



## Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



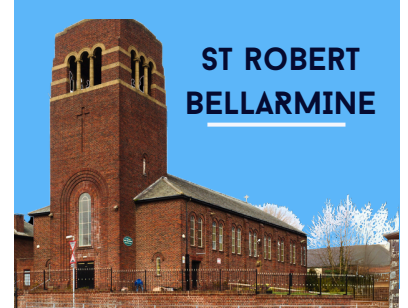
### ENGLISH MARTYRS



### PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon  
Mark B Madden  
KCHS FRSA

### ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



Hospitality is a beautiful virtue—one that Martha embodies with enthusiasm. She welcomes Jesus into her home, busily prepares, and ensures everything is in order. But in today's Gospel, her busyness leads to frustration. She complains that Mary, her sister, is sitting idly at Jesus' feet, listening, while she bears the burden of work alone.

Jesus' response is gentle but striking:

"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things; there is need of only one thing." Mary has chosen to be present with the Lord.



This Gospel challenges our modern lives. We live in a Martha-world: full diaries, constant notifications, and a culture that equates worth with productivity. Yet Jesus invites us to be Mary—at least some of the time. To sit, listen, and be still in His presence. Contemplation is not idleness; it is an act of love. It's what gives meaning to our service.

In the rhythm of Christian life, action and contemplation must dance together. The Church needs Marthas and Marys—but both must be rooted in Christ.

This week, let's reflect: When do we take time simply to sit at the feet of Jesus? Can we set aside our anxious distractions, even for a moment each day, and choose "the better part"? True hospitality begins not with a spotless house, but with an open heart. May we learn to serve like Martha, but also to listen like Mary.

*Fr Mark*

*Martha welcomed Jesus with service; Mary welcomed Him with stillness. In the busyness of my life, how can I create space to truly listen to the Lord this week?*

## 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

9:45 am depart Manchester on Ryanair

13.55 Arrive Rome



Monday 15 September

13:50 pm depart Rome on Ryanair

15:40 pm arrive Manchester

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, complete it and bring it back

## PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ILL



Ann Hore  
Joseph Mulhaney  
Michael Lundon

## POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY



### For formation in discernment

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

*Lord in your mercy...*

## Guild of St Stephen Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Liverpool Archdiocesan Guild of St Stephen's Pilgrimage to Lourdes is currently accepting bookings. The pilgrimage will take place Sunday 26th October – Saturday 1st November 2025 and further information, including booking costs, is included on the attached flyer. For more information please contact Rose Curry on 07932 729896.

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## PILGRIMAGE WALK ST MARY'S SHRINE, ORMSKIRK

We are having a Pilgrimage Walk on Saturday 20th September 2025, 11am start with Mass at 1.30pm, St Mary's Shrine Church, Prescot Road, Ormskirk, L39 6TA.



Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool

This Season of Creation, join us for a pilgrimage walk!  
Starting at 11am 3.5 mile circular route 3 prayer stops on the route Mass at 1.30pm  
For more information contact Chris Higgins: [c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:c.higgins@rcaol.org.uk)

## PARISH READERS

We need a few more Parish Readers, willing to read at St Robert Bellarmine. If you would like to volunteer, please give your name to the Parish Office.



## SAVE THE DATE - ADOREMUS

Mark your calendars - this year's Adoremus will take place on Saturday 8 November. The theme this year is Ministry, and the timetable of workshops will be released in due course.

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Are you planning to marry in a Catholic Church?  
Are you looking for some time out from the busy wedding planning, providing you and your partner with an opportunity to focus on your relationship and to learn more about each other?



The Liverpool Archdiocese is now offering a marriage preparation course for engaged couples. The course will involve four sessions, meeting in group with other couples. To be led by trained lay facilitators, the course will help the couples develop skills which could facilitate good communication within their relationship and an understanding of unconditional love set within a Catholic faith. The course will be starting on 29 September - 20 October. The venue is St Helen's Church, Crosby and sessions are at 6.30pm

There is a fee of £50 per couple to help towards materials and other expenses. Please book online here at [Marriage Preparation Course Link](#). For enquiries, please contact Moses Mui, Training Coordinator at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

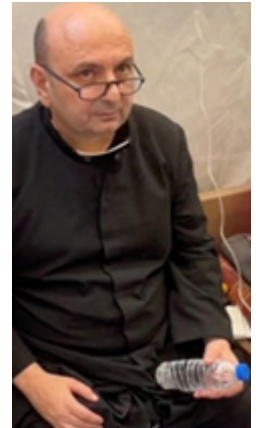
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## HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH - GAZA

We were greatly saddened to hear on Thursday of the bombing of the Catholic Church in Gaza. Three people were killed and many injured. This includes Fr Gabriel Romanelli who is a great friend of Fr Mark and who, you may recall, visited last year. We pray for his recovery.

Please continue to pray for Fr Romanelli and all who are still suffering with the awful war in Gaza



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## SCHOOLS BREAK FOR SUMMER

As usual, the academic year has been an extremely busy year for all our schools and therefore it is no surprise that pupils and school staff now start their well-deserved break.



We wish all pupils and staff a safe and happy summer holiday. After months of hard work, now is the time to rest and enjoy the holidays enabling all those who are returning to school in September to do so well rested, refreshed and ready to do it all over again!

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## UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY

The Ukrainian Rite Mass is held in Saint Sebastian's Church every Saturday evening at 5.30pm. All are welcome. If you would like to offer help or support to the Ukrainian Community, please contact Fr Taras on 07784 634 136 or email: [liverpool@ucc-gb.com](mailto:liverpool@ucc-gb.com)

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## DAY FOR CATECHISTS – FORMATION & REFLECTION

Are you a catechist looking for spiritual refreshment? No matter what kind of ministry you are serving, there is a good opportunity for you to refresh your vocation of being a catechist. On 27 September, the Day for Catechists will be organised from 10.00–16.00 at Carmelite Monastery L18 3NU. With the facilitation of Sr Carino and Sr Hyacinthe from the Dominican Sister of St Joseph, there will be spiritual input and practical discussion on the mission of catechesis. If you're interested or for more information, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)



## SANCTUARY LAMP

We are running a bit low on dedications for the Sanctuary Lamp at both churches. If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a week please just write the dedication on a piece of paper and pass to the relevant Parish Office with £5 offering. Thank You.



## HAVE YOU TRAVELLED THE CAMINO de SANTIAGO?

The Communications Team at St Margaret Clitherow Centre would love to hear about it!. If you have a story to share on the feast day of St James then please email: [communications@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:communications@rcaol.org.uk)

## PILGRIM'S PASSPORT

As part of the Year of Jubilee, CBEW have selected Jubilee Churches where those making a pilgrimage can make a plenary indulgence. To encourage people to visit these Jubilee churches, a Pilgrim Passport has been created, containing a quick guide to each of the Jubilee Churches and a page to collect stamps from each church. A sample of the passport can be found at the back of church. If you would like your own copy, please contact the parish office, and they will print one for you.

## YOUTH 2000 Summer Festival 2025

Taking place in the grounds of Ampleforth College from Friday 22nd - Monday 25th August, the Youth 2000 Summer Festival provides young adults (aged 16-35) from across the UK the opportunity to come together and explore faith, build relationships and find hope. This four-day festival includes great speakers, social time, break-out sessions, Daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and much more! Register your place at: [youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025](http://youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025).

## FAMILY & SOCIAL GROUP STAYS AT CASTLERIGG THIS AUGUST

Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic residential youth centre in the Lake District and it's opening its doors to family groups and social groups this August. There are single rooms, twin rooms, and large family rooms at very cheap rates. Guests have access to the grounds, chapel, games room, and lounges, with Keswick and the Lake only a short walk away. For more info [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk) or [www.castleriggmanor.com/open](http://www.castleriggmanor.com/open)





## PARISH OUTING

What a wonderful day we had last week for our annual outing to Llangollen for the Eisteddfod.

As ever the weather was kind to us - maybe a bit too kind! We ended the day sharing a meal together and wishing Fr Mark an early 'Happy Anniversary' before having a nice nap on the way home!

Thanks to those who joined us



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## JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

This September, members of our parish community will undertake a very special journey in celebration of the Jubilee Year—a sacred pilgrimage to Italy, visiting some of the most important sites in our Catholic heritage. Fr Mark has now finalised the itinerary with our Travel Company.

We depart from Manchester on Monday, 8 September at 07:45, with Rome as our first destination. For three grace-filled nights, we will stay in the Eternal City, celebrating Mass at the heart of our faith—St Peter's Basilica—and, we hope, also at the Venerable English College, a place dear to the history of the Church in England. The highlight of our time in Rome will be processing together through the Holy Door of St Peter's, entering the Jubilee with open hearts and renewed hope. We will visit all four Major Basilicas—St Peter's, St John Lateran, St Mary Major, and St Paul Outside the Walls—drawing us ever deeper into the spirit of the Holy Year. We will also join pilgrims from around the world for Pope Leo's General Audience, a powerful witness to the universality of our faith.

Leaving Rome, we journey into the peaceful hills of Lazio to visit Subiaco, where St Benedict first embraced the monastic life in silence and solitude. From there, we continue to San Giovanni Rotondo, the home of St Pio (Padre Pio), where we will spend two nights learning from his example of suffering, holiness, and deep devotion to the Eucharist.

Our next stop is Assisi, where we will spend two nights walking in the footsteps of St Francis and St Clare, embracing their message of simplicity, peace, and trust in God's providence. On the way, we will make a special visit to Lanciano, the site of a profound Eucharistic Miracle, reminding us of the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Finally, we return to Rome on Monday, 15 September, filled with memories and blessings, arriving back in Manchester later that afternoon.

Please keep all our pilgrims in your prayers as we prepare for this journey of faith, encounter, and renewal during this Holy Year of Hope

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Fr Mark is keen to resume Children's Liturgy at St Robert Bellarmine, but we need volunteers to help with this. Please give your name to the Parish Office and Fr Mark will arrange a meeting. Hopefully, we can start this important ministry in September.



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## BLESSED DOMINIC BARBERI

The Parish of St Anne and Blessed Dominic, Sutton St Helens, invites clergy and parishioners to two special pilgrimage Masses at the Shrine of Blessed Dominic Barberi—designated as one of the Jubilee Churches of our Archdiocese.

### Blessed Dominic Barberi Pilgrimage Mass

Monday, 25 August at 12 noon

Principal Celebrant: Fr Giuseppe Adobati Carrara, Superior General of the Passionist Order

### Venerable Elizabeth Prout Pilgrimage Mass

Saturday, 13 September at 12 noon

Principal Celebrant: Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury

All are warmly invited to attend these significant occasions of prayer and pilgrimage.

## LIGHT OF TRUTH: CHILDREN'S LITURGY TRAINING,

Saturday 6 September, 9.00 to 12.00.



Online morning workshop for everyone involved in Children's Liturgy, looking at the principles and practical tools we can use to help children participate in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/childrens-liturgy-training>

## ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The Archdiocesan Young Adult Group meet Tuesdays fortnightly at Pauline Book Centre (84 Church Street, Liverpool L1 3AY). The next meeting is the 22 July from 18.30 and the group will be “Praying with Blesseds Carlo Acutis & Pier Giorgio Frassati”, followed by food and refreshment. Anyone aged 18-35 would be most welcome. For enquiries, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Fr Mark is looking for more Ministers of the Eucharist to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound in their homes. This is an important part of our service to those who are unable to join us for Mass. If you are willing, please give your name to the Parish Office



## COFFEE MORNING

Join us after mass at St Robert's on Sunday mornings for a cup of tea, coffee and a biscuit in the George Inch Hall. All are welcome.



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## ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPACE "200 CLUB" JULY DRAW

1st Prize £20    No. 105 L Smith  
2nd Prize £15    No. 195 P Johnson  
3rd Prize £10    No. 32 J Byrne  
4th Prize £10    No. 191 Madden family



Spare numbers are available for anyone wishing to join, £1 per month. Contact Myra on 928 1136

## 'SONGS WE REMEMBER' SING-A-LONG

2pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (Dementia friendly). Email: [irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:irenaeus.co.uk) Tel: 0151 949 1199. 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo, Liverpool



## PILGRIMAGE MASS- HOLY HAND of ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH

The annual Pilgrimage Mass to the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith will be taking place at the Church of St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith, Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield (WN4 9NP) on Sunday 24 August 2025 at 3.00pm.

Canon Sean Riley will be the principal celebrant. The Mass will be followed by a blessing with the Holy Hand.

A pilgrim walk will take place beforehand at 12 noon and refreshments will be served after the Mass.

## LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Every Friday at 6pm at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN, there is a "lectio" prayer group for young adults. There will be a Mass at 6pm, followed by a short time of sharing the Sunday readings at 6.30pm. It's a friendly group and sometimes they also organise trips and retreats. If you want more information please contact James: [djmoroney@cantab.net](mailto:djmoroney@cantab.net) or 07394 503 911

## PARISH NEWSLETTER & GDPR

THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR), which came into effect on May 2018, has imposed some new ways of administration and management of information in different institutions and/or organisations. The Church is not an exception. As a result of this development, there have been some noticeable changes in the administration of our parish, especially when publishing names of the sick, deceased etc in parish newsletters.

It has always been best practice to obtain consent before putting someone's name on a sick list, as some people, for a whole variety of reasons do not want their name published. Changes in data protection law mean that it is now necessary.

1 Do I need the consent of the person before their name can be published in the Newsletter? Yes, if a 'sick' list is put up at church or published in the parish newsletter (whether or not that newsletter is posted on the parish website).

Why? Because a name on a sick list is special category personal data (because it reveals information about the person's health) and can only be disclosed outside the church with the consent of the sick person. Once a name is on a newsletter the church has no control over where that information may end up.

2 Do I need permission before I can add their name to a published list?

If a person is well enough to do so easily, you can ask them to sign a simple form. If you do not think it appropriate to ask the sick person to sign a form, then you can ask them whether they want their name to be on the sick list. You should tell that person what happens to the sick list in your parish, ie whether it goes on the church wall/ newsletter/website. You should then make a note of the conversation as evidence of the fact that you obtained oral consent. Why? Because everyone has a right to know what the parish will do with their information.

We are pleased to restart a sick list, etc, in the weekly Newsletter, but permission MUST be obtained from the person or next of kin whose name you wish to submit. To do this, please take a form from the back of the church or the parish office, complete it, and return it. The published list will remain in the Newsletter for six months before it is removed.

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## LIGHT OF TRUTH: ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS (ONLINE WORKSHOP), Saturday 6 December, 9.00 to 12.00

Join the Dominican Sisters on Saturdays, from 9.00 to 12.00 noon for a short course of 3 sessions, to discover the essential nature and principles of catechesis, the sources of catechesis, and the best ways to prepare and deliver our catechesis. This course is open to everyone involved or interested in any kind of catechesis for adults, young people or children. This course is free, and the Dominican Sisters gratefully accept any donation you may be able to contribute.

<https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/essential-training-for-catechists-2025-12-06-09-00>

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## PARISH STRATEGY PLAN

We are looking for a couple of people to join the small group to complete the survey for the Parish Strategy Plan, being conducted in every parish in Sefton over the next few months. The work is not difficult, but a couple of people would be appreciated. Please have a word with Fr Mark.

## PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK & WESTPORT – Jubilee Year 2025

A special Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Knock & Co. Mayo is taking place from Sunday 31st August to Thursday 4 September 2025.

Organised by Patricia Ronane, this pilgrimage offers opportunities for daily Mass, visits to holy sites, and time for rest and reflection, all set in the scenic surroundings of Westport. This Jubilee Year pilgrimage offers pilgrims the unique chance to receive a plenary indulgence at Knock Shrine. The trip includes:

- Return flights from Liverpool to Knock
- 4 nights at the 4★ Castlecourt Hotel in Westport
- Daily breakfast and 4-course evening meals
- Visits to Knock Shrine, Croagh Patrick, Kylemore Abbey, and more
- Evening entertainment and optional spa time
- Fully escorted with guided tours

Price: £799 per person sharing (Single Supplement: £150 – limited availability) For full details contact Patricia Ronane 01268 762 278 or 07740 175 557  
[knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

## PRIESTS IN RETIREMENT

This weekend, we will take up a special collection to support the retired priests of our Diocese. These are the men who have faithfully served our parishes for many years – celebrating Mass, baptising our children, hearing our confessions, visiting the sick, and guiding us in our spiritual lives.

In retirement, they continue to pray for us and live lives of quiet witness. Now it is our turn to care for them. Your generosity will help provide for their housing, medical needs, and day-to-day living expenses in their later years.

Please take a moment this week to pray for our retired priests, and consider how you might support them financially in today's collection.

Thank you for your kindness and continued support

*Caring*  
**FOR OUR  
RETIRED PRIESTS**

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## Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
Sunday 20th July Sanctuary Lamp	9.30am People of the Parish Tom and Elsie Smartt	11.00am Michael Rumsey Intentions of the friends of Ann Jones
Monday 21st July	10.00am Thanksgiving (LY)	
Tuesday 22nd July		11.30am Funeral Mass Patricia Breen
Wednesday 23rd July	10.30am Funeral Service Edward Francis Davin	NO MASS
Thursday 24th July	10.00am Helen Jack	
Friday 25th July		10.00am Successful Operation for a friend
Saturday 26th July	NO MASS	NO MASS
Sunday 27th July	9.30am Tom Deegan	11.00am Robert Jones

**English Martyrs Office**

School Lane, Litherland, L21 7LX

**St Robert Bellarmine Office**

Orrell Road, Bootle, L20 6DZ

0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk

Office hours Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.30am - 2.30pm

0151 922 1352 strobert@rcaol.org.uk

Office hours Tues, Wed, Fri 9.30am - 1.30pm

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