



Our Lady & The English Martyrs

Litherland

31ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 3rd November 2024



Parish Priest: Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

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www.ourladyandenglishmartyrs.co.uk

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do I show my love for God and my love for my neighbour?
When have I felt myself giving that love with all my being?

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

The words of Deuteronomy that we hear in the first reading are found in the Shema, the prayer recited by devout Jews every morning and evening, a prayer that expresses the foundation of the Jewish faith. It has been their daily prayer for hundreds of generations, including the generation that lived in Jesus' time, so all of the scribes would have certainly known the prayer by heart. Every day it reminds them of God's prominence in their lives. Every day it reminds them that their God is the God of all, for there is but one God. Every day it reminds them that they are to respond to God with love, with all their being. May it remind us of the same.

In every way possible: that is how Moses and Jesus ask us to love God. This is what is behind their command to love God, "with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength". We should love God with all of our available resources, with our whole person. Once we realise that every person was made in the image of God, it necessarily follows that we should love our neighbour as we love ourselves, for each of us is made in God's image.

During the month of November, we remember all who have gone before us in death, praying that they may be one with God in the kingdom of heaven. It is also a time of harvest, when farmers and gardeners in much of the country pick the last of their crops before winter comes. In another sense, we can think of our loved ones as being part of God's harvest, brought home to eternal life by God's mercy. May we too reap the rewards promised to us by our Saviour.

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.

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 3rd November <i>Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">People of the Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.45am Baptism - Phoebe Rose Williams</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 4th November <i>Memorial St Charles Borromeo</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Alice Hughes</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 5th October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Funeral mass - Peter Foy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 6th November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MASS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 7th November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Martin Madden</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 8th November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ann Henderson</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 9th November <i>Feast of Dedication of Lateran Basilica</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO MASS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 10th November <i>Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">People of the Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.45am Baptism - Grace Katie Jones</p>

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Willibrord (658-739)

He was born in Yorkshire and after being a pupil of St Wilfrid, studied for twelve years at Rathmelsige in Ireland, where he was ordained priest. He returned to England but set out again in 690 to evangelize Frisia. He was ordained bishop by Pope Sergius in 695 and founded the metropolitan see of Utrecht in the Netherlands. He preached the Gospel in Denmark and North Germany and founded several dioceses and monasteries in the Netherlands and Luxembourg. He died at Echternach in Luxembourg in 739.



He was the first of the great Anglo-Saxon missionaries to Europe and is remembered not just for his devotion in preaching the Gospel but also for his joyfulness of character and his holiness of life.



WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY
Phoebe Rose Williams
Baptised Sunday 3 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:
Special intention (JM)



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 |
| A Ceremony of Carols | Sun 15th Dec 15.00 |

For more information, please call 0151 708 7283 or email 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.

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

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. The cost is £710 which can be reduced through fundraising and a bursary. For more information contact 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...



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.

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

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

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."

LITHERLAND HISTORY SOCIETY

Next meeting is Tuesday 5th November at 10am when Chris Cannon will give a talk and presentation on 'Liverpool during the Two World Wars'. Entry £2 includes refreshments. All are welcome

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