

20th/21st November 2021- SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING/ Year B

Sat 20th 7.00 am **Parishioners** (Vigil and First Mass of Sunday)

Sun 21st 10.00 am Hughie Bagan

Mon 22nd 10.00 am Carmen Gonzalez

7.00 pm Memorial Mass Intentions

Tue 23rd **7.00 pm Memorial Mass Intentions**

Wed 24th **NO MASS**

Thu 25th 11.00 am Private Funeral James Payne St Helen Crematorium

7.00 pm Memorial Mass Intentions

Fri 26th 10.00 am James Payne

7.00 pm For the Sick and Housebound

Sat 27th **10.00 am** Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT/ YEAR C**

Sat 27th **7.00 pm Parishioners**

Sun 28th 10.00 am Vic Reeves

Mass Intentions received this week: David Marsden, Irene Croker, Sp Int Josie Zammit, Joseph & Keli Morgan, Paul Johnson, Sandra Harris Chapter of Canons' Intentions, , Francis Ellis, Fiona Doyle(nee Kirwin), Fr Kevin Ashton, Mgr William Dalton, Fr Arthur Mulcahey

Traditionally November is a special month of devotions and prayers for all those who have died; that our prayers will help them on their continuing journey back to God and to their place in heaven. Their continuing prayers for us help us on our journey through life here on earth too. One Mass will be celebrated each week for those named on the November Dead Lists you place in the box at the back of Church. 100 Families have been invited by letter to Memorial Masses, those whose parish funerals occurred over the last two years.

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre –

Elaine and staff would like to welcome back all our customers, old and new.

NEXT Saturday Entertainment nights, plus game of Bingo

27th November - SINGER

All welcome! & Lounge open every week. Thur/Fri/Sat 7.30 pm & Sun 12.30pm

07377341977 to book future functions for all days of the week & any enquiries

NEW YEAR'S EVE Tickets now available from the Club.

The club are also now asking for donations of chocolate selection boxes, which will be passed onto the local charity group who drive through the streets and distribute sweets to the local children. Please support the club giving back to the community.

(Week 88 of Covid-19 UK restrictions)

Angelus Prayer (Especially @ 12 noon and 6pm)

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit. (Hail Mary....)

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Be it done unto me according to thy word. (Hail Mary....)

And the Word was made Flesh. And dwelt among us. (Hail Mary....)

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts;

that, we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son,

was made known by the message of an Angel,

may by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Each of our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence's Primary schools are open for teaching & learning. I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers and Governors, the children and their families for all their efforts to keep schools open, despite higher local infection rates in school age children.

Year 5 children and their households have now been invited to attend weekend Masses, EVERY WEEK, either Friday 7pm, or Saturday 10am, or Saturday 7pm Masses, as part of their family preparation and the deepening of their faith, before receiving Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion in January 2022.

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 joined with the Pope, in prayer.

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 Pope Francis' Year of Prayer for the 'Care of Creation'

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

www.cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical

Please join in prayer with the Holy Spirit, for the outcomes of the archdiocesan synod

Across England the average Covid infection rate is still high, with 1 in 65 people now carrying the virus. With the delta variant being more transmissible, three injections are required for best protection. Three injections now seem to protect most from severe illness but will probably only prevent half of the people from being infected and carrying the infection to others. Other variants may still develop that current vaccines are less capable of protecting people. Re/infection of people who have been vaccinated is happening and some of these people will be hospitalised. Higher demands for A&E and beds delays ambulances, clinics & operations. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier. Hence due Caution!

The official government guidance for Churches after ceasing all legal restrictions is more complicated than the headlines! Public venue owners still legally need to operate safely. As the PM and the chief advisors have stated, the pandemic has not disappeared and Liverpool City Region public health advice is that there still needs to be **caution** shown for the on-going risks and to keep social distance; all can be infected, some are still vulnerable and particularly those not yet fully vaccinated, with the risks of long-covid and new variants developing-- with larger numbers of new cases each day creating a risk of residual sources of illness and hospitalisation through to the Winter and into next Spring. Knowsley over 12s are currently 67% 2-jabs vaccinated, Liverpool City 69% 2-jabs vaccinated; both these areas are below the national average of 80% for 2-jabs and we see overall infections about the national average per 100,000 people, who are currently carrying the virus to those they mix with. With this being the new reality of living-with Covid, **I request that everyone continue with caution as we have been when they come to church**; this will also minimise 'track and trace' still instructing people to isolate and test or testing positive and isolating. As Knowsley covid rates are high, I have slightly adjusted the seating capacity in Church to fit more people in, whilst still being spaced out. **PLEASE KEEP SPACED, BETWEEN HOUSEHOLD GROUPS.** In these most unusual times, the Church building is still cautiously open for Masses/services, lighting of candles & silent prayer sat in benches before the Blessed Sacrament.

NOW it is still the time to continue to be **cautious**

Especially with people you don't normally mix with.

FACE, SPACE, AND HANDS

AND good ventilation if meeting inside, is still advised.

Staying alert, ISOLATING if symptoms or 'Track & Trace' instruct you,

So as to slow the spread of any infection and new variants,

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

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

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- 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.

We are still being advised to keep down the number of people we mix closely with every day, to minimise the transmission of the virus to those more vulnerable than ourselves. Covid infection rates among children are now higher than the overall average rate and higher than for other age groups. For those who are less vulnerable to serious illness, then personal decisions about how much mixing to have becomes an exercise in managing or mitigating the risks, while still making decisions to gather together to pray, work, school, or to socialise. Many people have experienced being lonely during the previous lockdowns and some haven't felt confident to go out to meet friends as they may have done.

The Parish Centre here next to the Church is a social club where people can meet in small table groups, enjoy their company, with music and a drink, in a friendly, relaxed and safe environment, away from the hubbub of town or city centres and the greater cost of taxis, or parking. Can I encourage parishioners to support the parish and support friends, by using the club facilities as another place to safely meet again. The Parish Centre is open for quiet drinks every weekend and is available for functions and entertainment nights too.

From 15th January **EVERY** Saturday evening the club will have a LIVE Act and a DJ- part funded by the parish- please come and support the parish and the club and have a weekly, good, safe night out in Kirkby.

I also now give a special invite to any parishioners who feel comfortable enough to come **NEXT** Saturday 27th November at 7.30pm. We will have some table-chat first, I have organised a hot and cold buffet from 8.30pm, then we will enjoy the planned entertainment, with some bingo time thrown in as well! This will be a delayed 'Thank you' from me for my Silver Jubilee earlier in the Summer. **PLEASE COME ALONG** if you feel safe enough to do so.