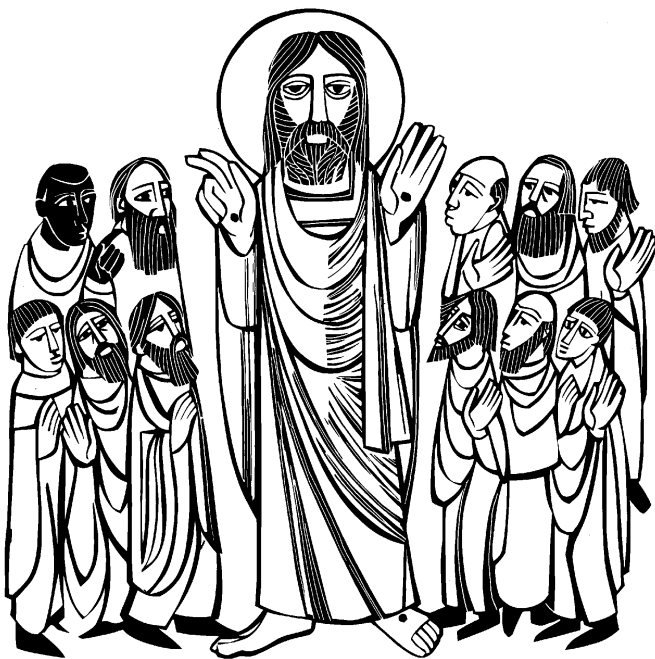




Our Lady & The English Martyrs Litherland

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

14th April 2024



Parish Priest: Very Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk

www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do I sense Jesus' presence in my life? When do I feel a sense of peace in my heart?

THE GIFT OF EASTER

For three Wednesday evenings - 17,24 April, 1 May. There are a couple of sessions at St Teresa's, Norris Green, on The Gift of Easter. These sessions take inspiration from Scriptures and Fr Chris Thomas of the Irenaeus Spirituality Centre.

SPRING CONCERT

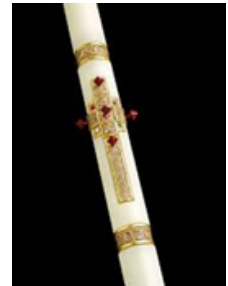
**St Patrick's, Park Place, Toxteth
April 20th 4.30pm**

In association with the University of Liverpool, St Patrick's will be hosting the second of two concerts with students from the University of Liverpool singing. All are welcome.

PASCHAL CANDLE 2024

This year's Paschal Candle, solemnly blessed on Holy Saturday, is called 'Evangelium'

The "Evangelium is a Beeswax Paschal Candle - in tribute to the writers of the four Gospels. This beautiful iconic design rendered in bronze toned wax, gilded with 24 karat gold leaf dramatically offsets the natural hues of the Beeswax Paschal Candle.



Mathew, Mark, Luke and John - Early, traditional Christian art has long depicted, in beautiful iconic fashion, these four writers of the Gospels as the four "living creatures" that surround God's throne. Mathew (Human), Mark (Lion), Luke (Ox) and John (Eagle). The Evangelium Candle has been meticulously assembled using hand-cast wax ornaments, trimmed with 24 karat gold leaf then inlaid beneath the surface of the highest quality Beeswax candle. Complete with wax incense pins. The Evangelium...distinguished, unparalleled, extraordinary.

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

The eleven remaining apostles had just been told that Jesus had appeared to two disciples on their way to Emmaus, had walked with them, spoken with them, and eventually sat down at their table and broken bread with them. Yet, they are troubled and in fact terrified when moments later he appears to them. It is startling whenever the risen Lord appears to his disciples. Though filled with joy, they are incredulous. They wonder if he's a ghost. It takes some time for them to understand and accept that it is really him in the flesh and that he really did rise from the dead. We are those disciples now, often surprised and incredulous when we encounter him. May our understanding that the Lord can make himself known in many ways help us recognise his presence.

It is likely that the disciples are also troubled by guilt and grief. They had abandoned him after the Last Supper. Then they are told that he had been put to death and was already buried. Not only have they lost their friend and mentor, but their entire mission appears lost. In this passage, we see that Jesus comes to them when they are troubled. Last Sunday, in John's Gospel, we heard Jesus come to Thomas when he had doubts. So it is that Jesus comes to us when we have doubts or are troubled. And his first words each time? "Peace be with you". Even now, he offers peace to our troubled hearts.

After offering them peace, Jesus calls upon the disciples to extend his peace to all the world. How? By preaching repentance for the forgiveness of sins. True repentance brings forgiveness, which can give us peace in our hearts. This is what Peter preaches in the first reading. This is what we're called to bear witness to as well..

CHEQUE PAYMENTS TO THE PARISH

If you make any payments to the Parish via cheque could we please ask that they are made payable to **English Martyrs Church** and **not** Our Lady & The English Martyrs

MARY IN A WORLD OF MARTHA?

14-16 June 2024. Limited residential spaces available. For more information, please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or call 949 1199.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Saturday 13th April	12.00pm Baptism - Meadow and Blake Cannon
Sunday 14th April <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30am People of The parish 11.45am Baptism - Millie Grimes & Mia Holt
Monday 15th April	10.00am Jimmy Casey
Tuesday 16th April <i>St Bernadette</i>	10.00am Allan Tippins
Wednesday 17th April	NO MASS
Thursday 18th April	10.00am Patricia Carroll
Friday 19th April	10.00am Special intention (LY)
Saturday 20th April	12.00pm Baptism - Sonny Castley
Sunday 21st April <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30am People of The parish 11.45am Baptism - James Callam Robertson



SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

Catherine McInerney



ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPICE "200 CLUB" APRIL DRAW

1st	£20	No. 99	B Jacquest
2nd	£15	No. 191	Madden family
3rd	£10	No. 140	V Poyner
4th	£10	No. 30	A Hunt



Many thanks for your continuous support. Spare numbers are available for anyone wishing to join, £1 per month. Please contact Myra: 928 1136 .

Mary's Meals Pray in May/ Ethiopia Crisis Appeal

Mary's Meals, who provide school meals to over 2.4 million children every day, invite you to join their Pray in May campaign. During the month of May, dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in praying for the hungry children who rely on our life-changing school meals, and for all the children and families around the world who live in poverty.

We pray particularly for families facing extreme food insecurity and hunger in Ethiopia. We are hosting a special online session where our founder Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow will share more about this under-reported crisis on Tuesday the 16th of May at 7pm, find out more at [Charity events | Mary's Meals UK \(marysmeals.org.uk\)](https://www.marysmeals.org.uk)

Please visit <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/churches-and-prayers/pray-in-may> to access our Pray in May resources and find out more about our Crisis in Ethiopia appeal by visiting <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/crisis-in-ethiopia>

Have a look at the parish website for a short video on the work of Mary's Meals



THE SALESIAN ACADEMY OF ST JOHN BOSCO

The school are commencing a public consultation on their redevelopment proposals for the existing school site on Netherton Way, Bootle. We wanted to provide you with notification of the consultation. A designated consultation webpage has been set up which provides the opportunity for interested parties to view the design proposals and to leave any comments or feedback.

The consultation webpage can be accessed via the school's website at the following link:

sastjohnbosco.greenhousecms.co.uk

A consultation drop-in event is also taking place, to which we would like to extend an invitation. Details are as follows:

Location: School Main Hall, Salesian Academy of St John Bosco, Netherton Way, L30 2NA

Date: Tuesday 16th April, 2024

Time: 2pm to 7.30pm

The closing date for any comments to be provided is Thursday 18th April.

HELP NEEDED A message from the Irenaeus Project in Waterloo: *"Help!!! Our food cupboard is bare! We have a huge demand because people are struggling so much at the moment and we can't always keep up with the demand. We are looking for tinned goods, long life milk, tinned potatoes, custard, rice pudding, tinned meat, tinned fish and anything else you can help with. Drop any donations off at the Irenaeus Centre, 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool. Thank you"*.

FR MARK'S THEATRE GROUP

Could those people who are joining us to see

WICKED at the Empire on **27 June** please now start to pay off the balance due

There are a few tickets still available if you would like to join us. Cost plus transport is £74



FR GABRIEL ROMANELLI

Fr Mark is delighted to announce that the Parish Priest of Gaza, Fr Gabriel Romanelli, will be staying in our parish at the end of April as part of his visit to the UK. During the visit, Fr Gabriel will meet the Catholic Bishops of England, Wales and Scotland to thank them for their support and solidarity. Meetings in Parliament and the Foreign Office are also arranged. Fr Mark is hosting the visit on behalf of the Bishops' Conference and will accompany Fr Gabriel during his week-long visit.

On Sunday 28 April, Fr Gabriel will join his for 10.30 am Mass. Knights & Dames of the Holy Sepulchre will be with us along with one or two Bishops. Please make every effort to come along and to meet Fr Gabriel as we offer him and his community our renewed love and support.



CAFOD BIG LENT WALK - Donation page re-opened

A few people called in to the office last week to offer sponsor money for Bernie's Big Lent Walk. Unfortunately, the Just Giving page had been closed so we could not accept the donations. We have now had an email apologising for the fact that a computer error caused the premature closing of the donations page. If anyone would still like to donate the page is re-opened:

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/bernies-big-lent-walk2024>

or see Bernie in the office. Thank you!

RightToLife

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Collect a postcard from the back of church today and post it to your MP in support of this amendment.



CIVIC MASS

The annual Civic Mass will be celebrated at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Sunday 21 April at 11am. Celebrated by Archbishop Malcolm. Light refreshments will be served in the Gibberd Room after Mass. We look forward to welcoming you and your guest to the Civic Mass to celebrate all that is good in our City.



Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Bernadette (1844-1879)

She was born in 1844 to a destitute family in Lourdes, in France.

On 11 February 1858 she went down to the river Gave with her sister and a friend, to look for firewood and bones. There she received the first of a series of visions of the Mother of God which led to Lourdes becoming a place of pilgrimage and healing. In 1866 she became a nun at Nevers, where she died on 16 April 1879. It is a rule of the Church that saints are to be celebrated for what they are and what they do – to serve as examples of heroic virtue for us all – and not merely for what happens to them. There is no way that we can all go off and have visions of Our Lady, and the world would be a madhouse if we tried. So what of Bernadette? What heroic virtue has she that we should imitate? There are two: suffering, and humility.

Bernadette was seriously ill with asthma all her life and she died young; but she never let illness be an excuse for anything – how many times do we, feeling a little unwell, use that as an excuse for being bad-tempered or simply not doing what we ought?

To move away from Bernadette for a moment: imagine that you are a poor working-class boy with little education who happens to be good at kicking a ball about. Within a few years you find yourself earning more, annually, than your father earned in his entire lifetime. You receive attention, adulation, status – all that you could possibly desire. People emulate you. They hang on your every word. How would you feel? How would you act?

Next, imagine that you are a poor girl – not even working-class, because your father hardly ever has any work – poor in a way that we can hardly conceive of – unintelligent and uneducated, and suddenly something happens to you. Overnight you are famous. People come in crowds to see you (sometimes the police have to control them). Everyone treats you with respect and admiration. They hang on your every word and ask you, over and over, questions about even the tiniest detail of your experience. They press coins into your family's hands. You shut yourself up in a convent far from home, but even there you are constantly visited by bishops and other eminent persons who just want a quick look at you.

Wouldn't that turn your head? Just a little? Wouldn't you think that there must be something about you that made you worth seeing? However tiny that something was?

Here is Bernadette's response, in conversation with one of the nuns: "What do you do with a broom?" "Why, sweep with it, of course." "And then?" "Put it back in its place." "Yes. And so for me. Our Lady used me. They have put me in my corner. I am happy there, and stay there."

Saint Bernadette Soubirous is patron saint of the sick, and rightly so. But if there is to be a patron saint of celebrities and footballers, Bernadette would be a wise choice for that task too.



SUNDAY MISSAL

Fr Mark announced that the Catholic Church in England & Wales will be getting a new translation of the Lectionary at the end of 2024. At the end of November the translation will change from the Jerusalem Bible to the English Standard Version (ESV-CE), this means that anyone with missals will no longer be able to use them.



Redemptorist Publications are now advertising the new Sunday Missal and you can pre-order a copy for just £19.95 (retail price £24.95). Not only does it have the updated texts, but they've added some personal touches to make Your New Sunday Missal the best money can buy:

Luxury leatherette cover with gold-embossed lettering guaranteed quality that will last throughout the liturgical year use after use.

Special reflection prayers by Denis McBride to help guide through the struggles of every day life.

New ESV translation of the readings

Short introduction to the special character of each Sunday

Includes the texts for all Sunday services in the Roman Catholic Church for the three-year cycle

High-quality FSC certified paper

Includes the two Eucharistic Prayers for reconciliation

The main ordinary texts of the Mass are also given in Latin

Prayers by St Alphonsus Liguori including his Stations of the Cross.

The new Sunday Missal will be available in the Autumn, but to secure the special offer price, you must place and pay for your order in the Parish Office by **Monday, 27th May.**

AN INTRODUCTION TO VATICAN II

Saturday 27 April 10am - 3pm

An in-person study retreat day exploring Vatican II is being offered in collaboration with the Light of Truth Dominican Sisters who will introduce us to the Second Vatican Council, the outcomes of Pastoral Development Department: St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA. T: 522 1040 pd@rcaol.org.uk This would be perfect for anyone who is looking to explore this important event for the first time, as well as for anyone who is looking to reflect on and revisit the year of the Council. This event is being offered for free. If you have any questions, please contact e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Usually celebrated from 4.00pm - 4.30pm on Saturday.
Fr Mark is often available in the 20 minutes before each Mass. Please pop into the sacristy to ask.



A CHARISMATIC DAY OF RENEWAL

A day of prayer, praise
and Fellowship

**POUR OUT
YOUR GRACE
AS AT A NEW
PENTECOST**

**Guest Speaker
Michelle Moran**

**10am – 4pm
11th MAY 2024**

**At the Irenaeus
Centre Great
Georges Rd
L22 1RD**

Bring a packed lunch

Suggested donation £10

Organised by CHARIS Liverpool
For more information contact
moira@irenaeus.co.uk

**Newman Association talk
'My God, My God. Why
have you forsaken me?'
Despair on the Cross?**

Speaker: Mr. John Potts.
Venue: St. Helen's Parish
Centre, Alexandra Road,
Crosby, L23 7TQ.

18 April 2024.

Doors will be open from
7.00pm and the talk will
begin at 7.30.

Talks usually last 45 minutes
leaving time for questions
and discussion. There is no
charge, but donations are
welcome.

**St Francis Xavier Church, Salisbury St, Everton, April 14th 6.30pm
Cantata 67: Halt im Gedachtnis Jesum Christ (Hold in your memory
Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead)**

An account of the risen Christ's appearance to his disciples by the
Liverpool Bach Collective. The chorus, three soloists and the usual
string quartet are joined by trumpet, flute and oboes d'amore

PRIEST TRAINING FUND

The annual collection to support our Liverpool seminarians in
formation will take place next Sunday, Please be very
generous in this important collection. If you pay tax and would like
to Gift Aid your donation please call in to the office.
Please pray for all seminarians

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world. .



Lord in your mercy...

Please have a look at parish website for a video of the Pope's message for this month

TIME OUT TUESDAYS Wanting time for yourself? Time to stop and reflect? Time to step aside for a while from the daily round of life? Then why not join The Sisters of Our Lady and the Cenacle on a Tuesday (10.30am-4pm) to get away for a few hours to stop and ponder the important things of life? No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. Suggested offering for the day is £10, bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided. For further details contact Sr Winnie 722 2271. Sisters of Our Lady of the Cenacle.

The Big Christian Aid Quiz

This is a family friendly evening.

Friday 24th May starting at 7.30pm

Greenalls Social Club, Alder Hey Road , St.Helens, WA10 4DN

Tickets £10 p.p. includes HotPot supper

Please contact Janice or Andy to book:

Contact : Janice Watkins - 01744 27425 / 07947743219

Andy Watkins:
watkinsa@edgehill.ac.uk

The Handcrafted Bible Exhibition

at the

Irenaeus Project

Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 1RD

Monday 15th April –Thursday 18th April 2024

10am-4pm

Refreshments available

All
Welcome

We are back with
new friends—
come along and see
us we are waiting to
see you



For more information contact:

jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

Tel 0151 949 1199



IRENÆUS

The Irenaeus Project is looking for help in the office, filing, ordering, computer work etc. If you are interested, please email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or Tel 0151 949 1199 for more details.



Archdiocese of Liverpool CIO no 1199714