



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday 26th February 2023



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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[www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk](http://www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk)

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When does my self-centredness lead me to give into temptation? How can my Christian concern for others help me resist that temptation?

## A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS

### Discover the Beauty and Riches of the Mass

The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist.

The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning. Everything we say and do in the Liturgy is steeped in biblical language. A Biblical Walk Through the Mass explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

This 5 week course will take place throughout Lent beginning on Monday 27 February, 7pm in the Parish Hall. Please register at the Parish Office. and make this part of your Lenten devotions.

## LENTEN SUNDAYS

Stations of the Cross and Benediction will be celebrated each Sunday of Lent at 4.00pm Please make every effort to come along to this special Lenten devotion.

## LENTEN ALMS

We are encouraged to make a financial contribution during the 6 week period of Lent. You will find the Lenten Alms box near the Lady Chapel at the front of church.



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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



## PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 28th

## **CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal**

### **Family Fast Day, Friday, 3 March:**

As a family or as an individual have a simple meal on March 3 and perhaps give what you would have spent to CAFOD. This Lent, you can help families around the world to cope with the climate crisis.

Communities are losing loved ones, their homes and their crops through no fault of their own. The people we serve are determined to adapt and they need your help now to get the tools and training they tell us they need.

There will be a retiring collection after Mass next week Please use one of the CAFOD envelopes which you can find at the back of Church. You can also donate at [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)



## **CATHEDRAL EVENT**



**Metropolitan Cathedral**  
of Christ the King Liverpool

The Cathedral community would like to invite you and your friends and family to a wonderful dining experience in the Art School which is in Sugnall Street, just around the corner from the Philharmonic. We are delighted to be able to collaborate with Chef Paul Askew and his team and we have arranged with them to provide a three course meal with a glass of Tifayne Rosé Crémant de Bordeaux 2012 with Gordal olives on arrival for just £50.00 per person.

Chef Askew has a firm reputation as a pioneer of excellent modern British cuisine and this is a dining experience not to be missed! The date you need to keep in your diary is Tuesday 18 April 2023.

Dinner will be served in The Lantern Room. We hope that you will book some tickets and come and enjoy a convivial evening in surroundings that are timeless and yet modern enjoying the company of new friends and old ones. Once again to book your ticket and to arrange payment please contact Claire Hanlon at [c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<b>Saturday 25th February</b>	4.30pm Edna Day
<b>Sunday 26th February</b> <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	10.30am People of the Parish  11.45 Baptism Luca Barwise
<b>Monday 27th February</b>	10.00am  James Brown
<b>Tuesday 28th February</b>	10.00am  Michelle McMullen
<b>Wednesday 1st March</b> <i>St David</i>	NO MASS
<b>Thursday 2nd March</b>	10.00am  Nicola & Bob Lambert  3.30pm Funeral service - James Flowers
<b>Friday 3rd March</b>	10.00am  Fr Bob Starkey
<b>Saturday 4th March</b>	4.30pm  People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 5th March</b> <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	10.30am  Debbie Rice

## **SUNDAY THOUGHTS**

It would appear that the devil didn't really know the Son of God too well. Each temptation would have been much more successful if he'd been dealing with a self-centred person instead. After days of fasting alone in a barren desert, a self-centred person would have been only too glad to see stones turn into bread. A self-centred person would have no qualms about jumping off a parapet if angels would prevent any harm. A self-centred person would do anything to gain all the kingdoms of the world.

The truth is that Jesus did accomplish all these things, but not because he gave in to temptation. No, he accomplished all these miraculous things because he did them on behalf of others. He offered his own body to be living bread to nourish the whole world. He threw himself at the mercy of the authorities and was lifted up on a cross - not to be saved by angels, but to save all of us. He did not gain all the kingdoms of the world for himself, but he gained God's kingdom - more magnificent than any earthly kingdom - for us all. His obedience to his Father gained for us all what his disobedience would have gained for only himself.

It may surprise you to realise that Jesus was not actually alone in the desert for forty days and forty nights. The Holy Spirit, who had just descended upon him like a dove as he was baptised, accompanied him every step of the way. The Holy Spirit descended upon us as well when we were baptised and accompanies us always, guiding us, strengthening us, supporting us. As we approach Easter and our rebirth in the waters of baptism, may we realise the presence of the Spirit, given to us at baptism and remaining with us forever.

## **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

At a recent meeting of the Deanery priests they decided to offer the sacrament of the sick after Friday Mass each week in Lent. This is not for multiple anointings - it is to awaken awareness of this wonderful healing sacrament and to invite anyone who is sick, going into hospital, anxious or mentally frail to come and receive God's help and strength. Every Friday after morning Mass (about 10.30am).

## **INCE BENET RETREAT DAYS IN LENT**

During Lent there will be various opportunities for groups and individuals to make the most of the season of prayer and renewal. Please make enquiries for further details / bookings to [ince.benet@gmail.com](mailto:ince.benet@gmail.com) or phone Martin and Maria Bennett on 07931902346

Quiet days in Lent: [Wed 1st, Mon 6th, Friday 24th , Monday 27th March]  
Individuals can spend a day or half a day organising their own prayer / reading or make use of suggested scripture passages suitable for Lent / Holy Week and walk in the woods.

Lent as a season of growth: [Mon 13th ; Wed 22nd March]  
Guided day of reflection and sharing, reflecting on how the disciplines of prayer and fasting were an integral part of Jesus' life helps us to see Lent as a period of growth.

Eden to Gethsemane via the desert: [Wed 15th March; Thursday 23rd March]  
Guided day of reflection and sharing: Temptation in the two gardens. A day spent in the two scriptural gardens to understand the nature of temptation and ways of responding to it in the light of Jesus' 40 days in the desert.

## **WANTED - CATHEDRAL STEWARDS**

Small cogs often play a vital part in helping a big machine run smoothly. It's rather like that with Cathedral stewards who act as the link between Cathedral and congregation, making sure everyone feels welcome and can participate fully in the main services, whether presenting the offertory gifts, contributing to collections or receiving communion. The Cathedral needs more people to volunteer for this important role, both on a regular weekly basis and for occasional extra events. If you would like to be more involved in the Cathedral community, or know someone enjoy meeting people and are good at organising then perhaps this call is for you! In the first instance please contact Claire Hanlon on [c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

### **POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH** **For victims of abuse**

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

*Lord in your mercy...*



## 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.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum.

Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND - Online

An opportunity to deepen your life and faith as a couple through this retreat. The next date available is 13 and 14 May 2023. The programme is delivered by experienced laity couples and a priest and is supported by the Bishops Conference. Full details of these experiences can be found on their website:  
<https://wwme.org.uk>

## EARTHQUAKE FUND

Following the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria, CAFOD's local experts are already on the ground and assessing the needs of those affected by the earthquake. CAFOD has committed £100,000 to support our local experts who are on the ground providing urgent humanitarian support to survivors of the earthquake. To contribute to the emergency fund [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) or Tel:0303 303 3030.

## Step into the gap – a gap year with CAFOD

A Gap Year opportunity: Are you 18- 30, or do you know someone who is? Do you want to develop a wide range of skills including leadership while learning about global justice and inspiring others to use their faith in action? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, believes in equipping and inspiring young adults to contribute to a more just and peaceful world. Step into the Gap is a fully funded year of volunteering, with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage. Visit the CAFOD website for more information: [www. cafod.org.uk/gapyear](http://www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear)

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Radio Merseyside is looking for nominations for its 'Make a Difference Awards', which celebrates people who go above and beyond to make a difference where you live. Nominations close next Sunday at 11:00pm. See Radio Merseyside for further details.



## A Message from Pablo who works in the Pastoral Development Department

Pathways to social action: Supporting refugees and asylum seekers "This is church..."

My work this month has taken me to Support and Helping Asylum seekers and Refugees (SHARe) Knowsley. This project started at St Aidan's when parishioners started helping asylum seekers in the Huyton area. They've gone from volunteers serving hot drinks, to 5 staff seeing hundreds of people a week. They offer English classes, welfare support and a warm welcome to people of all faiths and none. While they don't press any faith, one participant said, "this is what church feels like".

If you would like to find out how you can get involved in refugee work, join our "Refugee network event for parishioners": 6.30pm, 29 March, please get in touch with me, Pablo Guidi at [p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:p.guidi@rcaol.org.uk) to register.



## MICAH LIVERPOOL

Micah Liverpool is a social justice charity that has been set up by Liverpool Cathedral, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King and St Bride's Church to relieve Liverpool residents from social injustice and poverty. We are currently running projects to combat unemployment and deliver emergency food aid and affordable food.

They are looking to recruit more volunteers for all of its food aid activity. They run four projects Tuesday to Friday between 10.30am and 12.30pm and are looking for people who would like to get involved and give something back to their communities.

They are also asking for people who have language skills to apply for volunteering roles as we support such a diverse range of people. They have multiple roles including foodbank volunteer, community market volunteer, administration volunteer and stores person volunteer.

If you think you can support Micah Liverpool in any of those roles and would like to find out more contact Paul O'Brien via [paul.obrien@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:paul.obrien@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk) or call 07932 842337

## FEAST OF THE WEEK

### St David (520-589)

The earliest life of St David dates from five centuries after his death, probably in 589. He became eminent as abbot and bishop at the site now known as St David's, but formerly Mynyw, from which the present diocese of Menevia is named. He is credited with a monastic rule based on the example of the Eastern Fathers, and also with a Penitentiary. He was invited to preside at the synod of Llandewibrefi. Monks trained at his monastery evangelised South Wales and made foundations in Cornwall, Brittany and Ireland. St David is said to have sent a Mass rite to Ireland. At his death his contemporary St Kentigern, founder of St Asaph's in North Wales, witnessed in vision his joyful entrance into the joy of his Lord. His holy relics have been found hidden in the fabric of St David's Cathedral, where they are carefully preserved. He was canonised by Pope Callistus II in 1123.





## SANCTUARY LAMP

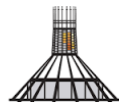
The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

**'Sheila Williams'**



## Come and Sing

The cathedral is hosting a come and sing event for singers of all ages and abilities in March. Why not come along on Saturday, 25 March and join a massed choir under the baton of archdiocese Choral Director Joe Watson?



Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool

A 'come and sing' choir is a group of individuals (or sometimes an established choir/singing group) that joins together with other like-minded people to form a special choir for a day. On Saturday, 25 March, all of our singers will come together for the first time in the afternoon, rehearse together, and then perform in the evening! YouTube rehearsal links are provided to all participants so that they can practice and familiarise themselves with their parts ahead of the day. Reading music is not a prerequisite as music can be learnt with the YouTube links.



**WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY**

**Luca Barwise**

Baptised Sunday 26th February 2023



**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

## CAFOD's Big Lent Walk

Lent began on Ash Wednesday on 22nd February. CAFOD's challenge is to walk 200km over 40 days to help people overcome poverty. You can still register to walk, run, skip, or stroll your 200km, (5k a day) when and where you choose, alone or with friends. You'll be among thousands of people up and down England and Wales conquering your 200km targets in time for Easter. Remember: every step you take is a step closer to a fairer world. Let's tell poverty to jog on! Sign up [www.walk.cafod.org.uk](http://www.walk.cafod.org.uk). Bernie has signed up and is on the move again!! If you would like to help her achieve her £200 target donation you can do so - <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/bernadette-coxon>



## Online Lent Retreat

Hosted by The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow the theme for this year's retreat is 'Live to Inspire.' For more info visit: [www.onlineprayer.net/saints](http://www.onlineprayer.net/saints)

## CONFIRMATION 2023

Any young person who is year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation can register for Sacramental preparation at [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk). The website for registration closes on the 17th March. While the registration period is open, Animate will visit schools in the diocese to promote the Sacrament. At the same time schools will teach about the Sacrament of Confirmation in RE classes.

## WHAT'S ON AT THE IRENAEUS CENTRE

**KNIT AND NATTER** 10:30 - 12 noon  
Tuesdays

**GODLY PLAY** 12 Noon Tuesdays  
Praying creatively

**SONGS WE REMEMBER** Wednesday  
22nd February '23 2pm - 4pm

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT** 1.30pm  
Thursdays

**ART AND MEDITATION** 2-4pm  
Thursdays

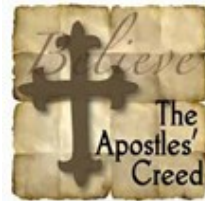
**AGAPE MASS** 7pm 2nd March '23

**MASS EVERY  
WEDNESDAY**  
12 NOON



## The Apostles' Creed

During the Seasons of Lent & Easter, the Apostles Creed is said:



I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
*At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.

Amen.

