



Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



ENGLISH MARTYRS



PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon
Mark B Madden
KCHS FRSA

ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



“Try your best to enter by the narrow door because many will try to enter heaven and not succeed”

Who will have a place at ‘the feast in the Kingdom of God’? The narrow door that Jesus speaks about in the Gospel this Sunday is Jesus himself.

Jesus is the Way - the way to holiness and everlasting life. We can’t do anything to ‘earn’ a place in heaven. We can however, show our love for God and respond to him by trying our best to follow Jesus and grow in holiness.



To be holy is to be dedicated to God. God wants us to live holy lives - to try to live and love like Jesus did. It is not just what we do or say, but the attitude behind our words and deeds that make us holy people. What can we do this week to make our home a holier place? Maybe we can be more tolerant and understanding and compassionate and generous to people in need

We hear how God gathers people from all corners of the earth. The message is clear. God’s love is not limited to one group. He wants all people to come to Him.

‘Holiness doesn’t mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith’ - Pope Francis

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



Joseph Mulhaney
Michael Lundon
Margaret Spencer

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST

For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons

Lord in your mercy...

PARISH PILGRIMAGE - AIRPORT TRANSFER

The cost of the return mini bus transfer to Manchester airport is £49. Can those people who are using this please pass payment in to the Parish Office

Thank you

THE MARTYR-SAINTS OF THE NORTH-WEST, 12 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Join us for this weekend studying some of the Reformation-era martyrs of the North-West region. Part-retreat, part-biographical, the weekend will be led by Mgr John Allen of Salford Diocese, who has recently published a history of the diocese with a foreword by Eamon Duffy.

For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-martyr-saints-of-the-north-west/>

MASS OF CELEBRATION – MARY'S MEALS – SUNDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

All are invited to a special Mass of celebration for the work of Mary's Meals, the global charity providing school meals to children in some of the world's poorest communities. Archbishop John Sherrington will preside at the Mass on Sunday 21 September at 3.00pm at St Teresa's Catholic Church, Church Road, Upholland, Wigan (WN8 0PY).



STOP child hunger for just 10p =  mary's meals

Join us to celebrate the work of Mary's Meals

Archbishop John Sherrington will be presiding at a special Mass of celebration for the work of global feeding charity Mary's Meals. All are welcome! Light refreshments will be served in the church hall after Mass.

Sunday 21st September at 3 pm
St Teresa's Catholic Church,
23 College Road, Upholland, WN8 0PY

Events in your area 

marysmeals.org.uk

Light refreshments will be served in the church hall after Mass.

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

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time 24 August 2025

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.

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.



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT, Friday 12th September 10.00-15.00

Explore ways that we can support people in a time of grief, Consider the stages of grief and what might help people. at The Irenaeus Centre, Great Georges Rd. Waterloo L22 1RD. Book a place with Jenny Tel: 0151 949 1199 or jenny@irenaeus.co.uk. Donation £10. Bring a Packed Lunch

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

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

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

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.

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.

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



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>

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 for further information, including booking costs, please contact Rose Curry on 07932 729896.

BENEDICTION AND EVENING PRAYERS FOR BL. CARLO ACUTIS AND BL. PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI AT ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, WARRINGTON – 7 SEPTEMBER

You are invited to Benediction & Evening Prayers to celebrate the canonisation of Bl. Carlo Acutis and Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, celebrated by Bishop Tom Neylon, at 3pm on Sunday 7 September at St Stephen's Church, Sandy Lane, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9HS. There will also be an exhibit of Eucharistic Miracles designed by Bl. Carlo Acutis on display in the church. All are welcome.

SUPPORT FOR THE DIVORCED AND SEPARATED

The Restored Lives course is run over six weeks, one evening per week. The talks cover the key issues to help you to move on and highlight the practical steps and tools to enable you to tackle the issues that arise from separation and divorce.

For more information contact Maureen 07967753471 or Jacqui Sellek 0793825815

LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL

Join us each Sunday throughout August at 2pm for 'Summer Sunday Organ Recitals' The first is this Sunday (3rd) when we will listen to George Fletcher Warren . Entrance is free with a retiring collection.



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.



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>

CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King now has it's own newsletter, bringing you all their events in one place - to sign up, please visit the link here: <https://liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/sign-up/>



Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

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. The next training day is 25 October at Irenaeus



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.



COMING UP AT IRENAEUS - contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or 0151 949 1199

AGAPE MASS

7pm 4th September '25

SCRIPTURE MORNINGS

10:30 - 12 noon 24th September, 1st & 8th October,

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

10:30 - 12noon Thursday 25th September '25



DAY OF RENEWAL

10am - 4pm 11th October '25

WOMEN AT THE WELL A WOMEN'S WEEKEND

Friday 17th - Sunday 19th October '25

ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPICE "200 CLUB" AUGUST DRAW

1st Prize £20	No. 61	K McGarrigle
2nd Prize £15	No. 168	M Quinn
3rd Prize £10	No. 9	M Lovelady
4th Prize £10	No. 83	L Smith



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

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 or 07394 503 911

CAFOD: RESPONSE IN GAZA

With your support, CAFOD is still working with partners in Gaza to deliver medical services, cash assistance and vital food supplies.



In the last month alone, the generosity of Catholics in England and Wales has:

- Supported 1,400 households with cash assistance, enabling families to meet their most urgent needs with dignity and choice.
- With a new supply of chronic illness medications available, helped ensure these life-saving treatments reach patients who need them.
- Helped Caritas Jerusalem to continue provide healthcare services to displaced families, despite recent damage to one of their buildings in Deir al Balah. Our support contributes to this resilience, helping ensure patients can still access treatment in the midst of disruption.

Will be helping to feed 2,000 people over the next month through one of our local partners who has sourced food supplies such as flour and rice. As starvation sets in, your donations are helping to keep people alive.

Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses.

We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at cafod.org.uk. Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.

As Cardinal Pizzaballa (Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem) says, *"Christ is not absent from Gaza. He is there - crucified in the wounded, buried under rubble, and yet present in every act of mercy, every candle in the darkness, every hand extended to the suffering."*



Join
Jospice
for their
sponsored
walk
Register at:
www.stjhospice.org.uk

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

Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
Sunday 24th August Sanctuary Lamp	9.30am Carol Wynne Denise Hagen	11.00am Esther O'Shea Jack Dilworth
Monday 25th August	10.30am Patricia Carroll	
Tuesday 26th August		10.30am Funeral Mass James Shannon
Wednesday 27th August	NO MASS	NO MASS
Thursday 28th August	10.30am Brenda Davenport	
Friday 29th August		10.30am Joe Morrisroe
Saturday 30th August	NO MASS	NO MASS
Sunday 31st August	9.30am Bernard Whiteside	11.00am John French

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