



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

31st SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 5th November 2023



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When do I fail to practice what I preach? What change must I make to do so as effectively as Paul and his fellow disciples?

ROADSHOW

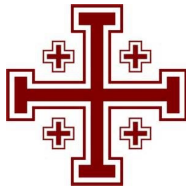
The Diocesan Synod Pastoral Plan makes clear the way forward for the church in our Archdiocese. It says this: *'Developing the models of pastoral collaboration that we already have we will create families of parishes.'* In the future, we will work as Families of Parishes. To explore what this means,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

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).

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.



FAITH DISCUSSION GROUP

Following on from our initial meeting last month our 'Faith discussion group' will meet at 7pm in the parish hall on Monday 6th November.

Our focus this month is on the saints. We are inviting people to talk for 3 minutes on any saint of choice. Although there is no pressure to speak if you would rather just listen.

All are welcome to this new group - please come along. We have some really interesting discussions around our faith. And a cup of tea and biscuit!!!

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

“Have we not all one father? Did not one God create us?” asks Malachi at the end of the first reading. Indeed, we all have the same Father in heaven, as Jesus points out in the Gospel. We have all been created by God. This should give us some humility, for it means that none of us is created more in the image of God than anyone else. The person I see begging on a street corner or emaciated in a drought-stricken region of the world is created in the image of God, just like me. Therefore, all people deserve a basic dignity because they are created and loved by God. For the same reason, none of us should feel unworthy of that basic dignity because no one is created less in the image of God than anyone else.

When those in positions of authority treat themselves as superior to the people in their care, such as the priests in Malachi’s diatribe, or burden the people in their care while doing nothing to help them, like the scribes and Pharisees in the Gospel, it poisons the atmosphere for everyone. The deadly sins of pride on the one hand and envy on the other are invited to fester. The sense of entitlement those in authority have can lead to abuse of those without power, and the feelings of powerlessness that the masses have can lead to violence against those in power. Jesus’ lesson for all of us is to realise that we are all called to serve, not to be served: “The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts [themselves] will be humbled; and anyone who humbles [themselves] will be exalted”. Be humble. Leave the business of exalting to God.

Saint Paul shows the right attitude: “We felt so devoted and protective towards you”. Paul and his small band of missionaries came as servants of the gospel, giving their very selves to serve the people they preached to, and working themselves so as not to burden the people of Thessalonica. By practicing what they preached, they preached much more powerfully than words alone could have done

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<p>Saturday 4th November <i>St Charles Borromeo</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MASS</p> <p>12.00pm Baptism Jude John Walsh</p>
<p>Sunday 5th November <i>31st Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">People of the Parish</p> <p>11.45am Baptism - Maddie Rowlands</p>
<p>Monday 6th November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ann Henderson</p>
<p>Tuesday 7th November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Baby Cecilia Rose</p>
<p>Wednesday 8th November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MASS</p>
<p>Thursday 9th November <i>Dedication of The Lateran Basilica</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">George Tierney</p>
<p>Friday 10th November <i>St Leo the Great</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pious list</p>
<p>Saturday 11th November <i>St Martin of Tours</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MASS</p> <p>12.00pm Baptism Kaiden Davies</p>
<p>Sunday 12th November <i>32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">People of the Parish</p> <p>11.45am Baptism - Peggy Higgins</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

7th December 2023 7pm

ADVENT SCRIPTURE EVENINGS A NEW BEGINNING

27 November, 4th, 11th and 18th December 23 7pm

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



Catholic Multi Academy Trust Directors Recruitment Events



As you may know schools in the Archdiocese have been invited to consider if they wish to become an academy and join with other schools to form a family of schools as multi academy trusts. A number of schools have indicated they do wish to consider this and now in three areas we are moving ahead to form Catholic Multi Academy Trusts (CMATs). The first three CMATs will serve the following areas;

Halton and Warrington
West Lancashire
St Helens

Each CMAT is overseen by a group of Directors who support the CEO and central team, set budgets, and take the legal responsibility for the academies in each trust. We need Directors with experience of education, finance, business, HR, legal, procurement and many other skills. Please consider if you would be able to undertake this special responsibility for Catholic Education. We are running director information and recruitment events at the following venues;

09/11/23 at 6pm at St John Fisher Parish Hall, Widnes (WA8 3JA)
11/11/23 at 9:30am at St Benedict's Parish Centre, Warrington (WA2 7QE)
14/11/23 at 6pm at St Teresa of Avila Parish Centre, St Helens (WA10 4X)
16/11/23 at 10am at St Teresa of Avila Parish Centre, St Helens (WA10 4X)
22/11/23 at 2pm at St Anne's Parish Centre, Ormskirk (L39 4TG)
22/11/23 at 6pm at St Richards, Skelmersdale (WN8 8BX)

We would encourage anyone interested to come and find out about the role and what is involved. You are welcome to come to your local event or indeed any of them.

If you do not live in these areas but might be interested in finding out more when a CMAT starts in your community, you may wish to attend too.

For further information regarding the venues, please contact Hannah Blabey on h.blabey@rcaol.org.uk or 0151 522 1071



The Mass in the Cathedral last weekend for Our Lady Queen of Palestine & All The Holy Land was led by Archbishop Malcolm in the beautiful Blessed Sacrament Chapel. This is the principal feast for the Catholic Church in the Holy Land and for the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The celebration was very poignant and incredibly moving given the current situation in The Holy Land.

THE PILGRIM WAY

Hearts in Search of God is a project to promote walking pilgrimage in England & Wales focused on developing Pilgrim Ways from every Catholic cathedral to one or more shrines in the same diocese. They have recently published a Pilgrim Way for the Archdiocese of Liverpool, a 30.1 mile long route from the Metropolitan Cathedral to the Shrines of Blessed Dominic Barberi in St Helens & St Edmund Arrowsmith in Ashton-in-Makerfield. All the details and some photos can be found here:

www.pilgrimways.org.uk

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Young people from across our deanery will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation during two special services on Monday at St George's Maghull and Thursday at St Robert Bellarmine's . Please keep them in your prayers.



WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY



Jude John Walsh
Baptised Saturday 4th November 2023



Maddie Rose Rowlands
Baptised Sunday 5th November 2023



★ **Fr Mark's Theatre Group**

★ Thanks to everyone who joined us for the trip to see



★ Jesus Christ Superstar. It
★ was an amazing
★ production - so contemporary! We all
★ had a brilliant night.



★ **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.





SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

'Deceased members of Nickson family'



We have come to the end of our list of intentions for the dedication of the Sanctuary Lamp. If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a week please place details of the dedication in an envelope marked 'Sanctuary Lamp' along with your £5 donation and pass to the Parish Office. Your intention will then be published in the newsletter.

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 from 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.

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 much appreciated. Thank you!

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



COULD YOU BE A DEACON?

Archbishop Malcolm will be hosting an Information Evening for men who may feel called to the diaconate. The 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.

HELP NEEDED

In order for parishes to function we need people who are willing to help and to ensure the smooth running of the church, the parish and the liturgy. We are desperately in need of people who are willing to help clean the church for 1 hour every couple of weeks. We also need a few more volunteers to help wash the church linen. Can you help? Please give your name to the Parish Office.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Martin of Tours (c.316-397)

He was born in the Roman province of Pannonia (approximating to the western half of modern Hungary) in about 316 and was educated at Pavia in Italy. He was baptized, left the army and after spending some time as a hermit on an island off the Ligurian coast, founded a monastery at Ligugé in western France, where he lived a monastic life guided by St Hilary. Later he was ordained priest and became bishop of Tours. In his actions he gave an example of what a good shepherd should be. He founded other monasteries, educated the clergy, and preached the Gospel to the poor. He died in 397.

The famous story about St Martin is that while a soldier in Amiens he gave half of his military cloak to a beggar and later had a dream in which the beggar revealed himself as Christ.



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)...”*

FROM MY LIFE TO YOURS EXHIBITION

Saturday 18 November 10.00am - 7.00pm

Sunday 19 November 10.00am - 5.00pm

From My Life to Yours, a free exhibition about Servant of God Fr Luigi Giussani, founder of the Communion and Liberation Movement, will take place in the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Gibberd Room. All visitors are welcome. Coffee and tea will be served. For more information

clnorthwest.soc@gmail.com

or visit

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk



Last weekend we had a visit from our newest parishioner. Fr Mark couldn't resist a cuddle with Isabel Natalie! Congratulations Vicky and Andy

Catholic Chaplaincy The Catholic Chaplaincy to the University of Liverpool, LIPA and John Moores University exists to support members of the university communities - both students and staff - on their journey of faith. It is based at St Philip Neri Church, L8. There are regular weekly Masses and events during term time. Please see our website for details: www.cathchap.org.uk or contact the chaplain Fr Neil Ritchie on 07927 346 219. A group for staff and doctoral students meets fortnightly for prayer, discussion and sharing; please contact Dr Antal Berkes on 07515 821079 for further details.



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