



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

24th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 17th September 2023



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 [englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk)

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

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do I see myself letting resentment or bitterness build up in my heart? Who do I need to reach out to and forgive?

**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.



**WEEKDAY MASS - PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO MASS ON THURSDAY**

**FAMILIES OF PARISHES** Fr Mark has often shared with us the new vision within the Archdiocese called 'Family of Parishes' and this Autumn we will reflect on what this means for us as we move towards this reality. A parish meeting will be held after Mass today in the parish hall for us to find out more what this means and to hear your views. Many thanks to Our Parish Synodal Rep Jill Williams for all her hard work.

## 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).

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](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

The days and times for our local parish centres are:

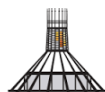
St Elizabeth - Pennington Road, Litherland, L21 8HZ - Monday 1pm - 3.30pm

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



Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<b>Saturday 16th September</b> <i>Ss Cornelius &amp; Cyprian</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Sunday 17th September</b> <i>24th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<b>10.30am</b> Tony Coady <b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Harriett Johnson
<b>Monday 18th September</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Thomas Francis Toolan
<b>Tuesday 19th September</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Harper Chapman
<b>Wednesday 20th September</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday 21st September</b> <i>St Matthew</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Friday 22nd September</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Maureen Henshall
<b>Saturday 23rd September</b> <i>St Pius of Pietreicina</i>	<b>NO MASS</b> <b>12.00pm</b> Baptism - Albie & Elena Duncalf
<b>Sunday 24th September</b> <i>25th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<b>10.30am</b> Stephen McQuade <b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Francis Brehany

## POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

### For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

*Lord in your mercy...*



## CATHEDRAL FRIENDS LECTURE

Nicholas Breakspear,  
Gibberd Room,  
Saturday,  
23 September,  
11am-1pm.

In this fascinating lecture you will discover the story of how an impoverished lad from Hertfordshire was Pope by the time he was 50.



Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool

## What's on at Irenaeus



**The shaping of things to come:  
Reflecting on the life and ministries of  
our parishes. How can we move into  
the future?**

A series of talks on 19 and 26 September  
7pm-8.30pm. Don't worry if you missed  
the first two you can still join us.

### **Prayer for Healing:**

Starting 11th September and each Monday  
thereafter 2pm - 3pm a 'Prayer for Healing'  
session

**Women's weekend: Standing on the  
shoulders of ones who've gone before  
us:**

A weekend long event 22 September

**Scripture mornings: Gratitude and  
Blessings in Scripture**

Thursdays 21,28 September 5 October  
10.30am till 12.00pm

For more information on all above, please  
contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk), or phone  
0151 949 1199

## SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Peter must have thought he was going overboard when he suggested that he would forgive the person who wronged him seven times. But seven times actually seems doable. Once a day for an entire week isn't that hard. And after all, seven represented completeness. To complete the forgiveness process, if seven times was what it took, okay. But Jesus shocks Peter when he demands forgiving seventy-seven times. Who could possibly do that? But that's the point. Forgiveness isn't something that is tracked on a scorecard, with a certain number of boxes to fill in. The goal of forgiveness is reconciliation. Until that is reached, we need to keep trying, whether it takes seven times, seventeen times, seventy times, or whatever number of times. There is no limit, for your relationship with your brother or sister remains incomplete until you have reconciled.

Forgiveness begins in the heart. Unfortunately, so do wrath and anger, which Ecclesiasticus. Sirach urges us to avoid. When we are wronged, especially when it hurts, especially when it has long-term consequences or even changes our lives completely, it is difficult for the heart to make a complete turn from anger to mercy. But, as doctors will say, we need to nurture a healthy heart. When we hug tightly wrath and anger, allowing them to fester into resentment or bitterness, we are unconsciously choosing to have an unhealthy heart. Forgiveness allows us to reconcile with the consequences of the action that hurt us as well as with the cause of that hurt. It allows us to heal the broken relationship with that person, with an apparently unfair world, and with a seemingly unjust God.

Saint Paul can be of help. "We live for the Lord, and . . . we die for the Lord," he tells the Romans. As God's children, baptised in Christ, we belong to the Lord and so we live and we die for him. As Christians, we are called to look to Christ as a model of forgiveness. Let us make Christian not just a name but part of our very core, our heart.

## **FEAST OF THE WEEK**

### **St Pio of Pietrelcina (1887-1968)**



He was born in the small village of Pietrelcina in southern Italy, and joined the Capuchin friars at the age of 16. He became a priest seven years later, and spent fifty years at the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo, where he was very much sought after as a spiritual advisor, confessor, and intercessor. Many miracles were popularly ascribed to him during his lifetime. He died a few days after the fiftieth anniversary of his receiving the stigmata, and over 100,000 people attended his funeral.

## **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. Further details will be given nearer the time.

## **ST ANNE'S OVERBURY STREET**

Sunday, 17 September: 12pm-4pm. Visit this beautiful church which is 177 years old and explore its distinctive architecture. Witness the diverse multicultural communities which are part of its past and present history. There will be guides to explain the architectural details of various parts of the church. You will be able to meet a wide variety of people, including asylum seekers and refugees, those who use and help with the parish pantry and the protection of the homeless. There will be a Fair Trade stall offering products produced by communities in various parts of the world and on the second day you will hear some inspiring African singing by members of the church choir.



# Fr Mark's Theatre Group



## LOTS OF NEWS THIS WEEK!!

A few tickets have become 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. Names to office with £10 deposit asap please as we have to confirm numbers.

**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:

**‘Good exam results’**



## PAUSE FOR HOPE

The 25th Annual Ecumenical Service will be held at 3pm at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Sunday 24th September. The main speaker will be Dean Sullivan, the service will feature music from Billy Hui and Sing me Merseyside. Tickets are not required - all are welcome.



## 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](mailto: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 follow the Novena over the next few weeks

Caring for God's Creation



## **EVANGELII GAUDIUM DAY**

### **Preparing for the Jubilee Year in Faith and Prayer**

Evangelii Gaudium, Latin for “Joy of the Gospel”, calls us to be joyous in proclaiming our faith. It supports the work of the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops’ Conference. A key focus of upcoming work is responding to Pope Francis’ calling of a Jubilee Year in 2025, themed “Pilgrims of Hope”. The Church is to prepare for the Jubilee by reflecting on the four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council in 2023; and deepening our prayer life, with a special focus on the Lord’s Prayer, in 2024. A range of resources are being prepared for the Year of Prayer in 2024, including a course on the Lord’s Prayer from small groups for Lent, and encouragement to try different ways of praying from the tradition of the Church. The Mission Directorate will be supporting the Jubilee co-ordinator appointed by each diocese.

### **EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY**

Named after Pope Francis’ first (solo) Apostolic Exhortation on the Joy of the Gospel, the day offers the Catholic community in England and Wales the opportunity to celebrate the beauty of our faith and our commitment to witness to the fullness of life in Christ. Evangelii Gaudium Sunday will be celebrated in Catholic parishes throughout England and Wales on Sunday, 17 September 2023.

The origins of this Sunday lie in the work of the Catholic Missionary Society, created by Cardinal Bourne in 1903 and which closed in 2003. This special Sunday focused on the evangelisation work that takes place in each parish and diocese, offered a theme and resources for reflection on this Sunday and asked each parish to have a collection so that the national work of evangelisation could be supported through the Home Mission Office. Following a restructuring of the work at the Bishops’ Conference, the Home Mission Office no longer exists, but the work of encounter and evangelisation continues through the Directorate for Mission. Through this directorate, the vision of the Holy Father is embraced in a fuller way and promotes the whole ideal of proclamation, evangelisation, dialogue and catechesis.

A retiring collection will be taken this weekend in all parishes in England & Wales to help the Church spread the Gospel message.

## Loyola Certificate in Pastoral Ministry

Are you involved in ministry within your parish or community, seeking to enhance your skills and deepen your faith? The Archdiocese of Liverpool invites you to embark on a transformative journey through the Certificate in Pastoral Ministry, a bespoke online learning experience designed in collaboration with Loyola University Chicago to support individuals working in ministry in the UK parish and community context.



Enrolment will be open until mid-September. For more information and to register, visit [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/departments/pastoral-development/loyola-certificate](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/departments/pastoral-development/loyola-certificate) or contact [loyola@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:loyola@rcaol.org.uk). Embrace this unique opportunity to enhance your ministry and connect with a vibrant community of like-minded individuals on a shared journey of faith.

## ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPICE "200 CLUB" SEPTEMBER DRAW

1st	£20	No. 105	B White
2nd	£15	No. 47	B Warner
3rd	£10	No. 50	A Henshall
4th	£10	No. 23	A Hunt



Numbers are still available if you wish to join and support this wonderful institution. See Myra Lovelady 928 1136

## The Relics of the Scottish Saints to visit the Cathedral Monday 18 - Thursday 21 September



As part of their tour, the Relics of the Scottish Saints (St Andrew, St Margaret and St Columba) will be hosted at the Metropolitan Cathedral from **Monday 18 – Thursday 21 September**.

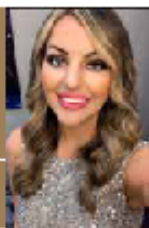
A welcome Mass will be held on **Monday at 5pm - 7pm**, and a closing Mass will be held on **Thursday at 12:15pm - 1pm**. During their time at the Cathedral, all are welcome to visit the Relics in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.



# 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](mailto:thepriestsliverpool@hotmail.com)

[ThePriestsLiverpool.eventbrite.co.uk](http://ThePriestsLiverpool.eventbrite.co.uk) (Booking fees may apply)

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



Liverpool Archdiocesan  
Lourdes Pilgrimage  
Association

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