



## Parish of St Josephine Bakhita



### ENGLISH MARTYRS



### PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon  
Mark B Madden  
KCHS FRSA

### ST ROBERT BELLARMINE



As we approach the end of the Church's year, the Feast of Christ the King invites us to pause and remember who truly reigns over our lives. Christ's kingship is unlike any earthly power. His crown was made of thorns, His throne was the Cross, and His victory was won not by force but by love. When Jesus tells Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world," He is describing a kingdom built not on fear or domination, but on mercy, truth, and self-giving compassion.



This feast challenges us to ask where we find that kingdom today. It appears wherever forgiveness is chosen over resentment, generosity over greed, and courage over despair. It grows quietly—in homes where patience is practiced, in parishes where the vulnerable are welcomed, and in hearts that make room for God's grace.

If Christ is our King, then His way becomes our path. His humility steadies our ambitions; His peace steadies our anxieties; His hope steadies our steps as we move toward Advent. As we prepare to greet the Child of Bethlehem, we remember that He is already the King who reigns with a love that has no end. May His kingdom take deeper root in us this week.

*Fr Mark*

*Who can I forgive this week, imitating the Lord's mercy and bringing a sort of paradise to someone else's heart?*

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



Joseph Mulhaney  
Michael Lundon  
Margaret Spencer  
Peter Gibbons

Mary Spofforth

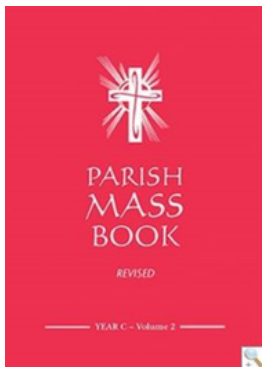
## **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER**



### **For the prevention of suicide**

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

*Lord in your mercy...*



## **SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST< KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

Readings for Mass today can be found on Page 167 of the Parish Mass Book

### **ARCHBISHOP MALCOLM**

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP will celebrate his silver jubilee of Episcopal ordination in the coming weeks. He will celebrate Holy Mass at 12noon on Saturday 6 December at the Metropolitan Cathedral - all are welcome.



### **ARCHBISHOP SERRINGTON FOR CBCEW - Life Issues Statement**

Bishops' Conference have released a statement concerning the dignity and protection of human life. You can read the statement and watch an interview with Archbishop Sherrington here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/assisted-suicide-and-abortion-life-issues-statement/>

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## NOVEMBER MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

Envelopes are now available at the back of both churches for names of loved ones that you wish to be remembered during the month of November. Please print the names, add a donation and bring it back to church.

Masses in remembrance will be said throughout the month.



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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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### **ST ANNE & BLESSED DOMINIC, SUTTON, ST HELENS – PILGRIMAGE VISITS VISITS**

From the 8th November St Anne & Blessed Dominic will be open between 2-4pm on Saturday afternoons for pilgrimage visits. This arrangement will remain in place until the end of December.

It is still possible to arrange visits at other times by phoning the parish office - 01744811935. The office is open every Monday and Friday.

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### **ENGLISH MARTYRS PENSIONERS GROUP**

The Pensioners have a few spare places in their group if you would like to join them. They meet on a Tuesday in English Martyrs Parish Hall from 1-4pm.



## 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

## LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2026

Applications for the Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage with Sefton Coach 7 are LIVE now at [liverpool Lourdes youth.co.uk](http://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](mailto:coach7@rcaol.org.uk)

## THANK YOU!

Irenaeus Outreach and Spirituality Centre, Great Georges Road, Waterloo have sent their thanks for the recent donations of food etc. It has been a great help

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



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

## CAFOD Christmas Fun Run – 27 December

Signup is open for CAFOD's annual Fun Run!

The run will take place on 27 December at Wavertree Sports Park and is open to all.

Run, walk, or wheel with family and friends to share the joy of Christmas and raise money for those in need!

Scan the QR code on the poster to sign up, or search CAFOD Fun Run.



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## 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 third and the final one is 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](https://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/>

## THE LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR PRESENTS A Celebration of Christmas – Saturday 13 December

A Celebration of Christmas returns this year on Saturday 13 December with a night of musical cheer, guaranteed to get you into the festive spirit.

Join the Metropolitan Cathedral Choir and some very special guests for what promises to be a magical event for all the family.

Sing along to classic carols, enjoy traditional readings and celebrate Christmas in the glorious surroundings of the Metropolitan Cathedral

Tickets: £10 each/ £18 family, available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral)



## Autumn Formation Sessions: Have you thought about... getting involved in Catholic education?

The Archdiocese of Liverpool's Education Department is hosting two more online information sessions via Microsoft Teams. Each session runs 7pm–8pm and gives you the chance to hear from people currently in the role, learn what's involved, and ask questions.

- Tuesday 26th November – Have you thought about becoming a School Governor? Discover how you can support Catholic schools and make a difference in education.
  - Tuesday 3rd December – Have you thought about becoming a Religious Education Teacher? Find out what the role entails and the routes into teaching.
- To join, scan the QR code on the poster or email [J.Ball@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:J.Ball@rcaol.org.uk) for the Teams link.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## Autumn Formation Sessions

These sessions take place online through Microsoft Teams from 7pm - 8pm. They will be led by people currently in the role, and will explain what is involved and routes in. There will be opportunities for you to ask questions.

*Have you thought about...*

NOV <b>06</b>	<b>Becoming a Multi-Academy Trust Director?</b>	
NOV <b>12</b>	<b>Teaching in a Catholic School?</b>	
NOV <b>19</b>	<b>Becoming a School Chaplain?</b>	
NOV <b>26</b>	<b>Becoming a School Governor?</b>	
DEC <b>03</b>	<b>Becoming a Teacher of Religious Education?</b>	



TO BOOK: Scan QR code or email Joanne Ball: [J.ball@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:J.ball@rcaol.org.uk)

## PARISH BEREAVEMENT GROUP

In every parish family there are times when someone's world changes overnight through the loss of a loved one. In those moments, the simple presence of a compassionate fellow parishioner can make all the difference. Fr Mark would like to form a new Parish Bereavement Team—a small group of volunteers who can offer gentle support to grieving families through prayer, listening, and practical help around funerals.

You just need a caring heart, a willingness to listen, and a desire to bring Christ's comfort to those who mourn. A training course within the deanery will begin at the start of February for those interested.

If you feel you could offer a little time to this quiet but essential ministry, please contact the parish office. Together we can ensure that no member of our community walks through grief alone.

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## YOUTH SUNDAY 2025

23rd November is National Youth Sunday, a day to recognise and celebrate all that young people in the Church offer us.

To highlight all that young people do, and what we offer young people across the diocese, we ask you to take a leaflet from the back of church.

In order for us to continue to work with young people the collection after Mass this weekend goes to support the on-going work of Youth Ministry here in the diocese. Even in these difficult times any contribution you are able to give would be welcomed.

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### MARY'S MEALS – DOUBLE THE LOVE

Mary's Meals' Double the Love campaign is now running, which means that any donations made will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.1million. You can give hope this Christmas to hungry children, with life changing school meals. Your gift will help Mary's Meals keep our promise into 2026 and beyond to the world's poorest communities in countries such as Ethiopia, Haiti and South Sudan, where conflict and the devastating impacts of climate change mean our nutritious meals are needed more than ever. There are many ways to get involved, find out more at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>

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### ARCHDIOCESAN ADVENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

With the facilitation of Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ, we will organise the Advent Retreat Day for Young Adults on Saturday 29 November 2025 at St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Formby, L37 1PH.

The Retreat Day will start at 10:00 and aim to finish at 16:00. This Retreat Day is free of charge, but please bring your packed lunch.

If you're aged 18-35 and interested to join, please sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/bcjQ3p5Db0?origin=lprLink>.

For further information please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

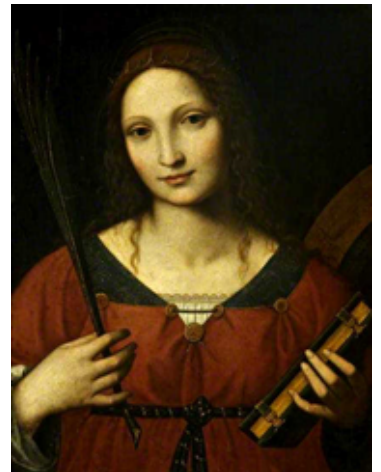




## FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Catherine of Alexandria (d.305)

Legends coming from a number of sources say that St Catherine was very outspoken at the time of the persecutions of Christians. She even protested openly to the emperor Maxentius who had her arrested, tortured on the wheel and decapitated in 305.



St Catherine's courage is a great challenge to all African Christians in their struggle for justice and peace. The witness of her life and her readiness to die for the faith encourages us to be brave witnesses to the Lord and to speak out on behalf of all those who suffer.

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## AFTERNOON TEA WITH FRANK SINATRA (DAVE ASHLEY) AND FRIENDS

The Irenaeus Centre is hosting a 'Songs We Remember (dementia-friendly) Christmas Celebration on Wednesday 10 December, 14:00-16:00. For more information, please contact the Irenaeus Centre.

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## CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS

Christmas stock has now arrived in English Martyrs and is available in the Piety stall.

This year we have some wonderful olive wood and stained glass items which have come direct from the Holy Land.

Fr Mark's friend has an online shop and has provided a variety of items.

Proceeds from the sale of these go to support our friends in the Holy Land so please go in and have a browse.



**St Robert's now have their Christmas cards and calendars available at the back of Church**



## LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY - SUNDAY MASS

Sunday Mass will have recommenced at Liverpool Hope University. Mass will take place at 5.30pm in the Chapel on Hope Park Campus each Sunday during term time. This Mass is in addition to the weekly 12.15pm Thursday lunchtime Mass.

All members of the university community are welcome to attend.

Contact Fr Peter Murphy (p.murphy@rcaol.org.uk) for more information.



## NICENE CREED

The 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed: Fr Mark Drew will give a talk on Mon 8th Dec at 7.00pm – 8.30pm at Holy Rosary Lounge. (L10 2LG) “The Nicene Creed: what is it; what does it mean and why does it matter.” All welcome.

## BACH: MACHE DICH, MEIN GEIST BEREIT - Cantata 115

**November 23rd 6:30pm**

The Liverpool Bach Collective will be performing Cantata 115 at St Monica's Church, Fernhill Rd, Bootle, L20 9GA . Large-print Orders of Service are available. If you would like one, please email at least seven days before the service: liverpoolbach@icloud.com

## 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

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## ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPACE "200 CLUB" NOVEMBER DRAW

1st Prize £20	No. 52	D King
2nd Prize £15	No. 5	D Birrell
3rd Prize £10	No. 41	M Roche
4th Prize £10	No. 33	C Smartt



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

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION CATECHISTS NEEDED

Would you like to help engaged couples to prepare for marriage? The archdiocese is now recruiting catechists to join the marriage preparation team. The catechist training will be provided at St Monica's Church, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 9GA and consists of 5 sessions:

- Monday 23 February 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 2 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 9 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Monday 16 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
- Saturday 28 March 2026 (10am – 2pm)

Upon completion of training, the catechists will be asked to offer marriage preparation course for couples twice a year. If this is something you are interested in, please sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/JGbP8AtZwn?origin=lprLink> For more information, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk).

## WHAT CAN I BRING HIM? ADVENT EVENINGS

The Irenaeus Centre are hosting several Advent evenings on Wednesday 26 November and Wednesday 10 December from 19:00-20:30. For more information and zoom links please contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)



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## CHRISTMAS OUTINGS AND FUNDRAISING

All tickets for the two Christmas outings have now been taken up. Can those people who are joining us please now pay the balance

### IRISH GUARDS CHOIR CONCERT AND ENGLISH MARTYRS BINGO

We again have the Irish Guards Choir joining us for an afternoon of entertainment on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Tickets are £3

Christmas Bingo in English Martyrs is on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT BOTH OF THE ABOVE ARE TICKET ONLY ENTRY. THERE WILL BE NO ADMISSION ON THE DOOR**

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLES

St Robert's and English Martyrs Christmas Raffle tickets are now on sale at the back of church

**Thank You  
for Your  
Support!**

### 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.



## Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
<b>Sunday 23rd November</b>  <b>Sanctuary Lamp</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Pious list  <b>Michael O'Neill</b>	<b>11.00am</b> People of the Parish  <b>O'Brien family</b>
<b>Monday 24th November</b>	<b>10.00am</b> John Early	
<b>Tuesday 25th November</b>		<b>10.00am</b> Pious list
<b>Wednesday 26th November</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday 27th November</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Alice Prescott	
<b>Friday 28th November</b>		<b>10.00am</b> Alice O'Brien
<b>Saturday 29th November</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Sunday 30th November</b>	<b>9.30am</b>  Mary Hoban	<b>11.00am</b>  Margaret Chegwin

**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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