

4th April 2021- EASTER DAY and EASTER OCTAVE WEEK/ Yr B

(Week 55 of Covid-19 UK restrictions Week 14 of National Lockdown III)

Holy Night Vigil and First Mass of Easter/ Paschal Feast

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday:

Sat 3rd **8.00 pm Parishioners**

Easter Day

Sun 4th *9.00 am* Ronald Halliwell

11.00 am Amelia Flemming

2nd Day of Easter Octave

Mon 5th 10.00 am Annie Kelly

3rd Day of Octave

Tue 6th 10.30 am Private Funeral: Francis Carroll

7.00 pm Francis Carroll

4th Day of Octave

Wed 7th **10.00 am** Irene McCabe

5th Day of Octave

Thu 8th 7.00 pm Sarah Rafferty

6th Day of Octave

Fri 9th 10.00 am Carmen Gonzalez

7th Day of Octave

Sat 10th **10.00 am** Anthony McHale

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday:

Sat 10th 7.00 pm **Parishioners**

8th day of Easter - Octave Day

Second Sunday of Easter- 'Divine Mercy' Day

Sun 11th *10.00 am* Holy Souls

In previous class Masses with our children from schools, we reminded each other that 'CHURCH' is not the *building*, but Church is the people who live with faith each day in the community, loving God, our neighbour and ourselves. Let the children remind us about what is truly important.

Each of our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence's Primary schools, have broken up for the Easter Holidays. I'd like to THANK our three Head Teachers, all the staff and governors, who have worked so hard to keep our schools safe. Parents will have been informed of the procedures in place to keep them safe, whilst the rest of the local community also need to continue to follow public health advice, to get the level of local infections lower, to allow schools to then stay fully open. I have now been in touch again by letter with their Year 5 children and families about attendance at Masses, after Easter.

Our HOME-CHURCH-SCHOOL links, each support and build up the parish family, as we recognise and celebrate being part of something bigger; the visible Body of Christ; the gathered community; this is what CHURCH is really all about- we are the People of God- mainly lay people, with religious, the deacons, priests, bishops, altogether across our archdiocese of Liverpool- making up part of the world-wide family of the Church, gathered by God the Father, under His Son, the Word of God and with the Holy Spirit and with the Pope; even now in our homes.

The Parish Newsletters can be found on the school websites each week: St Joseph the Worker Primary School, or St Laurence's Primary School, under 'Our Catholic Life' or 'Our Faith' sections

More information about the Catholic faith is available on-line.

Archdiocese website liverpoolcatholic.org.uk **SEE MORE ABOUT SYNOD**

Pope Francis Website Vatican-Holy See

cafod.org.uk (including Children's Liturgy materials) or Catholic Pictorial

**The 'Regina Caeli' Prayer. (Especially @ 12 noon and 6pm)
Queen of Heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.**

For He, whom you were worthy to bear. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. Alleluia.

Pray for us to God. Alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.

Because the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray

O God, Who by the Resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, have been pleased to give joy to the whole world, grant we beseech You, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In these most unusual times, the Church building is still cautiously open for lighting candles & private prayer sat in benches before the Blessed Sacrament at the altar. **Public Masses continue and are NOT affected by the current Lockdown, but there is to be no ‘mingling’ with anyone not of your household. Church will OPEN fifteen minutes before each Mass.**

NOW it is still the time to continue to keep safe ‘social distancing’,

Only limited meeting outside, but still not mingling with people from outside your own household;

staying alert, to slow the spread of any infection,

to break the chains to other people and still protect the NHS and save lives.

Jesus, the Blessed Sacrament, present in the Tabernacle:

Please pray at home and join your prayers with Jesus, also in your heart.

I light candles regularly each day in Church for all your intentions from

8.30 am until 7pm, join your prayers with mine.

Each day at 12 Noon and 6pm EVERY day I invite everyone at home to pray the ‘Regina Caeli’ prayer, printed over the page, inviting us to pray our Easter faith, rejoicing with Mary, the Mother of God after the Resurrection.

During the day consider praying the ‘Rosary’, the life of Jesus, with Mary and Joseph. 1 X ‘Our Father’ and 10 X ‘Hail Marys’, 1X ‘Glory be’ for each of the 5 mysteries Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, Glorious... The Angel’s Prayer to Mary ‘Hail’, then the greeting prayer of St Elizabeth ‘Blessed art thou amongst women’ and indeed the added prayer for life and death.

Carefully and safely, I place a candle in the window of the Presbytery house to show Christ our Risen Light in the dark of the streets: @8pm each evening

I’m still celebrating Masses in Church, as indicated over the page, but I again invite most of you to continue to join me in prayer from your homes, as we offer together our prayers to God, with the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary at the altar. United in prayer, we receive communion in our hearts, even when not in our hands or on our tongue .

The Bishops’ Independent Review of Safeguarding in England & Wales & the ICSA reports: The recently published national inquiry ICSA report into the crimes and sins of abuse across many organisations, including the Catholic Church, has highlighted historic cases over the last fifty years and recent examples. It and a separate report have recommended further reforms to the Church’s safeguarding processes and to address the victims & survivors needs. All our bishops have accepted the recommendations and committed to constantly further improve safeguarding & support throughout the Church & society.

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE’S PARISH

Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated. A Registered Charity No 232709

Parish Priest: Canon Sean Kirwin Parish Secretary: Maria Byrne.

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00am – 4.00pm Tel: 546 3674

St Joseph & St Laurence’s Parish Centre- CLOSED temporarily

Manager: Elaine Churchill Tel: 07377341977

St Joseph the Worker RC Primary: Head: Mrs Jude Ryan. Tel: 477 8173

St Laurence’s RC Primary: Head: Miss Sarah Jane Carroll Tel: 546 4733

All Saints Catholic High: Head: Mr Tony McGuinness. Tel: 477 8740

Our Parish e-mail: jsl@rcaol.org.uk for any queries/ concerns/volunteers.

<https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-joseph-st-laurence-kirkby> for donations

WELCOME to everyone at the Easter Vigil, or Easter Day Masses this weekend and we hold in our prayers anyone who is sick at home, or in hospital, or those caring for the sick, or those whose work-patterns mean they cannot be at Mass this weekend:- **Jesus is RISEN! He is Risen Indeed!**

THIS is our Christian faith; whatever else happens for us over this weekend and coming week, WE need to proclaim and say out loud this saying above.

By this saying, sung by the earliest Christian communities in the Middle East, it is a short acclamation that says we believe the story of the FIRST witnesses of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, Jesus.

It isn’t about school holidays, a long weekend bank holiday, Sunny weather, or even about Spring blossom, chocolate eggs, or Rabbits!

Why do we do this, at this time of the year? Because it was Passover time, the Spring Moon was full in the sky and in the city of Jerusalem a real human being, God & Human, Flesh and Blood, Jesus the Christ, was killed by the Roman occupying forces, on a cross, outside the city walls and buried in a cave in a near-by garden. On the third day, early in the morning, before the Sun had risen, the Son of God had Risen from the Tomb and the disciples found it empty and then they also met the Risen Lord and spoke with Him and ate with Him.

Now, enjoy the school holiday, the long weekend, the sunny weather, the blossom, eggs and rabbits and say out loud once in the morning and once in the evening:

Jesus is RISEN! He is Risen Indeed!

FR SEAN

Mass Intentions received this week: Edward Curry, Peter Mason, Sr Marie O’Carroll, DHM, Eileen Williams, Nora & Billy McCarthy, Catherine McCarthy, Eileen Cassell, Michael Murphy

Anniversaries: Phillip Bennett, Elizabeth Skarratts, Fred Brandwood, David Pinnington, William Chambers, William Howard, Veronica Carr, Fr Bernard Parkes SBD, Fr Charles Canning, Fr Richard Firth