

2nd May 2021- FIFTH week of EASTER/ Yr B

(Week 59 of Covid-19 UK restrictions Week 18 of National Lockdown III)

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday:

Sat 1st 7.00 pm: Margaret Healey

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sun 2nd 10.00 am Parishioners

Feast of St Philip & St James, Apostles

Mon 3rd 10.00 am Graeme

Feast of the Martyrs of England & Wales

Tue 4th 7.00 pm Mary & Anthony McHale

Wed 5th **NO MASS**

Thu 6th 7.00 pm Monthly Mass for all the Dead

1st Friday of the Month- devotion to the merciful Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fri 7th 10.00 am Lily Finnegan

Sat 8th **10.00 am** Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday:

Sat 8th 7.00 pm Parishioners

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sun 9th 10.00 am Angela Gregory

Mass Intentions received this week: Private Intentions (EK), Lesley Cook

Anniversaries Rita Cushley, Canon Peter Cronin, Canon Eugene Hopkins, Bishop Kevin O'Connor, Fr Peter Sibert, Fr Michael Lee, Fr Barrie O'Toole CSsR, Fr Don Gordon.

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, returned after 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.

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, is 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: @ **9pm** 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: sjsl@rcaol.org.uk for any queries/ concerns/volunteers.

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

With the partial easing of some Covid restrictions, it again starts to become a bit confusing about what is allowed and not and from when and for whom....

We have been prevented from celebrating baptisms during the current lockdown rules, but we can now begin arranging them for ‘household only’ celebrations; but with a back-log of families whose previously booked baptisms had to be cancelled, the timescale for when anyone’s’ baptism service will take place and what limits of numbers may progressively vary, depending upon the government rules and the rate of infections etc. is yet to become clear.

We have now had our first wedding under the newly eased restrictions and baptisms resumed and our much-delayed celebrations with the children, now in Year 5.

We have also celebrated the feast of St Joseph the Worker and now we move through the new month of May, especially dedicated to Our Lady.

Even after the lifting of all the government legal restrictions at the end of June, there is likely to continue to be social distancing required inside Churches and other indoor settings too. Watch this space!

FR SEAN

‘SYNOD 2020’

As we approach our Archdiocesan Synod, taking place online on 19th June, Synod Members are currently discerning how they will vote on the recommendations that have emerged. If you haven’t seen them yet, there are three places you can find them:

1. Printed in the April edition of the Catholic Pic (www.catholicpic.co.uk)
2. On our Synod Recommendations Website (www.synod2020recommendations.org.uk) alongside theological reflections
3. Printed in our Synod book Together on the Road which also includes resources for discernment and the theological reflections (available for £3 from Pauline Books and Media, and the Synod Office, email: synod2020@rcaol.co.uk, tel: 0151 486 1206).