

# The Parish of St Josephine Bakhita

The Churches of English Martyrs & St Robert Bellarmine

Feast of The Baptism of The Lord

Sunday 12th January 2025



Parish Priest:

Very Rev Canon Mark B Madden KCHS FRSA

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can setting even five or ten minutes aside for prayer each day help me live out my baptismal calling? Can I resolve to do that each day during this jubilee year?

## JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE - 8-15 September 2025

Places are still available for the Holy Year pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni & Assisi, Monday 8 September - Monday 15 September 2025. Fr Mark and the Pilgrimage Company have now finalised the last remaining details of the flights:

Monday 8 September

10:15 am depart Manchester on Ryanair

13:55 pm arrive Rome

Monday 15 September

21:30 pm depart Rome on Ryanair

23:30 pm arrive Manchester

The timing of the flights is excellent, as it gives us more time in Rome on our arrival day and a full day before we depart for home.

**The final total cost of the trip is £1588.**

If anyone one is interested in booking, you need to take a booking form from the parish office as soon a possible, complete it and bring it back



## SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Isaiah speaks of God's chosen one bringing justice to the nations, but not in the way we would expect. He will not establish justice through violent battles or grand gestures. No, this person will act quietly and tenderly. With a gentle touch, eyes will be opened and bonds will be broken. Indeed, this is how Jesus - with the Holy Spirit within him - will heal, liberate, and serve those in need. This is what we are now called to do. Jesus has shown us how to do it.

We have been baptised in Christ. We are God's beloved children, baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. In us, God is well pleased. God continues to shower us with grace, as was poured down on us in a special way in baptism, as we live out our baptismal calling. Significantly, before the Father spoke to him at his baptism, Jesus prayed to God, initiating a dialogue with the Father. May we initiate that dialogue as well, again and again, praying that God's grace, poured down on us from the heavens, helps us grow into the beloved sons and daughters God calls us to be.

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Our parish needs more people to become Eucharistic Ministers and the next Training Day will take place on Saturday 15 March at Irenaeus in Waterloo. If you would like to volunteer, please give your name to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

### THE MIRACLE OF JACK TRAYNOR

Following the announcement in December of the miraculous cure of John (Jack) Traynor, the Archdiocese of Liverpool will be celebrating this historic moment with Mass followed by a drinks reception at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Tuesday 18th February at 7pm.

All are very welcome to attend.



### WELCOME BACK!

This week we welcome back Fr Stephen who is kindly helping us with masses whilst Fr Mark is away in the Holy Land.

Thank you Fr Stephen!

## Masses & Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
<b>Sunday 12th January</b> <i>Feast of The Baptism of The Lord</i>	<b>9.30am</b> People of the Parish  <b>11.45am</b> Baptism - Oluwafolakemi & Oluwafikayo Adesina	<b>11.00am</b>  Ken Williams
<b>Monday 13th January</b>	<b>10.00am</b>  Funeral mass - Theresa McGuirk	
<b>Tuesday 14th January</b> <i>St Kentigern</i>		<b>10.00am</b>  Leila Bromilow
<b>Wednesday 15th January</b>		
<b>Thursday 16th January</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Peggy O'Dea  <b>2.00pm</b> Funeral service Eileen Hesse	
<b>Friday 17th January</b> <i>St Anthony</i>		<b>10.00am</b>  Ann Marie Hore
<b>Saturday 18th January</b>	<b>12.00pm</b> Baptism - Olivia Sophia Glynn	
<b>Sunday 19th January</b> <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>9.30am</b>  Michael McDermott	<b>11.00am -</b>  Holly Pennington

### SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the coming week is for:  
Private intention (AR)



## **MASS TIMES**

Changes affecting our parish will take effect from Monday 6 January when new Mass times will be implemented. Weekday Masses will be celebrated in both English Martyrs & St Robert Bellarmine:

Monday & Thursday	10:00 am	English Martyrs
Tuesday & Friday	10:00 am	St Robert Bellarmine

Weekend Mass times will take effect from Sunday 12 January

## **HOLY LAND COORDINATION 2025**

Fr Mark is away this week to attend the 2025 Bishops' Holy Land Coordination meeting, which will be held in Jerusalem this year.

Pope John Paul II, at the end of last century, commissioned a group of Catholic Bishops from around the world to visit the Catholic community in the Holy Land in his name and in the name of the Catholic Church, to show pastoral support to Catholic community of the Holy Land. Since 2000 a group of Bishops have done this and have then reported back to Rome on what they have seen, heard and experienced. They visit communities hold meetings with Church & Religious Leaders, Politicians, Ambassadors and Heads of State.

Fr Mark has been an advisor to the Group since 2006, and in 2012, Rome appointed him as its General Secretary. He is responsible for informing the Bishops throughout the year and preparing and planning their annual meeting, which takes place every January.

They will be based in Jerusalem and will visit communities in Aboud, Ramallah, Taybeh and Bethlehem. They will meet Church Leaders and will have a meeting with a number of Ambassadors.

You can follow progress of the meeting:  
[www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk) Please keep them in your prayers.



## Introducing Jubilee – online session – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025

All are welcome to join us for

[A general introduction to the Jubilee Year](#) with special guests including Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission for the Catholic Bishop's Conference, Christine Allen, CAFOD Director, and Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Africa Programmes. Hear what Jubilee years are about, how we're celebrating as a global and national Church and how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together throughout this holy year. Also featuring a special song by Catholic Group Ooberfuse and more. Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday



## MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MASS Archbishop Malcolm

will celebrate the Marriage and Family Life Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King (L3 5TQ) on

**Sunday 9 February 2025 at 11.00am.** For more information, please contact Moses at: [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk).

### The Upside Down Gospel: Reflections on the Gospel of Luke. Session 1

January 15th 10.30am - 12.00pm

The Irenaeus Project will be running sessions throughout January on the Gospel of Luke. All are welcome to attend.

### Sacrament of Confirmation: Registration Open - 13 January 2025 - 17 March 2025

The registration website will open on the 13 January and end on the 17 March. Young people in year 8 and above can register at [liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://liverpoolcalled.co.uk)

### Time Out Tuesdays - January 14th 10.30am - 4.00pm Sisters of Our Lady of The Cenacle

Wanting time for yourself? Time to stop and reflect? Time to step aside for a while from the daily round of life? Then why not join The Sisters of Our Lady and the Cenacle on a Tuesday to get away for a few hours to stop and ponder the important things of life? No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. Suggested offering for the day is £10, bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided. For further information contact Sr Winnie 0151 722 2271.

## **Peace Sunday Mass and Lecture: A Mother's Forgiveness with Gee Walker January 19th 11.00am Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King**



Join Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP and Pax Christi Merseyside for Solemn Mass at 11am to mark Peace Sunday. Afterwards, You are also invited to the Liverpool Archdiocese Justice and Peace commission's annual memorial lecture in the Gibberd Room at the Metropolitan Cathedral. Join Gee Walker who will talk about the murder of her son Anthony, forgiveness, reconciliation and justice. This is a partnership event by Pax Christi and the Liverpool Justice and Peace Commission. Tea and coffee will be available in the Gibberd Room after Mass and before the Lecture, which begins at 1.15pm. For more details and registration go to [archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events](http://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events) or click below

[A Mother's Forgiveness: Gee Walker talks about the tragic death of her son Anthony \(19-Jan-2025\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

## **WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP ENGAGED COUPLES TO PREPARE FOR MARRIAGE**

The Archdiocese is now recruiting and training volunteer facilitators to join the marriage preparation team. The facilitator training will be held at St Helen's Church, Alexandra Road, Crosby L23 7TQ and consists of 5 sessions:

**Monday 27 January 2025 (7.00pm – 8.30pm)**

**Monday 3 February 2025 (7.00pm – 8.30pm)**

**Monday 10 February 2025 (7.00pm – 8.30pm)**

**Monday 17 February 2025 (7.00pm – 8.30pm)**

**Saturday 1 March 2025 (10.00am – 2.00pm)**

This new team will be asked to offer marriage preparation course for couples twice in 2025. If this is something you are interested in, please contact [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk).  
*"I encourage Christian communities to recognise the great benefit that they themselves receive from supporting engaged couples as they grow in love." (Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia 207).*

# JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

## What is a Jubilee?

In the Roman Catholic tradition, a Holy Year, or Jubilee is a great religious event. It is a year of forgiveness of sins and also the punishment due to sin, it is a year of reconciliation between adversaries, of conversion and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and consequently of solidarity, hope, justice, commitment to serve God with joy and in peace with our brothers and sisters. A Jubilee year is above all the year of Christ, who brings life and grace to humanity.



## When will the Jubilee begin?

The Jubilee Year begins with the opening of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome, on Tuesday 24 December 2024 and concludes on 6 January at the Feast of Epiphany 2026.

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate Mass for the Solemn Opening of the Year at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Sunday 29 Dec 2024 at 11am. This celebration will also take place at our Co-Cathedral, St Mary of the Isle on the Isle of Man with Mass celebrated by Bishop Tom Neylon.

## Pilgrims of Hope

Although the Jubilee is a worldwide celebration, Pope Francis has asked each diocese throughout the world to get involved and mark the Jubilee in its own unique way.

With the theme for the Jubilee 2025 being "Pilgrims of Hope", it's a great opportunity to discover afresh what it means "to be a pilgrim", not just by taking part in walks across our Archdiocese or the country to some of our amazing places or shrines, but also in seeing our whole lives as a pilgrimage from God to God, and our two Cathedrals and parishes as pilgrimage places. The Jubilee Year here in Liverpool will offer each one of us the chance to avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to reset our relationship with God and with each other.

## The year ahead

There are many exciting plans being made in advance of the Jubilee. Please continue to look out for further updates on our Jubilee page as we continue our preparations: [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/departments/pastoral-development/jubilee](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/departments/pastoral-development/jubilee)

We look forward to accompanying you throughout this Jubilee year and in the words of St Paul: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."*



## POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY

### For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

*Lord in your mercy...*



## JUBILEE PRAYER

During this Jubilee Year, we encourage you to pray the Jubilee Prayer each day:

*Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.*

*May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.*

*May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.*

*To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.*

*Amen*



## **SEFTON INLAND DEANERY**

The Deanery priests met on Monday, December 16th, to try to implement a proposed Mass schedule that will enable us to cover the changes that will occur in the first two weeks of January 2025.

The changes that face us are the same that will be faced by every Deanery in the Archdiocese in the coming years. We are not alone in this.

From Sat 11th Jan the following schedule will be in place.

### **Saturday**

4.30pm: St Gregory,  
5.00pm: Our Lady of Walsingham  
6.00pm: Holy Rosary  
6.30pm: St George

### **Sunday**

9.30am: Our Lady, Lydiate  
9.30am: English Martyrs  
10.00am: St Benet  
10.30am: Holy Rosary  
11.00am: St Gregory  
11.00am: St Robert Bellarmine.  
11.30am: St George.

## **SANCTUARY LAMP**

We are running short on dedications for the sanctuary lamp. If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a week please just write your intention on an envelope and pass to the office with £5 offering



## **DIOCESAN CONSULTATION - NEW ARCHBISHOP**

*“A Bishop’s task is to preside over a local Church as a visible principle of unity within it and a bond of communion with all the Churches.” (69)*

*“This is why the Assembly desires that the People of God have a greater voice in choosing Bishops.” (70)*

XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS 2024

The Vatican Synod clearly says that in the appointment of bishops the voice of synodal bodies must be heard. The process is underway for the appointment of a new Archbishop of Liverpool. You are invited to contribute to this process to have your voice heard. This is an exciting development in the life of the Church! There will be two meetings, held with the blessing of Archbishop Malcolm, on:

Thursday 16th January 2025 at St Mary’s Leyland, PR25 1PD (7.00pm – 9.30pm) and

Saturday 18th Jan 2025 at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, L17 1AA (10.30am - 1.00pm)

Each gathering will be the same – so only come to one of them. There will be two parts to the meeting: Firstly, we will begin by looking at where we are as a diocese and our future development and secondly we will consider the qualities needed in our future Archbishop.

This is open to all members of our community here in the Archdiocese. To reserve a place at one of the meetings please go to: [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk). Go to the events page and scroll down to find the online registration form.



**WE WELCOME WITH GREAT JOY**  
**Oluwafolakemi & Oluwafikayo Adesina**

Baptised Sunday 12 January 2025





**English Martyrs Office:**

School Lane, Litherland. L21 7LX

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

Office hours: Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 9.30am–2.30pm

**St Robert Bellarmine Office:**

Orrell Road, Bootle. L20 6DZ

0151 922 1352 [strobert@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:strobert@rcaol.org.uk)

Office hours: Tues, Wed, Fri 9.30am–1.30pm

[liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacynotice](http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacynotice)  
Archdiocese of Liverpool: CIO no:1199714