



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs Litherland

Second Sunday of Lent  
Sunday 5th March 2023



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What crosses have I found difficult to carry or been unwilling to carry?

What crosses have I not even thought to carry, but my taking them up could ease the burden for someone close to me or someone else in need?

What cross can I carry that will transfigure my life this Lent?

## 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 6 March, 7pm in the Parish Hall. Please register at the Parish Office. and make this part of your Lenten devotions.

## THE SACRED TRIDUUM 2023

Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.00 pm
	Watching at the Altar of Repose	
	Night Prayer	10.00pm
Good Friday	Solemn Celebration of the Passion	3.00 pm
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil & 1st Mass of Easter	8.30 pm
Easter Sunday	Mass of Easter Day	10.30am

## CATHOLIC PIC

The March edition is now available in the Parish Shop, free of charge. Fr Mark has written the main feature this month on his recent meetings in Jordan.



## FEAST OF THE WEEK

### St John Ogilvie (1579-1615)

John Ogilvie was born of noble Calvinist parents in 1579 at Drum-na-Keith in Banffshire, Scotland. As a boy he was sent to the continent to further his education. With the help of Father Cornelius van den Steen he was received into the Catholic Church. He entered the Society of Jesus on the 5th November 1599, and was ordained priest at Paris in 1610. He returned to his native country, but his ministry was cut short by his betrayal and capture in Glasgow. After extreme suffering he was hanged on the 10th of March 1615. The principal cause of his martyrdom was his insistence on the primacy of the Pope in spiritual matters, a primacy he affirmed with great constancy to the very end. His last words were *"If there be here any hidden Catholics, let them pray for me but the prayers of heretics I will not have."* After he was pushed from the ladder, he threw his hidden Rosary beads out into the crowd. One of his enemies caught them, and he became a devout Catholic for the rest of his life.



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

### 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.



## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<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
<b>Monday 6th March</b>	10.00am Elliot Dinsdale
<b>Tuesday 7th March</b>	10.00am Geoff Adams
<b>Wednesday 8th March</b>	NO MASS
<b>Thursday 9th March</b>	NO MASS
<b>Friday 10th March</b>	10.00am John Fairclough
<b>Saturday 11th March</b>	4.30pm People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 12th March</b> <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	10.30am Doreen Cheetham

## SUNDAY THOUGHTS

God speaks from the cloud at the Transfiguration, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him". Those last three words were given to his disciples as a command then, and they are given to us as well, for we too are his disciples.



Are we listening to Jesus today? Are we making the effort to listen for Jesus' voice during this holy season? Whether we look inside ourselves or out into the world, we can see plenty of things that could be done, plenty of things that we should do, plenty of things that Jesus is asking us to do.

Just before this scene, Jesus had told his disciples that he will be persecuted by the authorities and put to death. Peter had immediately rebuked him, to which Jesus responded, "Get behind me, Satan! . . . You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do". Significantly, Peter is one of the three who now hear God say about Jesus, "Listen to him." It's almost as if God is saying: My Son is telling you the truth. You better listen! You need to understand this!

After confronting Peter's rebuke, Jesus speaks to the other disciples, telling them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny [themselves], take up [their] cross, and follow me". God affirms this statement in commanding Peter, James, and John to listen to Jesus. This command is addressed to us as well. If we are to come after Jesus, if we are to be raised to eternal life with him, we must deny our own desires, take up our crosses, and follow him.."

## 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 Gods 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.

## ST OSCAR ROMERO MASS

To mark the feast of St Oscar Romero, there is a Mass followed by talk "Responding to the Cry of the Poor Today" at 7:00pm on Thursday 23 March 2023, in Saint Edmund of Canterbury Church, Waterloo.

Outside of El Salvador, the Archdiocese of Liverpool is the only place to hold a Mass to mark the martyrdom of Archbishop Romero every year since his assassination. This is the 43rd anniversary mass to be held.

After the Mass, there will be refreshments and a talk by Peggy Healy.



## The North Merseyside Newman Association

The association will be presenting a talk on "The Building of the Cathedral" by Dr. Philip Harrison, the resident Architect who worked closely with Sir Frederick Gibberd. Please join us at St. Helen's Parish Centre, Crosby L23 7TQ. Light refreshments are at 7.15 pm before the talk begins at 7.30 pm on Thursday 16 March. There is no charge and free parking.

## EASTER BINGO

Tickets will be on sale after Masses next weekend for the Easter Bingo and raffle. Bingo to be held in the hall on Wednesday 29 March

## **IRENAEUS FOOD CUPBOARD**

Thank you for all the support and donations you give for the Foodbank and huge thanks to Chris & Mary for coordinating our efforts.

The Irenaeus Project in Waterloo has contacted Fr Mark to ask for help in replenishing their food cupboard which is open to anybody in need and especially families in difficult situations. They are particularly wanting the following:

Tins of custard, rice pudding, fruit, tuna, Heinz tomato soup, corned beef, ham and chopped pork.  
Sugar, coffee, cereal, biscuits.  
Household cleaning items, washing tablets, washing up liquid.  
Shampoo and toothpaste.

For more information on the food cupboard: [www,irenaeus.co.uk](http://www.irenaeus.co.uk) and click on 'our outreach'.

## **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

There will be a short meeting for all Ministers of the Eucharist on Tuesday 4 April, 7pm in church.

## **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

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are delighted to announce that Children's Liturgy is now back in 10.30am Mass. Thank you to Sara and a new team of catechists for providing this important ministry to our younger parishioners.

The term 'Liturgy of the Word with Children' refers to the practice of children leaving the Sunday assembly during the Liturgy of the Word and gathering with adult leaders elsewhere to celebrate a separate Liturgy of the Word that is more appropriate to their level of understanding.

Please note...that this is NOT a creche and is for school children only. Parents who wish to accompany their children must go through Safeguarding checks as they will be in a room with other children. Please see the Parish Office for further details regarding DBS. All our parish catechists have current DBS certificates.

**A short meeting will take place in the sacristy after Sunday Mass this weekend for all those interested in joining the new team.**



### **SANCTUARY LAMP**

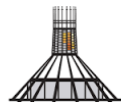
The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

**'Isobel Prescott'**



### **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?

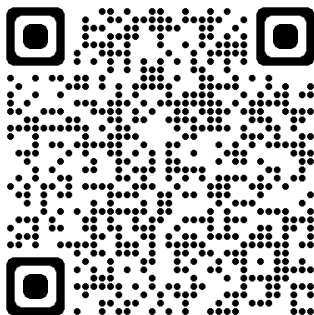


Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool

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.

### **CAFOD's online Lent Calendar**

CAFOD have a lovely online calendar available for Lent which has reflections, readings and prayers for each day. Scan this QR code on the camera on your smart phone and it will take you to each day. You can also 'catch up' on previous days.



**UNWANTED GIFTS?** If you have any unwanted gifts please pass them in to the Parish Office. They will be a great help for our fundraising activities this coming year.

## 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

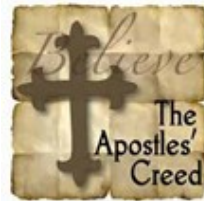
**AGAPE MASS** 7pm 2nd March '23

**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.

