



# Our Lady & The English Martyrs

## Litherland

32ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 10th November 2024



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCCHS FRSA

0151 928 3471 [englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk)

[www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk](http://www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk)

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When am I like the widow, giving when it hurts? When am I like the scribe, taking advantage of others' generosity and rationalising it?  
When do I fail to recognise the generosity of God in my life?

## 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

Two years before Elijah met the widow of Zarephath, he made his first prophecy. Speaking in the LORD's name, he told the king, Ahab, that God would send a drought upon the land as a punishment for Israel's sins. The ensuing story reminds its listeners that not even Elijah was spared; had he not journeyed to Zarephath he himself would have died of thirst. God's providence and generosity in sending life-giving rain at long last are matched only by the widow's. It ends up that both she and Elijah are fortunate that they encountered each other on that day. Her generosity, and God's, allow her, her son, and Elijah to live through the final year of the drought.

The opening paragraph of the Gospel contains a damning indictment of the hypocritical scribes of Jesus' time who "swallow the property of widows" (Mark 12:40). They collected the temple tax from the treasury and used it to fatten their own wallets. Under the pretext of their public exhortations of the prayers they needed to recite, they took the last remaining coins from widows and others who lived on the edge of poverty. As wonderful as the lesson Jesus teaches his disciples about the value of the widow's self-sacrificial generosity, let us not ignore the other lesson he teaches. The greed of the scribes in this case is unjust, selfish, and potentially devastating to its victims.

In the poor widow who gives her last two coins, we have a model of the self-sacrifice Jesus teaches us to embrace. She gave her livelihood; he goes on to sacrifice his life. The analogy is even sharper in the first reading, as the widow in Zarephath sacrifices not only her final meal but also her son's. Centuries later, God sent the Son to be born into this world, where he would sacrifice himself on the cross for our sins. Through Elijah, God was miraculously able to save the widow's family from death. Through Jesus, God was miraculously able to raise the human family to new life.

## CATHOLIC PIC

The October edition is now available from the parish shop.

**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.

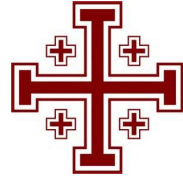


## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS & SERVICES
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 10th November</b> <i>Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.30am</b> People of the Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Grace Katie Jones</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 11th November</b> <i>Memorial of St Martin of Tours</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7.00pm</b> November Mass of Remembrance</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday 12th November</b> <i>Memorial of St Josaphat</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> Helen Jack</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2.00pm</b> Funeral service - Gerald McGreavey</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday 13th November</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO MASS</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday 14th November</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> Rose Seddon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>11.00am</b> Funeral service - James Gerard Marray</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 15th November</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.00am</b> Milly Perry</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 16th November</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>11.00am</b> November Remembrance - Order of Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 17th November</b> <i>Thirty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10.30am</b> People of the Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Luna Robertson</p>

## MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Archbishop Malcolm joins us next Saturday for a November Mass of Remembrance, along with some Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre. Mass begins at 11.00 am. All are welcome.



## THE NEW LECTIONARY

Our wonderful team of Parish Readers met last Thursday to see the new Lectionary and to discuss its implementation; all agreed on how beautiful they are. The Lectionaries will be formally presented to the parish and Fr Mark will bless them on Sunday 24 November, ready for its use the following Sunday, 1st December.



**WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY**  
**Grace Katie Jones**  
Baptised Sunday 10 November 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 is now on display



**SANCTUARY LAMP**  
The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:  
**The Williams family**



## 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.



- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| - Advent Sequence,          | Sun 1st Dec, 17.00  |
| - Bach and Handel,          | Sun 8th Dec 15.00   |
| A Celebration of Christmas, | Sat 14th Dec, 19.00 |
| A Ceremony of Carols        | Sun 15th Dec 15.00  |

For more information, please call 0151 708 7283 or email [music@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:music@metcathedral.org.uk)

## SOMETHING NEW IN THE PARISH HALL!

Every Thursday from 7th November 12.30pm - 1.15pm

Seniors Chair Exercise Class

Benefits of this low-impact seated chair class include: Reducing the risk of falls, Improving heart and lung health, helping you to do everyday activities with more ease gaining increased flexibility and strength, and relieving stress and tension. It's sociable and good fun to music. Suitable for people with reduced mobility. Cost is £3 per session - give it a try



## Celebrating Young People in the Life of the Church:

### A Time of Prayer

To mark Youth Sunday we are hosting a time of prayer, reflection and celebration at Lowe House (North Rd, St Helens, WA10 2BE) at 5pm on the 24th November.

We hope the evening will be an uplifting event at which we can pray for young people and those that work with them, whilst listening to different speakers offer thoughts and reflections on their work with young people. The service will end with a social time.

All are welcome. Please come along to pray for our young people and hear what opportunities we offer young people across the diocese.

## **WHEN YOU PRAY -**

**A clear path to a deeper relationship with God.**

The next evening will take place on Monday 18 November at 7.00pm.

## **FEAST OF THE WEEK**

### **St Edmund of Abingdon (1175-1240)**

St Edmund Rich was born at St Edmund's Lane, Abingdon, in 1175. His father was a rich merchant, hence the surname (which he never in fact used himself).

He studied at Oxford and Paris, and became a teacher in about 1200. For six years he lectured on mathematics and dialectics, apparently dividing his time between Oxford and Paris. He is the first known Oxford Master of Arts, and the place where he taught was eventually renamed St Edmund Hall.



Between 1205 and 1210, he changed direction, studying theology and being ordained a priest. He took a doctorate in divinity and soon won fame as a theological lecturer and extemporaneous preacher. Around 1219, he was appointed vicar of the parish of Calne in Wiltshire and Treasurer of Salisbury Cathedral. He finally became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1233. He was a notable and effective reforming Bishop. His love for discipline and justice aroused opposition, and he found himself ranged against Rome as champion of the national Church. Eventually, like his predecessors St Thomas Becket and Stephen Langton, he retired to Pontigny, where he is buried. He died at Soisy-Bouy on 16 November 1240. He is venerated as a vigorous and reforming bishop and as a peacemaker, as well as being a distinguished commentator on the Scriptures and an effective spiritual writer.

**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

## 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

### **Tuesday 10th December 7pm Christmas Bingo**

It wouldn't be Christmas without our Bingo!



Always popular and good fun. Tickets now on sale

### **Christmas raffle**

Our two Christmas raffles are also very popular (especially the drinks hamper!) so get your raffle tickets there are some lovely prizes this year - all thanks to your generosity.

**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!**

## **ANIMATE YOUTH PILGRIMAGE**

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



## 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...*



**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.

## CAFOD'S WORLD GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, give your loved ones something exceptional and life-changing. Buying CAFOD's virtual World Gifts makes a real difference for our sisters and brothers facing the injustice of poverty around the world. Choose from a range of beautifully illustrated cards, each representing a gift of hope, inspired by real people and real needs. Cards can be sent by post, as an eCard, or printed at home. Purchase World Gifts and other gifts such as Advent calendars and jute bags at [worldgifts.cafod.org.uk](http://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk) or pick up a catalogue in church.



## **Cathedral Friends Meal - Chinese Food and Wine Pairing Menu - Wednesday 20 November, 7pm**

Cathedral Friends invite you to a meal at Yuet Ben Restaurant on Upper Duke Street. The event costs £50 per person, and will include a welcome drink on arrival and complimentary wines to accompany each course. All are welcome to join. To book your place or find out more, please email Claire Hanlon at [c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

## **Creative Christmas Workshop at the Cathedral**

Experience the joy of the holiday season by joining our Christmas wreath and table-centre making event. The perfect opportunity to indulge in self-care whilst getting creative! A fun way to spend the day getting into the Christmas spirit whilst learning a new skill under the expert guidance of Muir Simpson. You will impress your family and friends with the wreath and centre-piece you will take home with you. Please bring a packed lunch as well! Refreshments throughout the day will be provided.

Christmas jumpers – optional!! Let's celebrate the season together!

**Saturday 7 December 2024 10am – 3.00pm Gibberd Room,  
Metropolitan Cathedral £45 per person.**

For further information on how to book, and to receive the list of ingredients you need to bring on the day please email [enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk)

## **NSPCC Carols By Candlelight - Tuesday 3 December**

The NSPCC Carols By Candlelight will return once more to the beautiful surroundings of Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral, to celebrate the festive season on Tuesday 3rd December. The event is kindly sponsored by Home Bargains and has an array of fantastic performers from across Merseyside, including the talented PopVox, Cantemus At Calday, Wirral Schools' Concert Band and the Merchant Taylors' School Choir.

"We want to answer every call to our Childline service here in Liverpool and reach every child who needs us. We're constantly inspired by the courage and resilience of our children and young people in Merseyside and across the UK.

By joining us for Carols By Candlelight in Liverpool on 3rd December you can help us be here for more children this Christmas and beyond."

**Pension Credit** Up to 850,000 pensioner households may be entitled to Pension Credit, but do not claim it. Some pensioners think because they've got savings or own their home they would not get any Pension Credit - but this is not the case. The government have asked that community leaders share this information with people over state pension age (66) - they have put together flyers, posters, social media posts and videos for more details go to: [Pension Credit toolkit: advice and guidance for stakeholders - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-toolkit).

## **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.

### **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](http://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 and Fr Mark has made copies, which can be found at the back of the church. It is also on the Parish website

Cardinal Nicholls has also called for Catholics in England and Wales to join him, and the Bishops of our countries, to pause for an hour at 5:30pm on Wednesday, 13 November to pray for the dignity of human life.

On that day, the Bishops will pause for an hour in the middle of their autumn plenary meeting to kneel in front of the Blessed Sacrament for a holy hour in light of the bill passing through the UK parliament that seeks to legalise assisted suicide. Cardinal Nicholls video message regarding this is on the parish website

CHRISTMAS FAYRE &  
IRISH GUARDS CHOIR

*Come and join us on  
Saturday 30th  
November 1-4pm*



*For some lovely festive  
entertainment and stalls galore!*

*Entrance £3 - tickets at back of  
Church*

