



Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



ENGLISH MARTYRS



PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon
Mark B Madden
KCHS FRSA

ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



As Jesus travels to Jerusalem, he passes through the borderland between Galilee and Samaria — a place of mixed peoples and long-standing divisions. Ten lepers cry out for mercy, and Jesus heals them all. Yet only one returns to give thanks, and he is a Samaritan — someone whom most Jews of the time would have regarded as an outsider. Jesus praises him for his faith and gratitude, showing that God's mercy knows no boundaries.

This story reminds us that faith is not about where we come from, but how we respond to God's love. The Samaritan's gratitude crosses every line of difference. Jesus sees not a label, but a person — a child of God. In our own fractured world, where suspicion and prejudice still wound communities, this Gospel calls us to imitate Christ's openness and compassion — especially as we pray for a lasting ceasefire and peace in the Holy Land, the very land where this story took place.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of *Nostra Aetate* ("In Our Time"), the groundbreaking Vatican II document on the Church's relationship with other religions. Issued on 28 October 1965, it reminded Catholics that all people share one Creator and one destiny in God. It invites us to recognise what is true and holy in other faiths, and to walk the path of dialogue and friendship rather than fear and division.

Religious tolerance is not about weakening our beliefs, but about living them more deeply and generously. When we listen, respect, and seek understanding, we mirror the mercy of Jesus himself — a mercy that heals, reconciles, and builds peace.

Like Jesus in the borderlands, we too are called to walk among people of every faith with hearts open to God's presence within them. May gratitude and humility guide us as we become bridge-builders — witnesses to the Gospel of peace that makes not only ten, but all peoples, truly whole.

Fr Mark

PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ILL



Joseph Mulhaney
Michael Lundon
Margaret Spencer
Peter Gibbons

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER



For collaboration between different religious traditions

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity
Lord in your mercy...

PARISH DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The parishes of the three Sefton deaneries are in the process of completing surveys and collecting parish data. You are welcome to join the process by coming along to a meeting on Tuesday 21st October, 7pm in English Martyrs Hall.

Participants will have the opportunity to answer 7 questions with the answers being fed into the Deanery Strategy Group.

This is open for everyone who goes to both English Martyrs and St Robert Bellarmine.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAYS

Two further courses for those who would like to become Eucharistic Ministers will take place at the Ireneaus Centre on Saturday 25 October and Saturday 14 March. If you would like to be considered to be part of this important ministry, please see Fr Mark. We particularly need more Ministers at St Robert Bellarmine's.

What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**'Missionaries Of Hope Among All Peoples'**

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection.



This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world.

Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. If you use the donation envelopes to give by credit/debit card, please return the envelopes directly to Missio. Do not put them in the Church collection. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: missio.org.uk

Please give generously.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Edward the Confessor (1003-1066)

He became King of England in 1042.

He was regarded as a saint during his lifetime, renowned for his generosity to the Church and to the poor and for his readiness to listen to his subjects' grievances.

He died on 5 January 1066, the last of the old Anglo-Saxon line, and his death precipitated the dynastic quarrels that led to the conquest of England by William of Normandy later the same year. On 13 October 1163 his relics were translated to a new shrine in Westminster Abbey.



What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?

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

LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2026

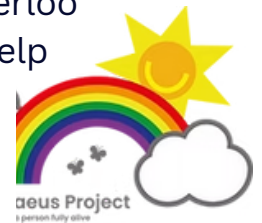
Applications for the Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage with Sefton Coach 7 are LIVE now at liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk. Young people aged from Year 10-age of 22 are invited to be part of Coach 7 this year (22nd-31st July 2026). The cost of the pilgrimage is £720 but fundraising will reduce this cost. For more information email coach7@rcaol.org.uk

HELP PLEASE!

Irenaeus Outreach and Spirituality Centre, Great Georges Road, Waterloo are asking for our help with donations of food or personal items to help people who are struggling and the homeless.

There is now a box at the back of St Robert's for donations.

Thank you



Donations left at the back of English Martyrs will continue to be given to the hub on Moss Lane - providing support for families in our immediate local area

ST CARLO ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC EXHIBITION

St Stephen's Church, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9HS have an exhibition running until the end of October 2025. The exhibition is open every Wednesday from 10am (after mass) to 2pm.

QUIET DAYS AT THE CENACLE 25 OCTOBER 10:00AM - 4:00PM

We all need time to stop, ponder, be still, be find it hard to have the time. Why not come for a few hours, with like minded people, and just stop and be away from the daily round of life? Bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided, suggested offering £10 No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. For further information contact Sr Winnie, Cenacle, Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, L15 6TW tel 0151 722 2271

What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?

ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPACE “200 CLUB” OCTOBER DRAW

1st Prize £20 No. 13 S McLean
2nd Prize £15 No. 105 L Smith
3rd Prize £10 No. 99 Babs J
4th Prize £10 No. 196 F Bracken



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

Exploring Faith, Work and Civic Life: Reading the Signs: Where Are We, Really?

Together Liverpool is running three linked events exploring faith, work and civic life led by Jenny Sinclair, the second is on October 30th, and the final on November 27th. The event is aimed at Church leaders, volunteers and activists, Community organisers, local councillors and curious neighbours, anyone interested in a deeper, hope-filled vision of public life. More information at eventbrite.co.uk

**CHURCHES TOGETHER ON MERSEYSIDE
Faith in the City Anniversary Survey**

As part of the Faith in the City 40th anniversary project CTMR/Together Liverpool are developing a manifesto that will be presented to civic leaders within the Liverpool City Region at a 40th anniversary event taking place in November 2025. That manifesto will be developed by asking people to contribute their perspectives through a brief survey. Please see the link(s) below. Thank you in advance for your time.

<https://togetherliverpool.org.uk/whats-new/faith-in-the-city-survey/>

FAMILY AND GROUP STAYS AT CASTLERIGG MANOR THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM

Castlerigg Manor is a Retreat Centre in the Lake District, owned by the Diocese of Lancaster, and they are opening their doors to family groups, individuals and other small groups once again during October Half Term (Oct 27-31). A good option for anyone looking for a budget get-away in a beautiful part of the country. Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us/> or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?

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.

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

LEFTOVER FOREIGN CURRENCY?

Holidays probably already seem a life time away. However, you can maybe help Mary's Meals with a new initiative. Do you have any leftover foreign coins rattling around in pockets or purses? Or UK coins that are no longer legal tender (eg old 50p's).

Mary's meals are collecting these and can turn them in to contributions to help those millions of children who are hungry and need help.

We can offer our support as a parish if we work together to collect any coins. So - dig deep! Check pockets, bags, purses and if you have any foreign coins (no matter how small) please pass them in to either of the parish offices. Let's see if we can help feed some children who need our help!



What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?

PRISONER'S SUNDAY

This Sunday is Prisoners' Sunday.

The day of National Prayer for prisoners and their families and the start of 'Prisons week'.

For 50 years, Prisons Week has encouraged Christians everywhere to pray for prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities and those working or volunteering in the criminal justice system.

Please pray each day during Prisons Week but also ask yourself if there is one thing that you as an individual, or as a church, can do to help any of the people for whom you are praying.

If you are able to make a donation please place it in an envelope which can be popped into the offertory bags.



THE PRISONS WEEK PRAYER

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.

Amen

THE IRENAEUS CENTRE: WOMEN'S WEEKEND

The Irenaeus Centre (L22 1RD) are hosting a Women's Weekend from 18:00 on Friday 17 October to 13:00 on Sunday 19 October. Residential places are £95. Non-residential with meals is £70. Non-residential (self-catering) places are £30. For more information and to book please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or telephone 01519491199.

TIME OUT ON TUESDAYS October 14th 10:00AM - 4:00PM

Sisters of Our Lady of The Cenacle Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, Wavertree, L15 6TW

In the midst of their busy lives, Jesus invited the disciples to "Come apart and rest for a while." Why not take time to respond to this invitation and join The Sisters of Our Lady of the Cenacle for a time of prayer and quiet. No need to book, just come along and maybe bring a friend. For further information, contact Sr Winnie Morley on 0151 722 2271

"A DECADE OF LAUDATO SI' - LESSONS, IMPACT AND THE ROAD AHEAD FOR THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY" - 14 OCTOBER

To mark the tenth anniversary of Laudato Si', CBCEW will host an interdenominational event, 'A Decade of Laudato Si': Lessons, Impact and the Road Ahead'. The event will be held on 14 October (6-8.30pm) at Methodist Central Hall, Manchester. Speakers will include Bishop John Arnold, Rev. Grace Thomas (Church of England) and Rev. Ian Rutherford (Methodist Church). The event will be opened by special guest Andy Burnham, Mayor of Manchester. The gathering will celebrate the power of faith in action and explore how collaboration can both sustain and amplify that impact, while also addressing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

The event is free but tickets must be booked via CBCEW's Eventbrite page:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-decade-of-laudato-si-lessons-impact-and-the-road-ahead-tickets-1664309918769?aff=oddtcreator>

YOUNG ADULT SERVICE DAY- 1st NOVEMBER - St Vincent's Centre, Leeds

Looking for an opportunity to share kindness this autumn?

If you're 18-35 and would like to support the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), we're delighted to welcome you to join our young adult service day on 1st November! Beginning at 11am, with an optional 10am Mass, the day will offer a chance to give back to the community with kindness via one of the SVP's Community Support Projects! A travel bursary is available to support those who might want to get involved.

To register, please email KeziaH@svp.org.uk or call on 07917923605.

Newman Association: A Talk on Medjugorje by Tony Hickey October 16th 7:30pm

The Newman Association presents a talk on Medjugorje by Tony Hickey, a well known speaker on the subject. The event will take place at St Helen's Parish Centre, Crosby, L23 7TQ, and is free, but a small donation is welcome.

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.



PATHWAYS FOR IMPLEMENTATION: NEXT STEPS ON OUR SYNOD JOURNEY

Come and explore the next steps of our synodal journey together

Date: 18th October 2025

Time: 11:00am - 1:30pm BST (GMT+1)

Where: Via Zoom

The Final Document of the Synod Assembly was wide ranging and inspirational, and it's time to progress to the next steps at grass-roots level as we seek to embed synodality in our everyday Catholic life and culture.

In June 2025, the Vatican released a guiding document called Pathways for the Implementation Phase of the Synod. This highlighted some key areas of focus: such as widening the interest and investment in synodality, finding more effective ways to listen to those on the margins, and reflecting on the rapidly changing nature of parish life. Join us live on Saturday 18th October to explore all this and more, with prayer, small group sharing, testimony, and our keynote speaker Bishop Brendan Leahy of the Limerick Diocese in Ireland.

We will also have a panel discussion and live Q&A with author and commentator Austen Ivereigh and School for Synodality Directors Dr Avril Baigent and Fr Matthew Nunes.

Register: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/schoolforsynodality/1809807>

“CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL THIS HARVEST

You can still donate to Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges.



Your generosity offers “signs of hope” in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10.” Donation envelopes are available at the back of both Churches

ST ROBERT'S OVER 50's CLUB

The Over 50's Club meet in St Robert's parish centre on Thursday afternoons between 1.00 and 3.00pm. and is open to all.

Why not pop along and join in the fun - tea and coffee are available and, for a small charge, there is a raffle and a couple of games of Bingo for you to enjoy. Regular members are asked to make a payment of £1.50 per week

ROSARY MATERIALS - GET INVOLVED!

The Pastoral Development Department and the communications team are working together to create some materials on the rosary for October and we would love for you to get involved!

If you, or someone in a rosary group in your parish would be happy to speak about one of the mysteries of the rosary and what it means to you – either by being filmed or providing a voiceover – please get in touch! You can email the communications team on: communications@rcaol.org.uk

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.

SONGS WE REMEMBER

Come and join us at Irenaeus Centre on Wednesday 22nd October for a sing-a-long



.Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday 2.0pm - 4.00pm

CSSA PUBLIC CALL FOR SURVIVOR INPUT

As part of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency's (CSSA) focus on survivor engagement and support, they have created a public survey inviting survivors to contribute their experiences.

The purpose of this public call is to gather information from anyone who has had recent contact with a diocese or a Religious Life Group. This includes experiences that are new or ongoing, as well as those connected to non-recent abuse.

Their primary focus is the period from July 2024 onwards, but they do not wish to limit what survivors choose to share. More information regarding this survey can be found here: [Public Calls for Information](#)

The direct link to the survey is https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB_Xy63KLBEXoG2tIVAm_9UYqKjMSFUOTc5TzILTEdTWkUySjhaTlU0QURaOU05SC4u

This process is being conducted with transparency, respect, and in a survivor-centred way. Cooperation will help the CSSA hear from as many voices as possible, enabling them to identify good practice and areas for improvement across the Church. If you have any questions, please contact their Quality Assurance team at: qualityassurance@catholicsafeguarding.org.uk

CHRISTMAS - YES IT IS COMING!!

Tesco have decided that it is already Christmas so it is time to let you have details of our Christmas outings and celebrations/fundraisers.

FRIDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2025 - CHATSWORTH HOUSE

Day Coach trip to Chatsworth House for their Christmas Extravaganza and Christmas Markets. This is always a popular trip as the market is excellent with many stalls and places to eat. Cost is £65 which includes entry to the House, garden light trail and the Markets. The decorations in the house are spectacular with each room having a different theme and the dressed Christmas trees will take your breath away!

**MONDAY 22nd DECEMBER 2025 - LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC HALL SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS**

This is a wonderful evening of classic carols, seasonal readings, audience singalongs and festive fun, all wrapped up and delivered by the fabulous baritone Benjamin Appl. He'll be hosting the entire extravaganza and of course treating us to some musical magic along the way. Last year's performance was amazing and was also very popular with everyone. Cost for this one is £60 which includes your ticket and transport to and from the Hall.

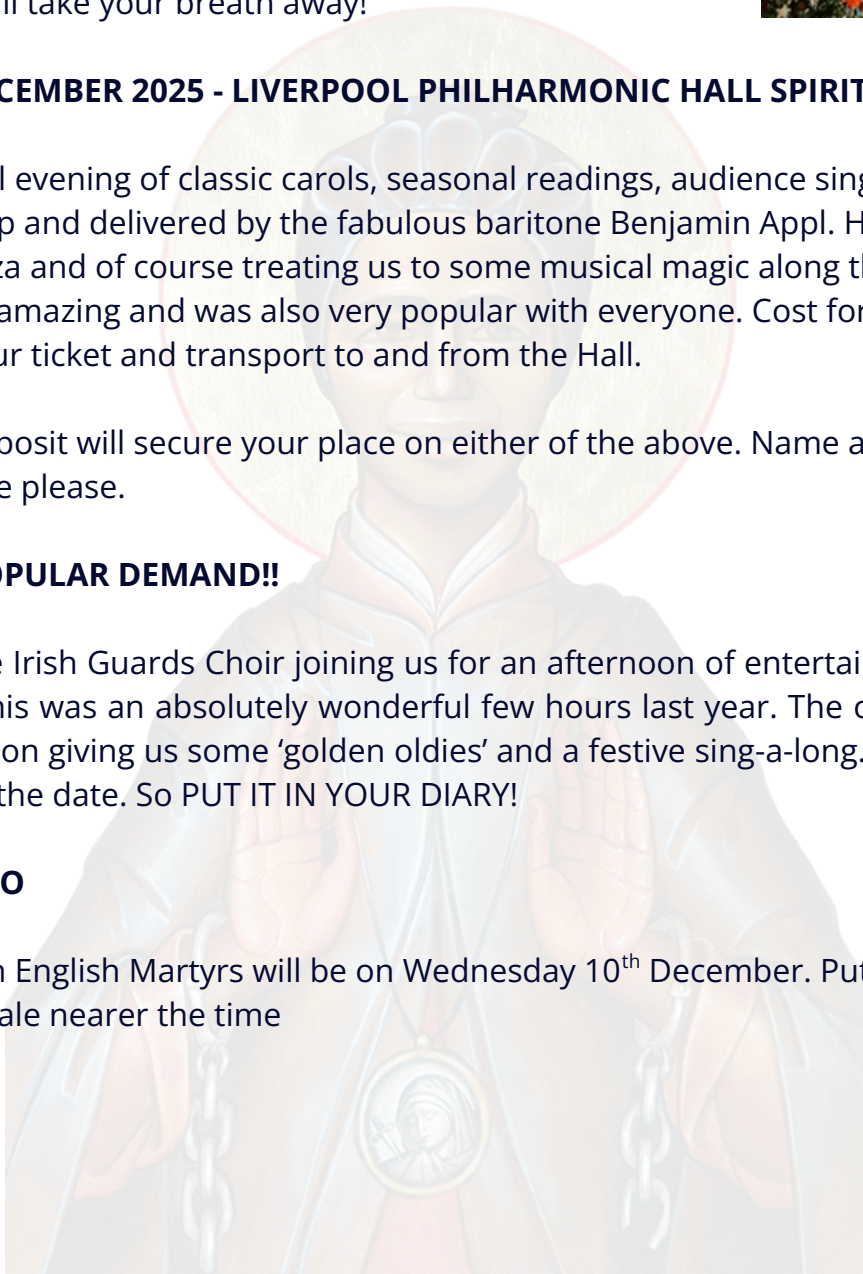
As usual, a £10 deposit will secure your place on either of the above. Name and deposit to either Parish Office please.

BACK BY VERY POPULAR DEMAND!!

We again have the Irish Guards Choir joining us for an afternoon of entertainment on Saturday 29th November. This was an absolutely wonderful few hours last year. The choir perform twice during the afternoon giving us some 'golden oldies' and a festive sing-a-long. Tickets for this will be on sale nearer the date. So PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY!

CHRISTMAS BINGO

Christmas Bingo in English Martyrs will be on Wednesday 10th December. Put it in your diary - tickets will be on sale nearer the time



What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?

Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
Sunday 12th October Sanctuary Lamp	9.30am Alan Egerton Maureen Wilkinson	11.00am People of the Parish Phil Robinson
Monday 13th October	10.00am Ann, Patrick & Family	
Tuesday 14th October		10.00am Carl Jones
Wednesday 15th October	NO MASS	NO MASS
Thursday 16th October	10.00am Bob Stam & Michelle	
Friday 17th October		10.00am B Samson
Saturday 18th October	NO MASS	NO MASS
Sunday 19th October	9.30am Thanksgiving for help (ES)	11.00am Guiseppe Savio Anzalone

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

What sins are holding me captive? How do I show my gratitude to God and to others for their forgiveness?