



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Universal King

Sunday 20th November 2022



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Who can I forgive this week, imitating the Lord's mercy, sowing the seeds of the kingdom, and bringing a sort of paradise to someone else's heart?

SANCTUARY LAMP

Did you know that this candle is one of the most important candles lit in Roman Catholic Churches? The General Instruction of the Roman Missal states: *"In accordance with tradition, near the tabernacle a special lamp should be kept alight to indicate and honour the presence of Christ in the tabernacle"*. It is a sign that the Lord is present in the tabernacle and a reminder of Christ's abiding love for us. This candle is continuously lit except from Holy Thursday evening - Holy Saturday night. Each candle lasts approximately 7 days before it is renewed.



Would you like to dedicate the Sanctuary Lamp to a loved one, living or dead. or for a specific intention? The cost is just £5. If you would like a dedication for a week, place your £5 and the intention inside an envelope with SANCTUARY LAMP on the envelope and we will publish the intention each week in the parish newsletter.

MINISTRY OF READER

Fr Mark recently met our great team of Parish Readers who do an amazing job in feeding us with the Word of God at every Mass. We would love more people to join us to read each weekend and at Mass during the week. Please see Fr Mark for more details.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Sandra McLean who will be commissioned as a Minister of the Eucharist at Mass this weekend. We thank her for agreeing to this new ministry in the life of our



Christmas Wreath Making At the Irenaeus Centre 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 1RD. Join us on Friday, 2 December at 10.30am and learn how to make your very own Christmas wreath. We are asking for a donation of £15 to cover the cost of the materials, please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or 0151 949 1199 to book your place.

WELCOMING PRAYER DAY: 26th November 2022

St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Formby, 10am – 4pm

This day is a follow up to the day on Centering Prayer that we held in April, but Centering Prayer Practitioners are welcome, even if they did not attend the first session – if you would like to come, please email Jonathan at spirituality@rcaol.org.uk. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come-first served basis. If you are not a Centering Prayer Practitioner but still would like to come, please contact us to check availability.

The 'Welcoming Prayer' was originally developed as an active complement to Centering Prayer – to help carry the “letting go” attitude of Centering prayer into the situations we face in daily life. It is used to restore inner equilibrium after experiencing an upset, by consenting to God's presence and action in our physical and emotional reactions to the events and situations we encounter.

The purpose of the Welcoming Prayer is to deepen our relationship with God through consenting in ordinary activities. It helps to heal the wounds of a lifetime by addressing them where they are stored - in the body. It contributes to the process of transformation in Christ initiated in Centering Prayer.

The day will offer a recap on Centering Prayer during the morning and the afternoon will be given to both the theory and the practice of the 'Welcoming Prayer.'

(Please bring your own lunch. Donations for the day are optional.)

Conversations about The Letter: A Message for Our Earth: The newly formed Pastoral Development team is putting on a series of “drop in” events. These are short 15-45 minute opportunities to find out about the work of the team and respond to issues of the day. Times are based around coffee/ lunch break or event home commute. Register www.LetterSocialActionLiverpool.eventbrite.com. Starting 21 November.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 19th November	12.00pm Baptism - Scarlett & Caleb Summers 4.30pm Jean Turner
Sunday 20th November <i>Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King</i>	10.30am People of the Parish 11.45am Baptism - Isabella McHale
Monday 21st November	10.00am John Ashcroft
Tuesday 22nd November <i>St Cecilia</i>	10.00am Joseph Bond
Wednesday 23rd November	NO MASS
Thursday 24th November <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac</i>	10.00am Thomas Francis Toolan
Friday 25th November	10.00am Pious List
Saturday 26th November	4.30pm Arthur Cranny
Sunday 27th November <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	10.30am Kathleen Willis

COULD YOU BE A DEACON?

As we start to implement our new Pastoral Plan which sets out concrete actions to change our ways of working so that our Church becomes more inclusive, more welcoming and more engaged with those on the margins, the ministry of deacons will continue to evolve alongside the presbyteral ministry in the service of the priesthood of all the baptised. If you would like to hear some of their stories and you feel this may be your calling too, please join Archbishop Malcolm and the diaconate team at a meeting for men who may be wondering if they are called to serve as deacons and what the formation involves. Wives and supporting priests or deacons are also welcome. Tuesday, 29 November, 7.30pm-9pm in the St John Vianney Meeting Room at Christ the King Church, Queen's Drive.

World Youth Sunday

“Mary arose and went with haste” This theme for World Youth Sunday reflects a call to stand up again, together, to find fresh strength and to help others to rise up too. It reminds us that young people must commit again to use the energy, gifts and talents they have in new ways. Pope Francis called for a relaunch of World Youth Day in November 2020 and asked the global community to celebrate locally on the Solemnity of Christ the King which this year falls on Sunday, 20 November.

Resources are available at:

worldyouthsunday.com

A retiring collection will take place this weekend for Animate. Please give generously.

Animate will also publish their second ‘Car Pool Karaoke’ on the Animate YouTube channel talking especially about Lourdes. Beyond this day, there are other opportunities for young people to be more involved with the life of the Church and more information on Lourdes, training as a Minister of Holy Communion and the trip to Wembley for the Flame Congress – visit animateyouth.org

Society of St Gregory Wednesday Workshops for Advent

23 November - Children and Christmas – What do they learn from the music they sing?,
Dr Sue Price

7 December - The Word of God at Christmas – Whose story is it? Monsignor Kevin McGinnell

Sessions will take place from 7.30-8.45pm, via Zoom. There is a charge for these workshops of £10 per person. More details here www.ssg.org.uk/wednesday-workshops-Autumn-2022

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Before the elders of Israel anointed David king, they presented themselves to him, saying, *“Look, we are your own flesh and blood”*. They claimed kinship with him before giving him the kingship. Paul declares that all things, including all of us, were created in Christ and through Christ, which gives us kinship with him. He is our brother as well as our King. On the cross, Jesus declares a sort of kinship with the repentant thief, promising him that he will accompany him in heaven. In countries that recognise royalty, just being distantly related to the king can bring you a royal title and privileges. Since we are kin of our King, we too are royalty.

When we first meet David he was tending sheep, overlooked since he was the youngest of Jesse's sons. Jesus presented himself as the Good Shepherd, tending his own and rescuing the lost. On the cross he is still the shepherd, welcoming the lost sheep to his heavenly pasture.

Three times those surrounding Jesus on the cross scoffed at this supposed king slowly dying the death of a criminal. The rulers, the soldiers, and one of the criminals each call upon him to save himself if he is so powerful. The criminal goes on to demand that he save him as well. None of these people can imagine anyone, especially a king, being so selfless that he wouldn't do whatever he could to save his own life. They cannot understand the paradox of God being born into this world seemingly only to die an awful death. Only the criminal who recognises Jesus' innocence seeks not that his own life be saved, but rather life in a kingdom that the Messiah is willing to die for.

ENGLISH MARTYRS SCHOOL are holding a Christmas Fayre in the school hall on the 25th November 3-5pm. Parishioners are warmly invited to join the school community.

Also - they are asking for donations of new toys to help families this Christmas. Toys suitable for 3-10 year olds. New only please and to be handed in to school by 25 November

SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp Dedication for the coming week is:

‘For a very special intention’



WARM & COSY CENTRES

The Archdiocesan trustees approved for our parish centres to be used as 'warm and cosy' centres during the winter months. The centres will be welcoming people to enjoy free tea, coffee and biscuits and have free use of TVs and wi-fi in a safe space.

Our nearest Centres are: Our Lady of Walsingham & St Robert Bellarmine (Thursdays) & St Elizabeth's (Mondays) and they will be open to everyone from 1.00-3.30pm.

The Irenaeus Project in Waterloo will also be open every Monday-Thursday 10.00am - 4.00pm for people to pop in. Holy Rosary Parish Hall in the Old Roan will be open from on Friday 12.00pm - 2.00pm with a warm lunch served at 12.30pm.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

Children Who Suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

Lord in your mercy...



At the Foot of the Cross – Podcast (Catholic Bishop's Conference)

www.cbcew.org.uk/podcast/vatican-ii-constitutions-episode-7/

“In preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025 ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ the Catholic Church has two preparatory years. During 2023 we will examine the four constitutions. In this episode of At the Foot of the Cross Rev Canon Christopher Thomas gives a short overview on the four constitutions of the Second Vatican Council. Sacrasanctum Concilium on the Sacred Liturgy, Lumen Gentium on the Church, Dei Verbum on Divine Revelation and Gaudium et Spes on the Church on the Modern World. Patrick O’Dowd, CEO of Caritas in Salford talks about the cost-of-living crises and the impact on people in the northwest and finally Bishop Patrick McKinney our Lead Bishop for interreligious Dialogue gives a reflection on the importance of dialogue with followers of other religions.”

CHRISTMAS BINGO - CHANGE OF DATE!!!! Please note the bingo is now **Wednesday 14th December**. Tickets now available at back of Church.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE - tickets also now on sale for our grand Christmas raffles. First prize a luxury hamper and many other lovely prizes in the main raffle. We will also have the drinks hamper raffle as last year.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Cecilia - Patron of music & musicians



Devotion to St Cecilia, in whose honour a basilica was constructed in Rome in the fifth century, has spread far and wide because of the Passion of Saint Cecilia, which holds her up as a perfect example of a Christian woman, who embraced virginity and suffered martyrdom for the love of Christ.

As with early martyrs, nothing much is known about Cecilia except her existence and her name; with the additional complication that so many stories have grown up round her that any remaining historical facts are obscured. No-one knows quite why she should suddenly have become popular in the middle of the sixth century, some 200 years after her death, and her association with music is also a mystery. It may be real, or it may come from the description in the Passion of Cecilia singing to God “in her heart” while the musicians were playing on her wedding day, or it may come from a linguistic confusion: where the Passion describes her being stifled to death *candentibus organis*, “with the pipes glowing red-hot,” this could have been misread as *cantantibus organis*, “with the organ playing.”

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

CHURCH REGISTERS

Our parish registers contain information which reveals a person's religion and personal details, so we can't send copy of entries to people who are simply asking for a friend or relative's information. We can only send copy of entries to the person whose information we have. This is because of data protection law. This means we can't give out information from our registers without checking who is asking. Parish Priests have recently been given further information on this issue.

All parishes must now ask anyone who requests information from our parish registers to provide evidence of their identity so that we can be certain that we are giving the information to the person who received the sacrament.

If you need copy entries such as a baptism certificate for a child under 12 we must ask for evidence of the parent's identity and a copy of the child's birth certificate. A person over 12 must ask for the information themselves or write authorising the release of the information to the person asking. Both people would need to supply proof of identity.

By evidence of identity we mean, driving license, passport, bank statement, credit card statement or a letter from a government agency. Parishes will not keep any proof but will be handed back to the person or the proof will be destroyed.

If you need a certificate for someone who has died we must ask for a copy of their death certificate.

Where 110 years have passed after the date of baptism or confirmation, or 100 years after marriage, the person who received the sacrament is presumed to have died. As data protection law does not apply to the information of those who have died, we can provide information without needing to check identity. If the sacrament was received more recently, then we need to ask for a copy of a death certificate before any information is shared.

What's On at our Cathedral

NSPCC Carols by Candlelight. This will return to Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral on Tuesday, 6 December at 7pm. The event is sponsored by Home Bargains and has an array of performers from across Merseyside including the PopVox Choir, Metropolitan Cathedral Youth Choir, Connected Voices Choir and Wirral Schools' Concert Band.

'Come away to a quiet place for a while'

Advent reflection days at Ince Benet Retreat Centre

Christmas Presence 1: Enthusiasm and hope in the world. A day of reflection on responses to John the Baptist, then and now. People came to the River Jordan to prepare for the coming of the Messiah; they returned to daily life full of enthusiasm and hope. We can repeat the journey, Sunday, 4 December, 10.30am- 3.30pm.

Christmas Presence 2: 'Be it done unto me according to your word'. A day of reflection on Mary's doubts and response to God's call. Mary had many good reasons to say, 'Not me, Lord', but said 'Yes'. We can respond either way to our call to bring Christ into the world. Wednesday, 7 December, 10.30am-3.30pm.

Ince Benet, in Ince Woods 3 miles from Crosby, is a beautiful and convenient place to accept Jesus' invitation to 'Come away to a quiet place' at a busy time of the year. See the website, www.incebenet.co.uk to see the facilities and the surrounds. If you wish to turn the day into a retreat, accommodation is available for one or more nights.

For further information or to book for either or both of these days contact Martin and Maria Bennett or Canon Rod Garner: phone: 07931902346 email: ince.benet@gmail.com Suggested donation for the retreat days: £10 per person. Tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch. Martin Bennett writes weekly reflections on Scripture, leads Scripture groups and gives talks and retreats on living the Gospel in daily life.

LIVERPOOL NOTRE DAME ASSOCIATION

Are you an ex pupil or member of staff of any of the Liverpool Notre Dame schools? We are pleased to let you know about our next event on Saturday 26th November 2022 which will be held at The Iranaeus Project, 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 1 RD. If you would like to join us for Mass and Afternoon Tea please contact Sheila at: sheilabrown52@yahoo.co.uk for further details or to book.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

As we are quickly approaching the end of this liturgical year, it may be good to cast our glance towards what is coming. Some of you may be aware that the year 2025 will be a year of jubilee, and the motto will be **“Pilgrims of Hope”**. A Jubilee Year takes place in the Catholic Church every 25 years, the last being the Great Jubilee of the year 2000.

In preparation for this jubilee year, Pope Francis wrote a letter in which he calls the Church to renew its awareness of the universal call to responsible participation. Hence, in 2023, we are invited to focus on the four major constitutions of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, and all the supporting documents. This new year is liturgically starting in 1 week, with the first Sunday of Advent, and non-liturgically in less than two months. Afterwards, we are to celebrate 2024 as a year of prayer in preparation for the jubilee year. The Pope’s vision for 2024 is worth quoting in full, and worth praying with.

“In this time of preparation, I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great “symphony” of prayer. Prayer, above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him. Prayer, moreover, to thank God for the many gifts of his love for us and to praise his work in creation, which summons everyone to respect it and to take concrete and responsible steps to protect it. Prayer as the expression of a single “heart and soul” (cf. Acts 4:32), which then translates into solidarity and the sharing of our daily bread. Prayer that makes it possible for every man and woman in this world to turn to the one God and to reveal to him what lies hidden in the depths of their heart. Prayer as the royal road to holiness, which enables us to be contemplative even in the midst of activity. In a word, may it be an intense year of prayer in which hearts are opened to receive the outpouring of God’s grace and to make the “Our Father,” the prayer Jesus taught us, the life programme of each of his disciples.”

LGBTQ+ Catholics Archdiocese of Liverpool

The next gathering and Mass will be on Sunday 11th December 2022 here at All Saints Anfield do let me know if you are able to attend. There will be a social gathering after Mass. Mass will begin at 2.00pm. For more information, please contact Canon Stephen Maloney: frsmaloney@aol.co.uk

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

Donations for Ukraine

Your local collection point is:

St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool,
L17 1AA

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.