



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

30th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 29th October 2023



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What neighbour do I know who is in need? What can I do for them, even if it's just something simple?

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).

ALL SAINTS



The Solemnity of All Saints takes place on Wednesday 1st November and is a Holyday of Obligation which means that we are bound to attend Mass on this day. Once again our parish is co-ordinating Mass times with our neighbouring parishes to give a wider choice of Mass times across the three churches. The Mass times for the feast will be:

Tuesday 31st October 7:00pm St Robert Bellarmine

Wednesday 1st November 9:15am St Elizabeth of Hungary
12noon English Martyrs

ALL SOULS DAY

November is the month when we remember our loved ones who have died and this 4 week commemoration starts with the Mass of All Souls on Thursday 2nd November. Mass will be at 10:00am.



SUNDAY THOUGHTS

It is easy to look toward and look kindly upon our family and friends and the neighbours we know, but to look away from or look down upon those who are strangers to us, especially those who seem most unlike us. The further we get from our own home, our own parish, or our own neighbourhood, the more “other” the people we encounter seem to be. This is when we need to hear again the first line from the first reading: “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt”. Everyone has been a stranger once, has been “other” in some setting. In fact, everyone is a stranger to most of the world. One day, we may depend on that stranger in the grocery store, or at the table next to us, or at the other end of the phone. Let us reach out with love to those strangers, just as we would want them to treat a stranger: ourselves.

Famine drove the ancient Israelites to Egypt, where they were treated first as merely “other,” but then oppressed and enslaved until the Lord rescued them. Famine still affects wide swaths of people every year who are forced to migrate to avoid starvation. More and more people will likely be affected each year due to global warming’s harmful effects on the climate and sea levels. It is incumbent upon God’s children who have plenty to feed God’s children who have none.

One of the greatest gifts we can give someone else is time, for unlike money we each have a finite amount of time and we can never get any of it back. To show our love for God and for our neighbour, giving the gift of time is the best way to start. We give God our time when we pray. We give our neighbour our time when we go out of our way to do something for them. This is the love Jesus calls us to in today’s Gospel.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 28th October	NO MASS
Sunday 29th October <i>30th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<p>10.30am</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>11.45am</p> <p>Baptism - Jack Steven Moss Parker</p>
Monday 30th October	<p>10.00am</p> <p>Maureen Henshall</p>
Tuesday 31st October	<p>10.00am</p> <p>Michael O'Neill</p>
Wednesday 1st November <i>Solemnity of All Saints</i>	<p>12.00pm</p> <p>Pious List</p>
Thursday 2nd November <i>Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed</i>	<p>10.00am</p> <p>Jo Collins</p>
Friday 3rd November	<p>10.00am</p> <p>Joan Campbell</p>
Saturday 4th November <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	<p>NO MASS</p> <p>12.00pm Baptism Jude John Walsh</p>
Sunday 5th November <i>31st Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<p>10.30am</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>11.45am Baptism - Maddie Rowlands</p>

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Lord in your mercy...



CHRISTMAS COMES TO THE PIETY STALL

Christmas cards and gifts are now available in the shop. Come in and have a browse!!



WARM COATS NEEDED

The Irenaeus Project in Waterloo is appealing for warm coats to give to people who will struggle this winter. Their appeal last year was very successful and they are asking for help again to bring some comfort to those who will need it the most. Donations can be left at the back of church.

They are also asking for donations of new or nearly new toys to help families this Christmas
Thank you.



WHAT'S ON AT IRENAEUS

COME & SEE DAYS 2023

11th November & 2nd December '23

CRAFT WORKSHOP

1pm 6th November '23 (booking essential)

AGAPE MASS

2nd November & 7th December 2023

ADVENT SCRIPTURE EVENINGS A NEW BEGINNING

4th, 11th and 18th December 23 7pm on Zoom

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

3pm 10th December '23

CHRISTMAS TEA WITH FRANK SINATRA 2pm 13th December '23

For more information on all the above contact Jenny on 0151 949 1199 or email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk



ISARELI - PALESTINIAN CRISIS

We continue to be shocked by events happening at the moment in the Holy Land. The Christian Church leaders have rightly condemned the horrific killings and kidnappings led by Hamas and also the scale of Israel's bombing campaign in Gaza. More than 1,400 Israelis were killed and nearly 250 soldiers and civilians were taken to Gaza as hostages. More than 7,000 Palestinians in Gaza have been killed in air and artillery strikes. Israeli troops have also massed along the Gaza boundary and Palestinians are bracing themselves for a major ground invasion. Israel occupies Palestine and the Palestinians are fighting to end the occupation and for them to have their own Independent state. Hamas, a terrorist organisation, uses violence to achieve this. It is important to state that the majority of Palestinians do not support Hamas and Hamas does not speak for the Palestinian people.

THE MAIN PROBLEMS BETWEEN BOTH SIDES

1. What should happen to the many Palestinian refugees forced to leave their homes since 1948
2. Whether Jewish settlements built on Palestinian land and illegal under International Law should stay or be removed.
3. The question about Jerusalem and is it the Capital City of Jerusalem or Palestinian or should or be shared?
4. Should a Palestinian state be created alongside Israel.

What is the Gaza Strip?

Gaza is a narrow strip of land sandwiched between Israel and the Mediterranean Sea but with a short border with Egypt (Rafah Crossing). Gaza is just 25 miles long and 6 miles wide with 2.5 million Palestinians living there. Hamas governs the Gaza Strip.

Gaza Christians

The Christian community in Gaza is tiny with exactly 1000 Christians living there and they are a mixture of Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican, Baptist etc. The Catholic community is just 135 people. The Christian

community live in Zaytoun which is just outside Gaza City in the north and this is where the majority of the bombing has taken place.

The Israeli Defence Force ordered people in Northern Gaza to move down to the south but the Christians decided not to as they had nowhere to go, they wanted to remain together and to be 'close to Jesus in church.' 700 people are now living in the small Catholic Church of the Holy Family. They celebrate Mass twice a day and pray the rosary etc.

Last week the a hospital in Gaza City which is owned by the Anglican Church was bombed and killed 100's of people followed by the bombing of the Greek Orthodox Church which killed 17 Christians. They have no electricity with food and water now running out.

The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem has warned that the events are taking us further away from achieving a lasting peace. He has said: *"The operation launched from Gaza and the reaction of the Israeli Army are bringing us back to the worst periods of our recent history... [and] will create more hatred and division."*

This current period of violence is the worst we've seen and it looks to get worse. Please pray for peace in the Holy Land, the land of the Prince of Peace. Remember our Catholic brothers and sisters living in Gaza in a frightening situation. Fr Mark is in daily contact with some of them and he will send them our love and support.

GAZA COLLECTION

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem will be launching an appeal for funds which will go directly to support the Catholics in Gaza. This will also help in the rebuilding of homes once the war ends. We will have a retiring collection after Mass on Sunday 12 November which will then be sent to the Order as they work to support our brothers and sisters during this difficult time.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is traditionally the month when we remember our loved ones who have 'gone before us with a sign of faith' and 'now rest in the sleep of peace'.



Envelopes are now available at the back of church for you to submit names for our Parish Book of Remembrance.

Please print the names and hand it back with a donation for Masses. The Book of Remembrance will be on display for 1st November and will remain in church for the month.

Our annual November Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated on Monday 13 November at 7pm. Please make every effort in coming along as we pray for our deceased loved ones.



Fr Mark's Theatre Group



SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AT THE PHIL'

Still a few tickets available for the visit to the Philharmonic on Friday 22 December. Cost is £49. Names to office if you are interested

SPRING 2024 - WICKED the musical

is coming to the Liverpool Empire in June next year. 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 then that confirms your attendance and the ticket is then non-refundable. Payment for all trips can be in instalments if needed once the deposit is paid.





SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

'Fr Harris'



FAURE REQUIEM

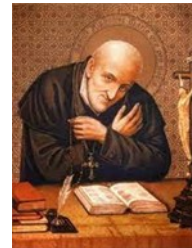
The Cathedral Youth Choir will be singing a parish requiem Mass at St Francis De Sales, Walton L4 3TL on Friday 10 November.

Start time 19.00. All are welcome

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Alfonso Rodriguez (1533-1617)

Alfonso Rodriguez was born in Segovia, Spain. His family played host to Saint Peter Faber, who prepared the young Alfonso for his First Communion. He left school at age 14 to help his widowed mother run the family wool business. At age twenty-seven, he married and had three children. Five years later, he found himself a widower with one surviving child, who died soon after. He joined the Society of Jesus as a Brother at the age of thirty-eight. He spent the next forty-six years of his religious life as guest master and doorkeeper of the Jesuit college in Majorca, where he exercised a marvellous influence not only on the members of the college, but upon a great number of people who came to him for spiritual advice. He was a friend and advisor to Saint Peter Claver, encouraging him to go to the missions in South America. His daily routine, though ordinary, offered him opportunities for holiness of life: each time the bell rang, he looked at the door and envisioned that it was God who was standing outside. He was often heard to say "I'm just coming, Lord."



WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY



Jack Steven Moss Parker
Baptised Sunday 29th October 2023



COULD YOU BE A DEACON?

Archbishop Malcolm will be hosting two Information Evenings for men who may feel called to the diaconate. Each evening will begin at 7.30pm, with refreshments available from 7.00pm, and finish by 9.00pm. Wives and supporting deacons or priests will also be very welcome.

Thursday 23rd November 7.30-9.00pm in St Bede's Guild Hall, Appleton Village, Widnes, WA8 6EL.

If you are interested in the diaconate but unable to attend either of these evenings, please email Fr Chris Fallon, c.fallon@racol.org.uk, or Deacon Paul Rooney, p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk for more information.

Archdiocese of Liverpool embarks on sixth Ukrainian trip to deliver essential aid

Our sixth consignment of the #Liverpool4Ukraine appeal has just set off for the Ukrainian border. A 12-tonne vehicle will transport goods including medical supplies, toiletries, crutches, Zimmer frames, blankets and blow-up mattresses. Read more here: <https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/news/archdiocese-of-liverpool-embarks-on-sixth-ukrainian-trip-to-deliver-essential-aid>

Donations for the appeal are still welcome, and can be made here: <https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/donate/fund/ly8hvxhp>

9th Bootle and Litherland English Martyrs Brownies currently have space for any girls aged between 7 and 10 who wish to join. They meet on a Thursday evening in the Parish Hall 6.15pm to 7.45pm. If you wish for your daughter to join, please register their name on the following website:

www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/.

If you have any queries or questions please email: engmartbrownies@outlook.com



HELP PLEASE! We are in need of donations for our Christmas Bingo and raffle. Bottles in particular will be gratefully accepted but any donations are appreciated. Thank you!

MISSA PRO POPULO In accordance with the 1988 Code of Canon law (Church law), all parish priests are bound to offer Mass for the people entrusted to them. Canon 534 states - *“When the parish priest takes possession of his parish, the parish priest is bound each Sunday to apply the Mass for the people entrusted to him... Even if one Sunday Mass is celebrated the priest’s intention for that Mass must be Missa Pro Populo (Mass for the people)...”*

CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY OF THE ISLE

The Church of Saint Mary of the Isle, Douglas, has been granted cathedral status by Pope Francis as a co-cathedral of the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The inauguration ceremony, at which Archbishop Malcolm will be installed in



his seat by the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, will take place on Friday 3 November at 12 noon. Ecumenical partners and civic dignitaries will have a role in the liturgy. On this historic day for the Isle of Man, the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the wider church, we welcome people across the Archdiocese to join the celebration online by watching the livestream: www.manxcatholic.org.uk

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; for more information please contact The Cenacle: cenacleliverpool@gmail.com



God of peace, bearer of hope,
we seek your help
for the peoples of the Middle East.

Quiet the clamour of war
and guide us towards peace.

Where there is hatred and division
sow seeds of calm and openness.

Where there is destruction
help us to rebuild.

Where children are crying
bring an end to tears.

Shelter your peoples and protect them
Guide them and keep them from harm.

Show us how to break down the barriers of history and fear
and breathe whispers of hope.

Amen.

Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development