



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

12TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 23rd June 2024



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Would Jesus ask me, 'Do you not yet have faith?' Does my faith strengthen and console me during times of trial?

**WEEKDAY MASS - please note there is NO MASS on Monday 24th**

## CONFIRMATION 2024

Please keep the young people in our deanery in your prayers as they will celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Confirmation over the next couple of weeks. 5 young people from our parish will celebrate the sacrament.



## FEAST OF ST IRENAEUS MASS AND SUMMER FAYRE - 28 June 5pm

To mark the feast day of St Irenaeus, the Irenaeus Project will host Mass followed by a summer fayre. There will be tombolas, raffles, crafts and cakes. What more could we want? Please come and support us. All are welcome to attend.



**THEATRE TRIP - the coach for 'Wicked' at the  
Empire will leave from Church on  
THURSDAY 27th at 6.30pm**



## MUSIC AT THE MET

During 2024 the Metropolitan Cathedral are celebrating the return of their restored grand organ with a series of concerts and events that will demonstrate the versatility of the instrument.

- Two Cathedral Choirs with Ian Tracey, Sunday 7 July, 15.00
- Summer Organ Recital by Peter Kwater, Sunday 4 August, 14.00
- Summer Organ Recital by Dan Mansfield, Sunday 11 August, 14.00
- Summer Organ Recital: Peter Morrison, Sunday 18 August, 14.00
- Summer Organ Recital: Andrew Sharples, Sunday 25 August, 14.00

All are welcome.



## SUNDAY THOUGHTS

When we teach children about the calming of the storm we use a well tried and tested route. We talk about not having to get upset when things go wrong because Jesus is there to take care of it. And there's nothing wrong with this.

But adults are nagged by a further question. Jesus was sleeping. What happens when our world is turned upside down and God seems just to have dozed off, unaware of what we are going through and helpless to come to our aid? And at certain times in our lives God can seem to be a Rip Van Winkle god, one who can't be roused at all.



No sensible person expects God to be at our beck and call calming every minor storm that brews up in our lives. God is not a jack-in-the-box who jumps out when we release the catch.

So in today's gospel story it is worth noticing that Jesus does not rebuke the disciples for being afraid in the boat. He remonstrates with them for their lack of faith. Their fear is only natural but he chides them for not overcoming their fear. Although they greatly admired Jesus, for whom they had left everything, they showed that they didn't really know who he was. Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.†

The apostles, like us, were men of faith who honoured God but who kept God at a distance because they were afraid to let him into their inner lives where he might see their pettiness. When the storm raged they were afraid, but they were even more fearful when Jesus calmed the storm. Could it be that they were uncomfortable to find that God was right next to them? Could they have preferred God to remain asleep?

How close are we prepared to come to God without being afraid? Our lives are full of sea crossings, of storms, winds and tempests. We are tossed on the waves of so many rough experiences. But the acid test of our faith comes in what we do when we feel that God is taking a nap, when we feel completely alone. The truth is, of course, that God never sleeps. It's just that our faith has trouble rousing him. And this type of faith, being comfortable with God, is the necessary condition for our arriving safely at the other side of the lake.

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<b>Sunday 23rd June</b> <i>Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<b>10.30am</b> People of The parish
<b>Monday 24th June</b> <i>Birth of John The Baptist</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday 25th June</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Terry Ryan
<b>Wednesday 26th June</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday 27th June</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Betty White
<b>Friday 28th June</b> <i>St Irenaeus</i>	<b>10.00am</b> Fr Des Seddon
<b>Saturday 29th June</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Sunday 30th June</b> <i>Solemnity of Ss Peter &amp; Paul</i>	<b>10.30am</b> People of The parish



### SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

**Betty White**



**CATHOLIC PIC** - June edition is available in piety stall free of charge. Main article this month is on First Communion Celebrations

## **CATHEDRAL RECRUITMENT**

Young people are at the forefront of music at the Metropolitan Cathedral. The Cathedral Choir sings at seven choral services each week, leading the congregation in the singing of hymns and psalms, and offering repertoire from the treasury of sacred music to enhance the liturgical celebrations and raise the hearts and minds of those present to God. It is through their ministry of music that many people who enter the cathedral come to know the beauty of God. The Metropolitan Cathedral is the only Roman Catholic cathedral in the UK that offers both boys and girls an equal opportunity to undertake a full choir school chorister experience – at no cost to parents. Children are recruited from Liverpool and surrounding areas, with choristers coming from as far afield as Widnes, Southport and St Helens. Opportunities to sing are offered to young people from age 7 to 18 and beyond.

Being a chorister is a unique opportunity for a boy or girl in our Archdiocese, allowing them to engage with music, to live the Catholic faith in the daily celebration of the liturgy, and bring joy and hope to many. The high musical standards that the choir achieves on a daily basis do not happen without sacrifice: many hours are spent in rehearsal, with liturgies taking place almost every day. But for those who are fortunate enough to have the experience of being a chorister, it is a life- shaping one.

Do you know a child who would like to be a chorister at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King here in Liverpool? The search is now on for our next generation of boy and girl choristers.

All choristers are educated at Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School and St Edward's College meaning that a first-class Catholic chorister education for boys and girls in Liverpool is available at no cost. If you know of a Catholic family who might be interested in this wonderful opportunity, please share this information with them. Full details of choristerships at the Metropolitan Cathedral, go to: [www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs)

## ZOE'S PLACE FUNDRAISER - Saturday 6 July 1.30pm-4.30pm

Please come along to the parish hall to support this family fun day in aid of Zoe's place. There will be bingo, raffle, children's games and much more. All for such an excellent cause



## SUMMER EXCURSION - FRIDAY 5th JULY

There are still places available for our annual trip to the Eisteddfod on Friday 5 July. **NEW PROMOTORS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED THIS YEAR SO IT PROMISES TO BE A MUCH IMPROVED EXPERIENCE WITH MANY STALLS**

Your ticket will guarantee you a reserved seat in the Pavilion to watch the competitions. Friday is a spectacular day in the Pavilion with Mixed, Chamber and Adult Folk Song Choirs. The final rounds for the Vocal and Instrumental solo's and the Choreographed/stylized dance groups as well as introducing a brand -new Solo Dance (solo, duet, trio) competition. A day not to be missed! You can also walk around the town and enjoy the many shops and beautiful scenery.

We have managed to keep the cost similar to last year. The cost of the day is £69 which includes transport, entry to the Eisteddfod, reserved seat in the Pavilion and a 3 course evening meal. We are doing something slightly different this year as we will be eating in The Hand Hotel in Llangollen town centre. The hotel stands above a beautiful stretch of the river Dee close to the centre of the town and has a stunning riverside garden

**Can those people joining us please now pay your balance and call in to the office to choose your meal.**

**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US IT REALLY IS A LOVELY DAY OUT!!**



## **SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE 2024**

At the joint meeting of the deanery clergy and the DSC, the following summer schedule of Masses was agreed. This will take effect from 13th July - 15th September 2024.

Holy Rosary	Sat 6.00pm	Sun 10.30am
Our Lady & English Martyrs		Sun 10.30am
Our Lady of Walsingham	Sat 5.00pm	
Our Lady's Lydiate		Sun 10.00am
St Benet		Sun 10.00am
St Gregory	Sat 4.30pm	
St George	Sat 6.30pm	Sun 11.30am
St Elizabeth	Sat 5.00pm	
St Mary & St Kentigern		Sun 9.00am
St Robert Bellarmine		Sun 11.00am

It will not be possible to continue the schedule of weekday Masses in each church. This all highlights the need for us as parishes to work together - it promotes the Family of Parishes model as an urgent need.

## **CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION**

Thursday 4th July 2024: This partnership event between Housing Justice, Together Liverpool and the Archdiocese of Liverpool will bring together parishioners in a space to reflect on social action – through the lens of housing, homelessness and land. Book here [www.archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/1yerqfks](http://www.archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/1yerqfks)

### **“I was sick and you cared for me...”**

The Catholic Chaplaincy to the Liverpool Hospitals (The Royal, Broadgreen, and Aintree) is looking for new volunteers to join our team. Volunteers often enjoy visiting patients and their families on the wards. These visits can include praying with patients, and bringing them Holy Communion, or simply having a chat. It is possible to volunteer just a few hours one morning or afternoon each week. Full training and support will be given. You don't have to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. If you are interested in this very rewarding opportunity, please contact Fr Peter by email [peter.murphy@rlbuht.nhs.uk](mailto:peter.murphy@rlbuht.nhs.uk) or by calling 0151 706 2828.

## Cathedral Guides and Welcomers

The cathedral are seeking two new voluntary adult members for Wednesdays (1pm-4pm) and Fridays (1pm- 4pm) respectively. If you would like to assist with the welcome desk and/or conduct guided tours for our many visitors, then please contact Deacon Paul via email: [p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk)



## ST JOSEPH'S PRAYER CENTRE, FORMBY

The Prayer Centre is situated in beautiful grounds surrounded by the National Trust nature reserve, in Freshfield on Merseyside where woodland and coastal walks can be taken directly from the centre. Spacious well-kept grounds surround the centre and ample parking is available. There is also a peaceful courtyard garden for a time of quiet reflection. The tranquil setting in a peaceful and beautiful location provides a place to pray, space to think and time to meet. The centre offers a programme of organised retreats and events along with the opportunities for spiritual direction and personal quiet days. Everyone is welcome to share times of prayer and reflection and St Joseph's Prayer Centre is keen to be a resource for the local community where together, we can respond to the Lord's invitation. *¶ Come aside... to a quiet place, and rest awhile"* (Mark 0:75). Visit their website for more info: [www.stjosephsprayercentre.com](http://www.stjosephsprayercentre.com)



## CLATTERBRIDGE CANCER CENTRE LIVERPOOL

The centre is looking for volunteers to assist at the hospital. Duties will include way-finding and general assistance around the wards. If you would like to become a volunteer or for more information, please email David Lee, the Volunteer Co-Ordinator at: [david.lee3@nhs.net](mailto:david.lee3@nhs.net)

### ***Volunteer Your Teaching Talent***

*Are you a retired or part time qualified teacher? You could be part of the Cathedral's Education Service team! Come and help hundreds of schoolchildren and young people to learn about this wonderful Cathedral. 'It's a joy to watch children be amazed by the sheer beauty of John Piper's lantern of light and colour and be able to bring the Cathedral to life for the generations of the future'. Contact us at [education@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:education@metcathedral.org.uk)*



## THE NEW LECTIONARY

The Lectionary, which is the book that contains the Scripture readings for Mass and the Sacraments, is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The process began with the Roman Missal in 2011 and has continued with all the other liturgical texts.



For over 50 years, the Church in England & Wales has been using the Jerusalem Bible as its definitive translation for liturgical use; the new Lectionary will use both the English Standard Version - Catholic Edition (ECV-CE) and the Abbey Psalter for the psalms.

The changes are intended to make the biblical translations more faithful to the original languages, to reflect current biblical scholarship, and to provide a text for use in a liturgical setting that is more easily proclaimed.

The Lectionary will become mandatory for use in all Catholic parishes and Mass centres in England, Wales and Scotland from Sunday 1st December 2024.

The CTS have been appointed to publish the new Lectionary and they have now released further information and cost.



Currently, the Lectionary is in 3 volumes, but the new Lectionary will be in 4 volumes at a cost of £695 (£173.75 each) and Fr Mark is grateful for the offers of sponsorship. Three of the volumes have been taken with just one more volume left for a chance to be sponsored. The CTS will provide a special 'Donor Bookplate' in which the donor's name will be placed in the Lectionary and will be there for future years to come. If you would like to do this, please have a word with Fr Mark for more details.

Fr Mark has ordered some leaflets to explain the new Lectionary and why the translation is changing and these will be available in a few weeks time.

## 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.



## GENERAL ELECTION 2024

The Prime Minister has called a general election for Thursday, 4 July.

Gospel values inform how we look at the world as Christians. These values can also offer a different way of looking at politics, a way that puts the common good before self-interest.

Throughout this election season we will be seeking answers which will help the poor, the marginalised, and the vulnerable. We seek a society in which all families can flourish and where we care for our common home, where we offer a welcoming hand to strangers in need, where we look out for those struggling to get on. Families are the heart of our communities and society.

We seek, therefore, political leaders who can reflect and share these values. But this is not just about leaders, it is about us. We are not merely the passive recipients of politics but active citizens. An election is the best time for us as Christians to speak out, to get involved, and to lead. We hope that these resources will help in that endeavour.

There are many issues of interest to Catholic voters, but in particular there are seven: Criminal Justice, Domestic poverty, family life and taxation, Education, Environment, International relations, human rights and peacebuilding, Life Issues, Migration.

The website of the Catholic Bishops' Conference contains reflections on those seven issues of interest, including a video from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Bishops' Conference: [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk). You can also view this on our own website

**Election  
2024**



## POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE

### For migrants fleeing their homes

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them. credible witnesses to the Gospel. .

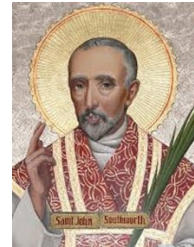


*Lord in your mercy...*

## FEAST OF THE WEEK

### St John Southworth (1592-1654)

John Southworth was the only English martyr to suffer under a dictatorship. The English Civil War ended; the King was executed; the Elizabethan Prayer-Book outlawed; freedom of conscience proclaimed. But Catholics, who had been accused of plotting against the King, were still persecuted when there was no King; they had been fined for refusing to accept the Prayer-Book, and they were still persecuted when there was no Prayer-Book; all they asked was freedom of conscience for themselves and their countrymen, and freedom of conscience was given to everyone but them. Priests had to come and go, in secret, in fear of betrayal and death, as they had had to do for more than a generation.



John Southworth was ordained priest at the English College at Douai in 1618. After returning to England he was arrested in Lancashire in 1627 and condemned to death, but the sentence was commuted to imprisonment; in 1630 he was handed over, with several other priests, to the French Ambassador for transportation abroad. Whether he actually went or not seems uncertain, but he was certainly in England in 1637, when Westminster was devastated by the plague. He was seen visiting an infected house, and was arrested and charged with being a priest. On that occasion the authorities quietly set him free but such clemency enraged the Puritans and in 1654, when they were in power, they had their revenge. He was arrested again and put on trial. When he was found guilty the judge wept as he passed the sentence of death. His body now rests in Westminster cathedral and is the patron saint of English priests.

**PLACES AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER!**



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