Christian calendar and we should take time out of our normal lives to give thanks to the Lord for his incredible gift of love for us.

Monday 11th April

11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:40 a.m. Midday Prayer
12noon Mass

Tuesday 12th April

11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:40 a.m. Midday Prayer
12noon Mass

Wednesday 13th April

7.30 p.m. Chrism Mass Metropolitan Cathedral

Thursday 14th April

7.00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
10:00 p.m. Night Prayer

Friday 15th April

3.00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday 16th April

8.30 p.m. Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter

Sunday 17th April

10.30 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass

Monday 18th April

12.00pm Mass



CHRISM MASS The Chrism Mass is one of the most important annual celebrations in the life of the Archdiocese. It's the only occasion during the year when priests & people gather with the Archbishop to witness him bless the three oils which are distributed throughout the parishes to be used in the various Sacraments. During the Mass the priests also renew their Priestly Promises which were first made at their ordination. It is always a moving occasion and you are welcome to be part of it on Wednesday 7.30 pm in the Metropolitan Cathedral. This is the first time since 2019 this Mass has taken place.

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Today the disciples sing and shout as they enter Jerusalem, crying out with joy, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord' (Luke 19:38). But in just a few short days the disciples will be silent and absent as Jesus is led away to Golgotha to be crucified under the inscription, 'This is the King of the Jews' (Luke 23:38). Desolate and defeated, they do not find their voices until the Holy Spirit frees their tongues at Pentecost. But Jesus told the Pharisees that 'if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!' (Luke 19:40). It gives us hope that during times of persecution, times of trial, even in the absence of voices, somehow the testimony of God's creation will bear witness.

Isaiah and Paul get at the paradoxical nature of God's power in the first two readings we hear today. Isaiah has been blessed to deliver God's word to rouse the weary, but all it appears to rouse them to do is to mistreat him. Yet Isaiah trusts he will not be put to shame. He is not the stereotypical scapegoat, hanging his head in shame. The 'suffering servant' witnesses to the power of God's word in the way he stands up to his abusers. Paul testifies that Jesus, though God, became a servant, humbling himself for the sake of humankind. In submitting to God's will to his death, willing and resolute, he has now become the object of worship for all.

Scripture scholars tell us that two verses of today's Gospel were probably not part of the original text. The graphic description of Jesus' suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane may have been added later. Luke may not have been the one to write that 'an angel from heaven appeared to him' when 'he prayed so fervently that his sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground' (Luke 22:43–44), but the words he did use are extreme as well. First, Jesus knelt when he prayed. Remarkably, this is the only time in the Gospels Jesus kneels to pray. Kneeling was not the normal posture in this era when praying. People knelt in supplication to a superior, as believers occasionally did when asking Jesus for help, not to pray to God. But here Jesus kneels to plead with his Father in an effort to avoid the cross. Agonizing over the suffering he faced, and agonizing over his acceptance of that suffering, his sweat could well have become like drops of blood.

Jesus had taught his disciples that when they pray to the Father they should pray that 'your will be done' (Matthew 6:10). Now that promise is put to the test, as Jesus faces his death on the cross. As he prays to his Father, twice in one sentence he references his Father's will, 'Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done' (Luke 22:42). He would rather not have to die at this time in this way, but he asks his Father to be spared only if his Father is willing. He reaffirms that it is not his own will but his Father's that he will follow. It is not easy to surrender one's own will to someone else's at any time, let alone when facing death, but it is the sacrifice within the sacrifice that Jesus makes on this night. It is the kind of sacrifice that we too can be called to make when we are called to act for the benefit of someone else.

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

Financial donations are still very much needed, a reminder that all details can be found here: <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/ukraine-support>
Thank you again for all of your continued support. We are truly thankful for the wealth of goodwill and generosity shown by people across the archdiocese. We have received over £70,000 in donations so far.

Our volunteer drivers safely returned back home last night from delivering the donated goods. We have received an update from Bishop Gregory to let us know that the donated medicines have been transferred to hospitals in Drohobych and Boryslav and a brave volunteer driver has taken some of the goods to Kyiv.

JOB VACANCY

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool Retreat
Co-ordinator



Are you passionate about Christian ministry with young people? Contact Fr Simon Gore (Director of Youth Ministry) on 01744 740467 or s.gore@animateyouth.co.uk for an informal chat about the role To download a full job description and application pack please visit www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs
Closing Date: Thursday 21st April

SUMMER EXCURSION—FRIDAY 8th JULY

We are super pleased to bring back our 'annual' trip to the world famous International Musical Eisteddfod in the beautiful Welsh town of Llangollen on Friday 8th July.

Llangollen stages one of the world's inspirational cultural festivals. Each year around 4,000 performers from all over the world and as many as 50,000 visitors converge on this beautiful small Welsh town and its International Pavilion for 6 days of singing and dancing in a unique combination of competition, performance, and international peace and friendship.

We will leave the parish and travel by coach to Llangollen and we can stroll around the maes (Welsh for field) with its hundreds of stalls, food and drinking places. Your ticket will guarantee you a reserved seat in the Pavilion to watch the competitions. You can walk around the town and enjoy the many shops and beautiful scenery. The famous Parade of Nations through the town of Llangollen will take place at 4.30 p.m. which is a colourful spectacular event.

The cost of the day is £60 which includes transport, entry to the Eisteddfod, reserved seat in the Pavilion and an evening meal in a Chester hotel.



Please give your name to the office as soon as possible as numbers are restricted.

LLYSFASI SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP

www.llysfasi-spirituality-workshop.org.uk

Workshop based principally on the dynamics of the spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola. The first days are dedicated to an experiential journey through the major life themes of the Exercises

12 – 29 August 2022

at Foxhill House and Woodlands, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 6XB

Workshop Facilitators: Mary Rose Fitzsimmons HHS, Richard Sloan, Sheila McNamara

RSCJ, Silvia Berezki HHS.

For further details email Mary Rose Fitzsimmons HHS

maryrosefitzsimmons@btinternet.com

Donations for Ukraine

Your local collection point is:

Our Lady of Walsingham Parish Centre

We are collecting the following items to donate to Ukraine:

- **First aid kits and battlefield first aid kits**
(including sterile dressings, safety pins, antiseptic fluid/cream/spray, disposable gloves, burn free kits, eye wash)
- **Bandages - different widths**
(including halo chest seals, tourniquets, splints, QuikClot Combat Gauze, Steri-Strips, triangular bandages, Tourni-Key Plus)
- **Toiletries**
(including toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo)
- **Bedding, sleeping bags, blankets, mattresses**
- **Generators and different types of chargers**
- **Nappy rash creams and baby bath lotions**
(all ages and sizes)
- **Powdered baby milk and feeding bottles**
- **Pain relief**
(e.g Paracetamol, Ibuprofen)
- **Warm underclothing**
(including socks)
- **Sanitary products**
- **Nappies**
(all ages and sizes)
- **Rucksacks**

Please note, as the delivery chain is currently at capacity, we are exploring various options for delivery. In the unlikely event that we are unable to supply these items to Ukraine, all goods will go to a local charity.

