



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

SOLEMNITY OF Ss. PETER & PAUL
Sunday 30th June 2024



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Have I read Pope Francis's hope-filled letter *Evangelii Gaudium*? How can I respond to its message to involve ourselves in service for the poor?

LOURDES DEPARTURE MASS

This annual Mass before the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place on Sunday, 7 July, at 5pm in the Metropolitan Cathedral. All are welcome.

PETER'S PENCE

This annual collection will take place today. This is the Church's gift to the Holy Father, who distributes the money to those in needy situations across the world. Please give generously.

DEANERY NEWSLETTER

The Summer edition of the Deanery Newsletter is now available from the back of church, please take a copy. A reminder that our deanery patron saint is St. Teresa of Calcutta. May she continue to inspire us.

WEEKDAY MASSES - please note there are two changes to mass times this week:

Tuesday - 12.30 funeral mass for Eileen Hannan

Friday - mass is at 8.45am

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

The first reading focuses on Peter. The accounts of the infant Church found in Acts, and read in Eastertide, need to be put in context. There was not continuous persecution (in Acts 9:31 it says: The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up and living in the fear of the Lord, encouraged by the Holy Spirit, they continued to grow), but the Christians could never be sure that they were safe and that it would not flare up again. Herod in this passage was the grandson of the Herod of the nativity accounts in the Gospel. Peter's escape turned out badly for the guards, whom Herod ordered to be executed, and for Herod himself who was struck down (eaten away by worms) shortly afterwards. The point of this miracle story is to show how the Lord protects his church. It does not show Peter as a preacher.

The second reading focuses on Paul, even though 2 Tim was probably not his composition. Most Sundays we hear these personal testimonies in the first person; we need to pay attention to them, and identify with the 'I' as a companion and fellow-Christian whose problems are ours too. Some of Paul's genuine writings are even older than the Gospels, and supply much of our view of the Christian life even though he never followed Jesus during his life, and was a persecutor of the Church before his conversion. Today he reminds us that faith's journey is not a walk in the park but a race in the stadium. No pain, no gain; no cross, no crown. And the connection with the 1st reading is clear:

Complementing John's Vigil Gospel of Jesus' commissioning of Peter to feed and tend the sheep, today Matthew portrays Peter's commission as the comforting promise of Peter's enduring presence as the church's 'rock' through the Petrine ministry of Peter's successor as bishop of Rome.

The Roman Church has celebrated her twin patrons since the third century, linking Saints Peter and Paul in liturgy, art, and patristic preaching. Given their differing backgrounds, educations, and temperaments, their partnership should never have worked, and though each received a uniquely different call, apostleship made them one in Christ. They are the foundation of a worldwide communion that, nearly two-thousand years later, filled with light and darkness, adorned with sinners and saints, is still enlivened by unity in diversity, scholarship and service, worship and witness. Traditionally, Peter represents the Church's more institutional nature, Paul, its Spirit-inspired charismatic side. Both dimensions, now as then, are God-given and indispensable.

Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
Sunday 30th June <i>Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul</i>	10.30am People of The parish
Monday 1st July	10.00am Frances McDonagh
Tuesday 2nd July	12.30pm Funeral Mass - Eileen Hannan
Wednesday 3rd July <i>St Thomas</i>	NO MASS
Thursday 4th July	10.00am Alec Barr
Friday 5th July	8.45am Maureen Wilkinson
Saturday 6th July	NO MASS
Sunday 7th July <i>Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30am People of The parish



SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:

Kennedy Family





MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Eileen Hannan



Funeral Mass Tuesday 2nd July 12.30pm

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

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



LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD

We are looking forward to our annual Summer visit to Llangollen on Friday. Tickets are still available at the price of £69 which includes a reserved seat in the pavilion to watch the competitions, transport and dinner in a nearby hotel.

Competitions on Friday include: Mixed Choirs, Solo Dance, the semi-finals of the International Voice of the Future, Folk Dance Groups, Instrumental/Vocal Folk Solo, Chamber Choirs, Youth Vocal Solo & Adult Folk Song Choirs.

Llangollen town is a few minutes walk from the maes (Eisteddfod field) with the river and beautiful shops to explore.

The Llangollen Eisteddfod was established shortly after the end of WWII. It began with a vision that the ancient Welsh Eisteddfod tradition could provide a means of healing the wounds after the war, and help to promote lasting peace. This is truly an international festival which has grown over the decades, and many international stars owe their careers to the Eisteddfod, including Luciano Pavarotti, who sang in the choir from his home town of Modena in 1955. The choir won first prize in the Male voice choir competition. Pavarotti visited many times and he returned for a spectacular concert in 1995. Other stars to visit the festival include: Margot Fonteyn, Joan Sutherland, Kiri Te Kanata, Jehudi Menuhin, Jose Carreras, Lesley Garrett, Bryn Terfel, Katherine Jenkins, Elaine Paige, Michael Ball, Montserrat Caballe and Placido Domingo.

MASS ON FRIDAY WILL BE AT 8.45am AND WE WILL LEAVE STRAIGHT AFTER MASS



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 Lydiat		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

“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 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



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



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

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

THE NEW LECTIONARY

Thank you to those who have agreed to sponsor one of the new volumes of the Lectionary; all 4 volumes have now been taken



Fr Mark Has also ordered a Book of the Gospels, which will enhance the importance of proclaiming the Gospel every Sunday and holydays. This stunning Book displays the beauty, majesty and primacy of the Word of God in the life of the Church and makes the proclamation of the Gospel a high point of any liturgical celebration. The cost is £275 and if you would like to make a donation towards this please hand it into the Parish Office. No specific dedication will be made to this, but any donation is welcome.

Fr Mark has ordered a new book explaining why we are getting a new translation of scripture and the importance of listening to the Word of God in church. This book, priced at £3.95, will hopefully be here next week and available in the parish shop.

NEW DAWN PILGRIMAGE

This year's New Dawn Pilgrimage will take place from Monday 5 - Friday 9 August at the National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham. New Dawn is a family event with a programme of liturgy, sacraments, praise and worship, keynote speakers, workshops, children/youth ministries and more. Further information can be found on their website at www.newdawn.org.uk.



Amongst others, this year the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain will be joining them, along with the visit of the Pericardium Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis from Assisi, soon to become a saint!

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.

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. You can also view this on our own website

**Election
2024**



ADOREMUS LIVERPOOL

A day of Eucharistic Pilgrimage for the Archdiocese to 'The Met' will be taking place on Saturday 21 September at 9am until 6pm. In advance of the Jubilee Year 2025, and in celebration of this Year of Prayer, we will be celebrating mass, offering confessions, a time of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a Eucharistic Procession with plenty of time for prayer and reflection. Watch this space for more information over coming weeks.



Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

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...

FAITH DISCUSSION GROUP - the next meeting of the faith discussion group will take place on Monday 1st July at 7pm in the parish hall. All are welcome to come and join us - the discussion is always lively!

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Oliver Plunkett (1625-1681)

Oliver Plunkett was archbishop of Armagh and primate of All Ireland from 1668, at a time when the country was in a state of civil and religious disorder after the interventions of Oliver Cromwell. He persevered for ten years in his effort to ameliorate this state of affairs, until the discovery of a non-existent "Popish Plot" against the English government (invented and revealed by Titus Oates, who. implicated many before he was executed for his part in it) gave the authorities an excuse to act against many prominent Catholics. Plunkett was arrested in Ireland but taken to London for trial; one of his companions was saved by being appointed as Bavarian Ambassador to London and therefore acquiring diplomatic immunity, but for Plunkett there was no such escape, and he was hanged at Tyburn, cheating his executioners by dying before he could be ceremonially disembowelled. His remains are preserved at Downside Abbey, together with such other relics as the notes for his defence at his trial; on the occasion of his canonisation in 1975 his casket was opened and some parts of his body given to the cathedral at Drogheda in Ireland.



PLACES AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER!



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