



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

25th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 24th 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 can I, this week, stop acting like a self-appointed judge of my own 'latecomers' and begin serving as a member of God's 'welcome committee,' since, after all, God has welcomed even me?

Thanks to everyone who attended last week's Family of Parishes meeting. Your feedback on how we make this work would be greatly appreciated. Please email me on the email address below and I will ensure your ideas and thoughts are noted and considered as we move forward in the deanery synodal counsel to make 'families of parishes' a positive and workable reality.

Some of us aren't great with technology or emails, and I include myself in this, so please feel free to leave me a note in an envelope at the back of church. I will collect and read them all and use them to contribute to our parish response to this new and exciting challenge.

Many Thanks

Jill Williams

[jmw88@btinternet.com](mailto:jmw88@btinternet.com)



## 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).

**WEEKDAY MASS** - mass on Monday is at 10.00am and is a funeral mass for Rob Chew who was a very active and well loved parishioner at Our Lady Queen of Peace for many years. RIP Rob



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

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<p><b>Saturday 23rd September</b> <i>St Pius of Pietreicina</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO MASS</b> <b>12.00pm</b> Baptism - Albie &amp; Elena Duncalf</p>
<p><b>Sunday 24th September</b> <i>25th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.30am</b> Stephen McQuade <b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Francis Brehany</p>
<p><b>Monday 25th September</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> Funeral Mass - Rob Chew</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 26th September</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> O'Dea &amp; Wright Families</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 27th September</b> <i>St Vincent de Paul</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO MASS</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday 28th September</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> Ameila Whales</p>
<p><b>Friday 29th September</b> <i>Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> Tom Smartt</p>
<p><b>Saturday 30th September</b> <i>St Jerome</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO MASS</b> <b>12.00pm</b> Baptism - Maeve Lily Moreton</p>
<p><b>Sunday 1st October</b> <i>26th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.30am</b> Alice Power <b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Bella Rose McCall</p>

## 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...*



## 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



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

Last of a series of talks on 26 September 7pm-8.30pm. Don't worry if you missed the others 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 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

## SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Whether it is football, cricket, tennis, or any other game, it regularly happens that those who are expected to win, lose. We often think we can guess what will happen, but can be surprised by what actually does.



Sometimes we even think we can guess what God thinks or says or does.

Today's gospel story can prepare us to be ready for a surprise, and its message that everyone is important, is very clear.

In our world today it seems that the gulf between the rich and the poor grows wider every day. Too many people are not paid a living wage, and those whose lives are being destroyed by poverty and injustice, may not draw much comfort from the idea that one day all will be well. They need to know and experience that we care for them today.

As Christians, our lives should be lived showing that we love God and our neighbour, and this needs to be apparent not only in what we say but more importantly in what we do

*May we follow the message of Jesus in showing practical care for anyone in need.*

*Amen.*

**JOAN JOHNSON** - sadly we recently lost Joan who has been a parishioner here for many, many years. Her funeral mass will be held on Friday 6th October at 10.00 am.

Rest in Peace Joan



**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](mailto:e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk)

### **WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY**



**Albie & Elena Duncalf**  
Baptised Saturday 23rd September 2023



**Francis Mark David Brehany**

Baptised Sunday 24th September 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](mailto:natasha-pritchard@hotmail.co.uk) for further details.



## 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:

**‘Celia Byrne’**



## 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



## World Day of Migrants and Refugees

The 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees is celebrated today the last Sunday of the month. The Holy Father has chosen the theme 'Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay'. The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It's always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers. The Pope's message can be found here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-francis-message-for-the-world-day-of-migrants-and-refugees/>. This prayer is taken from the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference:



*Lord, make us bearers of hope, so that where there is darkness, your light may shine, and where there is discouragement, confidence in the future may be reborn. Lord, make us instruments of your justice, so that where there is exclusion, fraternity may flourish, and where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow. Lord, make us builders of your Kingdom, together with migrants and refugees and with all who dwell on the peripheries. Lord, let us learn how beautiful it is to live together as brothers and sisters. Amen.*

## CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day - is on Friday

6 October. More information and donation envelopes will be available next week. For now - have a look at the parish website where you can see 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.



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



## **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

### **IRENE DEMPSTER**

Many people will know Irene who sadly died recently. Irene's funeral will take place at St Robert Bellarmine's on 6th October at 12.15pm  
**RIP Irene**



### **LIBYA FLOODS**

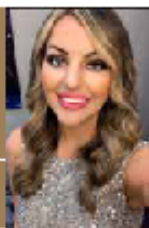
In Libya, thousands of people have been reported dead after a powerful storm led to devastating floods and the collapse of several bridges. The Red Crescent has said up to 10,000 people are missing as a result of the flooding. News reports suggest much of the city of Derna, which is home to around 100,000 people, is under water. If you wish to donate to help this awful situation you can do so at [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)



# 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

Archdiocese of Liverpool CIO no 1199714