



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

30TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 27th October 2024



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What will I do this week to discern the way for me? What else do I want to see?

HOLY YEAR PILGRIMAGE - 8-15 September 2025

Please come and join Fr Mark's pilgrimage to celebrate the Holy Year 2025:

3 nights in Rome which will include walking through the Holy Door.

2 nights in San Giovanni Rotonda - the friary of St Pio (Padre Pio)

2 nights in Assisi - the home of St Francis & St Clare

The ground package price is £1210 on a half board basis. This does not yet include the cost of the airline as Fr Mark & Pilgrimage company are trying to get the lowest price possible. The cost of flight will be approx £400-£500. Single room supplement £198.

Booking forms now available from the Parish Office

We have had a few people expressing an interest but need a few more to make the pilgrimage viable. It is a wonderful trip. Assisi is the most beautiful place. These are some images from our last pilgrimage there:



SUNDAY THOUGHTS

It is not difficult these days to imagine the nation of Israel being threatened from every side. So it was during Jeremiah's time as well. His prophetic messages were alternatively decried or ignored. Eventually the nation was defeated and most of the Jewish people were sent into exile. This is the background behind Jeremiah's incredibly hopeful and consoling oracle we hear today. The LORD will bring back the exiles - the strong and the weak, the young and the old, the blind and the lame - gathering them from near and far, consoling them and guiding them as a parent would a child. As Christians, this reminds us of our journey to the cross, Jesus gathering us all, consoling us and guiding us - as he did Bartimaeus - with the promise of eternal life.

Bartimaeus did not know it at the time, but when he decided to follow Jesus, our Lord was approaching the most difficult part of his journey. Jericho was only about twenty miles from Jerusalem. The verse that immediately follows today's Gospel says that Jesus sent two disciples into Jerusalem to get the beast of burden that would bear Jesus into the holy city. Bartimaeus may have been one of those two! Scripture scholars point out that the fact that his name is given by Mark in this Gospel suggests he became a prominent disciple. His faith is clearly apparent, as he calls Jesus by a messianic title - "Son of David" - and is the only person in Mark to address him as "Master." Though blind, he was able to see Jesus as the Messiah and was willing to throw aside his old life (symbolised by his cloak, where he held the coins he collected) and follow him without knowing where he was leading him.

Bartimaeus's request, "Master, I want to see," can be ours today (Mark 10:51). We may not be physically blind, but we may fail to see the answers to the big questions of life. Jesus offers us the chance to see what may elude us. This can be what we ask for now. We want to see what is truly important in life. We want to see what we are called to do and to be. We want to see the path that Jesus calls us to follow. Note that Bartimaeus immediately followed Jesus on the way; he just wanted to see the way. Like him, we want to see the way.

PARISH READERS A meeting for Parish Readers will take place on Thursday 7 November, 7.00pm in church. Fr Mark asks that all Readers come along so that we can prepare for the implementation of the new Lectionary.



Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 27th October <i>Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am People of the Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.45am Baptism - Elias & Gabriel Haydon</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 28th October <i>Feast of Ss Simon & Jude</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am Bernard Whiteside</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 29th October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am Hilda Lee</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 30th October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MASS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 31st October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am Michael O'Neill</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 1st November <i>Solemnity of All Saints</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12.00pm Tony Coady</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 2nd November <i>Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12.00pm Pious list</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 3rd November <i>Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am People of the Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.45am Baptism - Phoebe Rose Williams</p>

ALL SAINTS

Next Friday, 1st November, is the Solemnity of All Saints, a Holyday of Obligation, meaning we are all obliged to attend Mass. Our local parishes are working together to provide and coordinate Mass times:

Thursday	St Elizabeth's	7pm
Friday	St Robert Bellarmine	9am
	Our Lady of Walsingham	10am
	English Martyrs	12noon

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Saturday 2nd November is the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day). This special day of prayer starts a whole month of remembrance of our departed loved ones. Mass will be celebrated on this day at 12noon. Please make every effort to come along.



WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY
Elias Kyle & Gabriel James Haydon
Baptised Sunday 27 October 2024



REMEMBRANCE MASS

The Parish November Remembrance Mass for our deceased loved ones will take place on Monday 11 November at 7.00pm. Please make every effort to come along as we think of all those we know and love who have gone to their eternal reward

NOVEMBER BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Envelopes are now available at the back of the church if you wish to include the names of loved ones in this year's Book of Remembrance. Please print the names, add a donation and bring it back to church. The book will go on display from the 1st November.

SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:
Linda Perrin



MUSIC AT THE MET 2024

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.



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|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| - Advent Sequence, | Sun 1st Dec, 17.00 |
| - Bach and Handel, | Sun 8th Dec 15.00 |
| A Celebration of Christmas, | Sat 14th Dec, 19.00 |

For more information, please call 0151 708 7283 or email music@metcathedral.org.uk

FEAST OF THE WEEK

The Blessed Martyrs of Douai College

The English College at Douai in Northern France was founded in 1568 to educate English Catholics, and in particular to act as a seminary training priests to enter England covertly, minister to English Catholics, and attempt the re-conversion of England to the faith.



Simply being a Catholic priest was high treason in England at this time, with the penalty of hanging, drawing and quartering, and almost 160 of the priests from Douai were thus executed between 1577 and 1680. Each time the news of another execution reached the College, a solemn Mass of thanksgiving was sung. Many of our English Martyrs trained at Douai.

The College was closed around the time of the French Revolution and the community came back to the UK and settled in Ware, Hertfordshire, and Crook Hall, County Durham. Those who moved to Crook were to eventually move to Ushaw, County Durham, where Fr Mark and countless others trained for the priesthood.

ANIMATE YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

Applications are now online for Lourdes 2025 with Sefton Coach 7 for those Y10-22 years old. Go to liverpoollourdesyouth.co.uk. The cost is £710 which can be reduced through fundraising and a bursary. For more information contact coach7@animateyouth.net

WHEN YOU PRAY - A clear path to a deeper relationship with God.

Do you ever hear people talk about prayer but feel like you can't relate?

You know prayer is important, but you still find it challenging. Perhaps it's hard to find time to pray, or you're unsure what to do when you do pray. Or maybe you feel restless and distracted and don't feel close to God.

You might struggle to trust God and surrender to his will. Or maybe you feel discouraged by your many weaknesses and your inability to overcome them. Ultimately, you worry that what you're doing in prayer isn't "working," because you aren't seeing major changes in your life.

If you have any of these feelings, you are not alone. Many of the saints had similar ones. Even the saints struggled in prayer, had complicated problems, and made mistakes. They were like us. But each time they fell, they got up again and learned to rely more on God's grace. And eventually they were changed.

What God did in countless saints, he wants to do in ordinary people like us.

During this Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025, Fr Mark will lead this seven-week course on prayer, starting on **Monday, November 4** at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Please sign up at the parish office.

Inspired by the real example of the saints, we will learn how to pray with the same consistency, trust, peace, and passion that led to deep transformation in their souls. When You Pray: A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship with God will help you begin your journey of prayer, rejuvenate your prayer life, and strengthen your relationship with God so that you can give God your entire heart.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AND FUNDRAISING



We are trying something new for our Parish Christmas celebrations this year

Saturday 30th November 1-4pm Christmas Fayre and entertainment

The **Irish Guards Choir** will be joining us in the Parish Hall to entertain us with some festive tunes. They will perform twice during the afternoon so come and join in the 'sing-a-long'.



We are also making that a Christmas Fayre with stalls, tombolas, lucky dips etc etc. We still need some donations to make that a success so please 'dig deep' and pass items in to the office.

Charge for entry is £3 which will include refreshments. We need people to come to make this an enjoyable afternoon so please get your tickets next week at back of Church

Tuesday 10th December 7pm Christmas Bingo



It wouldn't be Christmas without our Bingo! Always popular and good fun. Tickets will be on sale next week

Christmas raffle

Our two Christmas raffles are also very popular (especially the drinks hamper!) so get your raffle tickets from next week.

We look forward to your support. It is always lovely to spend some time together as a Parish. Especially at such a special time of year.

So please come along!

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP There will be an Archdiocesan Young Adult Group meeting at Pauline Book Centre (84 Church Street, Liverpool L1 3AY) on Monday 28 October. We will start at 6.30pm and refreshment will be provided. Anyone aged 18-35 is welcome to attend. The theme is praying to Ss Simon and Jude. For more information, please contact m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For anyone who has lost a child

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

Lord in your mercy...



SERVICE FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

Ecumenical Service for Peace in the Holy Land: Wed 6th Nov 7pm. Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Hedgefield Rd, Gateacre, L25 2RW.

“Let us pray with one heart and one soul –grant us peace, teach us peace, guide our steps in the way of peace” Pope Francis

Archbishop McMahon will lead a time of prayer for peace at this time of increased violence, hatred, fear and mistrust in the Holy Land. Canon Mark Madden will preach. Through the Word of God, stillness, reflection, and song we are invited to be united in our cry for peace. All are welcome!

50 Faces of the Holy Land Photographic Exhibition: 31st Oct-12th Nov. Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Hedgefield Rd, Gateacre, L25 2RW is hosting a photographic and audio exhibition of lives of people in Israel, Gaza and the Occupied Territories. Stories are told by people of all ages, and experiences; we learn what it is to live in a land that is known by so many to be holy. Come and discover the real lives of the people in the region marked with its history, its diversity, its joy and its suffering and light a candle for peace. Open 8.30am-1.30pm each day. All welcome.

ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPACE “200 CLUB” OCTOBER DRAW

1st	£20	No. 153	P Roche
2nd	£15	No. 15	M Vondy
3rd	£10	No. 46	I Oakes
4th	£10	No. 58	A London



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

NOTICE OF THANKS
CELIA BYRNE (née Smartt) RIP

Cathy, John and family would like to thank everyone for all the Masses, Prayer offerings and donations, after the death of their sister, Celia; many with beautiful and meaningful messages.

They are also grateful to Canon Mark and all who attended the thoughtful and uplifting requiem which really was a celebration of Celia's life. The preparation of service sheets, floral arrangements and all joining in the singing and responses was much appreciated.

Please be aware that the love and support that has been shown by parishioners and friends, whilst Celia was in care and upon her passing is a great comfort to us all. We will keep you in our prayers and know that Celia's heavenly smile will be shining on us all.

With a big hug, Thank You

You are invited to an evening of
music and song with the
Walton Salvation Army Band and Songsters at
St Philip's Church Orrell Road, Litherland. L21 8NG.
Saturday 2nd November at 7pm



Entry to the concert is free, but there will be a retiring
offering towards the work of the Salvation Army in Walton and their
Christmas Hamper Appeal.

TOYS, WARM COATS & BLANKETS The Irenaeus Centre are collecting new and almost new toys to give to people in need. And are asking for donations of warm coats, blankets or sleeping bags. 32 Great Georges Rd, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 1RD Tel: 0151 949 1199

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.



OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE

In early September 2024, when parliament returned and a Bill on assisted suicide – so-called assisted dying – started its passage through the House of Lords, our Lead Bishop for Life Issues, Bishop John Sherrington, called for Catholics to unite in prayer and compassionate action.

That call is renewed now as last Wednesday, 16 October, the House of Commons heard the first reading of a new bill on assisted suicide tabled by Labour MP Kim Leadbeater. This is another attempt to legalise assisted suicide and we need you to contact your MP to voice your opposition.

Act Now! Contact Peter Dowd MP

The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to input your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law.

www.righttolife.org.uk

Pray

We are a praying Christian community and, as Bishop Sherrington says, the legalisation of assisted suicide undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. “The Catholic Church accompanies those suffering and nearing the end of their lives with hope and affection, but also reminds them that their life is precious until the very last breath,” he says. “In preparation for these challenging debates, let us offer our prayers for those facing the end of their lives, that they may receive the care and support they need to live their final days with respect for their dignity.

“Let us also pray for our politicians and our country that wisdom and compassion may guide their decisions. I also urge all Catholics to become better informed about the serious problems associated with the legalisation of assisted suicide.

Cardinal Nichols wrote an excellent Pastoral Letter last weekend and Fr Mark has made copies, which can be found at the back of the church. The letter is short but important and you are encouraged to take a copy, read it and pass it on. It is also on the Parish website

More information can be found on the Bishops’ Conference website:

www.cbcew.org.uk

**ECUMENICAL
SERVICE FOR PEACE
IN THE HOLY LAND
6TH NOV
AT 7 PM**

Our Lady of the
Assumption Church,
Hedgefield Rd,
Gateacre, L25 2RW

Led by Archbishop
Malcolm McMahon



Preacher: Canon
Mark Madden



www.ourladygateacre.org.uk www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk