



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

26th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 1st October 2023



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk

www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which of the two sons in the Gospel am I? If at times I've been the one who said no, what would my saying yes to God look like in my life this week?

WEEKDAY MASS -

Please note there is **no Mass** on Thursday.

Mass on Friday is at 10.00am and is the funeral of Joan Johnson.

Funeral service for Frank Begley is at 2.00pm on Friday



Archbishop Malcolm Pastoral Letter



Today we listen to a pastoral letter from

Archbishop Malcolm on 'Care for Creation:

Commitments, Actions and Participation'

There is a video of the Archbishop reading the

letter available on the Parish website if you would

like to listen to him speaking his own words

A PILGRIMAGE TO JORDAN

Fr Mark has been invited to lead a pilgrimage to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan possibly in September 2024. This is not necessarily parish pilgrimage but first places will be given to parishioners and friends of English Martyrs.



The pilgrimage will be for approximately 7 days with accommodation in Amman and Petra. The pilgrimage will include visiting sites such as Mount Nebo and the Baptism site of Jesus. Archaeological sites will include Petra and Jerash and we will also spend a lot of time meeting the local Christian community in parishes, schools and various projects. Jordan is part of the Holy Land and the Christian community are an essential part of the country. Flights will be from London Heathrow airport. The itinerary is not yet finalised but the Tour Company estimates the cost of approximately £1900 per person for a fully inclusive trip. If you are interested please give your name to the Parish Office so we can see the level of interest.

ROADSHOW

The Diocesan Synod Pastoral Plan makes clear the way forward for the church in our Archdiocese. It says this: *'Developing the models of pastoral collaboration that we already have we will create families of parishes.'* In the future, we will work as Families of Parishes. To explore what this means, there are 3 roadshows planned. These are open meetings for anyone and everyone to come. They will take place on:

Sat 4th Nov from 10.00am – 12 noon at St Margaret Clitherow Centre.

Tuesday 7th Nov 7:00pm – 9.00pm at St Anne's Pastoral Centre in Ormskirk and

Wednesday 8th Nov 7.00pm – 9.00pm at St Julie's Eccleston, St Helens.

Further details, please contact Fr Philip Inch (p.inch@rcaol.org.uk).

LGBT+ Catholics - Sunday 8 October

The next gathering for LGBT+ Catholics will be on Sunday 8 October at St Bede's Church in Appleton Village, Widnes.

Our parish centres are opening their doors under a new scheme called 'Snack Away or Snack and Stay' to provide somewhere for children of any age to enjoy a free meal. This follows the recent 'warm and cosy' initiative.

Each of the centres will be open on different days of the week for children to come in and enjoy a free snack of a sandwich, fruit, crisps, and a drink with their parents, who can enjoy free tea and coffee. Visitors can also have access to TV, wi-fi, and most important of all, some friendly company. Full details are at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

The days and times for our local parish centres are:

St Elizabeth - Pennington Road, Litherland, L21 8HZ - Monday 1pm - 3.30pm

St Monica - Stewart Avenue, Bootle, L20 9JD - Monday 1pm - 3.30pm

St Benet - Chapel Lane, Netherton, L30 7PD - Tuesday 1pm - 3.30pm

Our Lady of Walsingham - Stand Park Ave, Netherton, L30 3SA - Thursday 1pm - 3.30pm

St Robert Bellarmine - 52 Orrell Road, Bootle, L20 8DZ - Thursday 1pm - 3.30pm



Masses & Services for the coming week

| DATE | MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 30th September <i>St Jerome</i> | NO MASS 12.00pm Baptism - Maeve Lily Moreton |
| Sunday 1st October <i>26th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i> | 10.30am Alice Power 11.45am Baptism - Bella Rose McCall |
| Monday 2nd October | 10.00am Magdalen & John Rimmer |
| Tuesday 3rd October | 10.00am Stephen McQuade |
| Wednesday 4th October | NO MASS |
| Thursday 5th October | NO MASS |
| Friday 6th October | 10.00am Funeral Mass - Joan Johnson 2.00pm - Funeral service Frank Begley |
| Saturday 7th October <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i> | NO MASS 12.00pm Baptism - Lily Grace Quilliam |
| Sunday 8th October <i>27th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i> | 10.30am John Fairclough 11.45am Baptism - Ted Ferguson |

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.



Lord in your mercy...

Scripture discussion group

Our Lenten course 'A biblical walk through the mass' was very popular and provoked some interesting and wonderful discussions. A few people indicated that they would like to carry on the discussions when the course had finished. Now that summer is over and we are all back from holidays there will be an initial meeting on 2 October at 7pm in the parish hall to explore how you would like the discussions to run. Please have a think and bring your thoughts and suggestions on 2 October and we will see if we can get this group up and running. The meeting is open to everyone so come along

What's on at Irenaeus

Handcrafted Bible Exhibition

2-5 October 10.00am to 4.00pm. Go and have a look at the wonderful crafted bible stories



Come and See Day

Saturday 7th October. Keynote Speaker Fr Gerry O'Shaughnessy. Bring your own lunch. Suggested donation £10 please.

Prayer for Healing:

Each Monday 2pm - 3pm a 'Prayer for Healing' session

Scripture mornings: Gratitude and Blessings in Scripture

Thursday 5 October 10.30am till 12.00pm

For more information on all above, please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk, or phone 0151 949 1199



The Irenaeus Project
the glory of God is in person fully alive

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

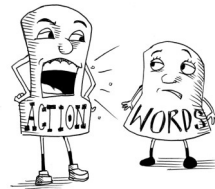
This week's Gospel tells the story of two brothers who were asked to work in their father's vineyard. The first son initially refused his father's request but then worked diligently for the entire day. The second son promised to work but failed to do so.

'Obedience does not consist of saying "yes" or "no", but always of acting, of cultivating the vineyard, of bringing about the Kingdom of God by doing good.' (Pope Francis)

As I reflect on the Pope's words, I am challenged. Am I cultivating the vineyard? Am I actively striving for justice or just making empty promises? I admit that at times, I have flaunted my religiosity like the second brother in the parable - I have said "yes" but failed to follow through.

But Jesus' message is one of mercy, I can repent and do good in his name. For example, I can buy food and clothes from ethical sources. I can give alms or donate my time to worthy causes. I can reduce my carbon footprint and lessen the impact that climate change has on our brothers and sisters around the world.

As Christians, we must be willing to say "yes" with our actions because Jesus reminds us here, that actions speak louder than words.



Journey Into Prayer Course There are many different ways of praying, but many of us stay with the few methods we learned years ago. It is good to try other ways, as they may lift us out of the dry place we sometimes find ourselves in. The Journey Into Prayer course aims to give a taste of a variety of ways of praying, not just by talking about them but by giving us space to experience them. The course, which will cost £160 per person, will begin at The Cenacle on 16 January 2024 and continue for 12 sessions through to July, with a break for Easter. The closing date for applications is 1 December there are leaflets at the back of Church for anyone interested

WITH YOU ALWAYS Those with children who will be in Year 4 (or who are older) are invited to apply for First Communion & Reconciliation and complete the application form, hand it into the parish office before the 1st preparation meeting in October.



VATICAN II CONSTITUTIONS

The Vatican II Constitutions Lecture & Seminar Series preparing for the Year in Prayer will be starting in October. The dates and speakers are as follows:

Wednesday 25 October: Reimund Bieringer (Dei Verbum)

Wednesday 6 December: Paul McPartlan (Lumen Gentium)

Wednesday 17 January: Peter McGrail (Sacrosanctum Concilium)

Wednesday 28 February: Pat Jones (Gaudium et Spes)

The seminars will take place 3pm - 4:30pm, and after a break for refreshments, the lectures will be from 5:30 - 7pm. . If you would like to sign up, please register your interest with Elizabeth Parsons by emailing e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk

WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY



Maeve Lily Moreton
Baptised Saturday 30th September 2023



Bella Rose McCall
Baptised Sunday 1st October 2023

Are you a Catholic aged 20-45 (or know somebody who is)? Have a burning question about our faith, a desire to put your faith into action, or simply want to meet up and have meaningful discussions about religion, spirituality, and life with other Catholics your age? Let's explore our faith together in a welcoming environment – whether you go to church every week or haven't been for a while. Come along to St George's Catholic Church Social Club at 8pm on the last Tuesday of every month. All are welcome. Contact natasha-pritchard@hotmail.co.uk for further details.



Fr Mark's Theatre Group



A few tickets are still available for our trip to see Jesus Christ



Superstar on 27 October. Cost including transport is £64. It is getting really good

'write-ups' in the press so don't miss out! Call in to office if you want to join us

CHRISTMAS (Yes it is coming!) THEATRE TRIP



Last year's trip to the Philharmonic was a great success so we are repeating it this year. We are going to 'The Spirit of Christmas' on Friday 22 December. Those who have been before

will know that 'there'll be classic carols, audience singalongs, seasonal readings, music from local star mezzo soprano Kathryn Rudge – and even a few magical surprises'. Cost including transport is £49. **We need to confirm numbers for this soon so names to office if you are interested**

SPRING 2024 - WICKED the musical is



coming to the Liverpool Empire in June next year. - 'a beguiling backstory to the lives of L Frank

Baum's beloved characters, and reveals the magic that shaped the destinies of two unlikely friends on their remarkable journey to becoming Glinda The Good and the Wicked Witch of the West' Believe it or not tickets are already going fast. We have 'got in quick' and secured some for 27 June next year. Tickets for this one are more expensive so cost is £74. Again, names and deposit to office will secure your place.

Can we please ask that if you pay your deposit for either trip then that confirms your attendance and the ticket is then non-refundable. Payment can be in instalments if needed once the deposit is paid.





SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:



'Finley McLean (help and guidance)'

It has just been announced that the Church of Saint Mary of the Isle, Isle of Man has been granted Cathedral status by Pope Francis and will be a co-cathedral for the Archdiocese of Liverpool. More information can be seen at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/news



CHRISTMAS BY CANDELIGHT - 22nd December

The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King are planning a really special evening of Christmas cheer, and would love you to be a part of it! Set by candlelight in the beautiful Crypt Concert Room, we will be serving a delicious two-course Christmas supper prepared and served at your table by Horseradish, one of the Cathedral's preferred caterers. A delicious Christmas feast will be specially designed for you by one of the team of 5* and Michelin experienced chefs. Following a welcome drink of fizz on arrival you will be able to sit back and listen to the Cathedral Youth Choir who will be singing some festive favourites. This will be the Christmas event not to be missed.

If you would like to buy individual tickets or reserve a table for friends and family email c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk Tickets are limited and we do expect them to sell fast, so get them today and leave the rest to us! Cost: £50.00 per person.

Novena Prayer for the Care of Creation

Our parish website this week has the next Novena Prayer to St Francis of Assisi to celebrate the 'Care of Creation' Have a look and you can still follow the Novena if you wish

Caring for God's Creation



FEAST OF THE WEEK - St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

4 October

Francis Bernardone was born in 1181 at Assisi, Umbria, Italy. The son of a wealthy cloth merchant, he lived a lavish and irresponsible life. At the age of twenty, he went to war against Perugia, but was captured and imprisoned. During his imprisonment he experienced a vision from Christ and changed his life completely. He left all his possessions and embraced complete poverty, taking the Gospel as his rule of life. His father became extremely displeased at his action, and disinherited him.

He wore ragged old clothes, begged for food and preached peace. He began to attract followers, and in 1209 with the papal blessing he founded the Friars Minor (Franciscans) which in ten years numbered five thousand brothers. Then in 1212 with St. Clare of Assisi he founded the foundation of the Order of "Poor Ladies," now known as the "Poor Clares." He also founded the "Third Order of Penance" (the Third Order) which included lay people. He was the first person (recorded) to receive the stigmata (the five wounds of Christ) in 1224.

Francis saw animals as his brothers and sisters and prayed that God would work through him to help them. Birds sometimes gathered while Francis spoke and listened to him Francis began preaching to them about the ways that God had blessed them. He famously wrote The Canticle of the Sun, also known as Canticle of the Creatures and Laudes Creaturarum (Praise of the Creatures) He died on October 4, 1226 at Portiuncula, Italy. He was canonized by Gregory IX less than two years later.



The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is hosting a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Co Mayo from November 9 to 14 to Pray for the Holy Souls. It will be led by the Marian Fathers.

Package includes: Return flights by Aer Lingus from Heathrow Airport, half board, 5 nights, accommodation in en suite twin rooms, hand-luggage (10 kgs), all transfers and Airport Development fee. The Retreat will include daily Mass and Hour of Mercy and retreats at Glendalough and Kylemore Abbey. Cost £800. All Welcome. Please call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day -

is on Friday 6 October. CAFOD donation envelopes are available at the back of church. Our Parish website has a film about the Harvest Fast Day story of Meera and Dr Nasha coping with the Pakistan floods last year and CAFOD's reconstruction efforts through the tireless support of our partner CWSA. It is compelling viewing.

Generous God, we thank you for the gifts you have given for all people to share.

We plant seeds of hope and nurture them as we seek a harvest of plenty for all.

Forgive us for the times these seeds fail to take root in our hearts.

We grieve when homes and crops are washed away by floods, when lives are uprooted by disaster, or trampled by fear and greed.

Living God, you lead us to a new way of being.

Move us to help one another in our times of need, to care for the earth and to love one another, sharing your harvest with all.



Amen.

Mozart Requiem - Saturday 21 October 7:30pm

The choir of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral is joined by the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra to present a programme of music by Beethoven and Mozart. Mozart's sublime Requiem will be preceded by his Overture to the Magic Flute and Beethoven's 1st Symphony. The combined forces will be directed by Maria Barbosa Aristizabal, and special guest conductor Tucker Biddlecombe from Nashville, Tennessee.

Tickets £15/£10

www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral

'Come & See Day'

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

'THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE'

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

GERRY O'SHAUGHNESSY



at

THE IRENAEUS CENTRE Bring a packed lunch.
32 GREAT GEORGES ROAD
L22 1RD

Suggested donation £10

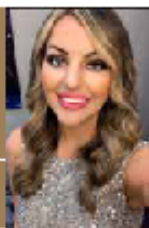
For further details contact: jenny@irenaeus.co.uk
Or Tel: 0151 949 1199



THE PRIESTS LIVE IN CONCERT

CELEBRATING THE **CENTENARY YEAR OF THE LIVERPOOL LOURDES PILGRIMAGE AND THE WORK OF THE FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL**

WITH GUEST SOLOIST **DANIELLE THOMAS**
AND MUSICAL DIRECTOR **STEPHEN MANNINGS**



THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2023 TICKETS £25

The Metropolitan Cathedral, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5TG

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

For queries email: thepriestsliverpool@hotmail.com

ThePriestsLiverpool.eventbrite.co.uk (Booking fees may apply)

Group bookings from Tel: **07860 129589** (Admin fee may apply)



Liverpool Archdiocesan
Lourdes Pilgrimage
Association

Archdiocese of Liverpool CIO no 1199714