

8th /9th January 2022 THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sat 8th 7.00 pm Parishioners (Vigil and First Mass of Sunday)

Sun 9th 10.00 am Roy Williams

Mon 10th 10.00 am Gordon Smith

1.30 pm Private Funeral Gordon Smith

Tue 11th 12.30 pm Private Funeral Charles Patterson

7.00 pm Charles Patterson

Memorial of St . Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbott

Wed 12th **NO MASS**

Memorial of St. Hilary, Bishop, and Doctor

Thur 13th 7.00 pm Winifred Brennan

Fri 14th 10.00 am Barbara Holmes

Fri 14th **7. 00 pm** Stan Ely

Memorial St Kentigern, Bishop, 2nd Patron of Archdiocese of Liverpool

Sat 15th 10.00 am Joe Connolly

Vigil and First Mass

Sat 15th 7.00 pm Catherine Boyd

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sun 16th 10.00 am **Parishioners**

Mass Intentions received this week Family Intentions, Joe Connolly, Stan Ely, Winifred Brennan, Catherine Boyd, Michael McGrath, Joan Colburn, Christine Kelly, Ken Jones Snr, Ken Jones Jnr, Mrs Lynch, Fr Stephen Cooper, Michael McKeown

Parishioners Christmas Intentions and remembrances for all those who have died, anniversaries, the sick, the lonely, the depressed.

THANK YOU to everyone for making the Church so beautiful for the feasts, for the choir & organ, for everyone who was able to attend and for all your cards and gifts and monies.

(Week 95 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 have now returned. 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 been invited to attend weekend Masses. Any Yr5 child baptised in a different parish needs to bring a copy of their baptism certificate to Fr Sean ASAP.

All dates of celebrations are now confirmed, for those families who have attended preparation meetings and completed an application form and had proof of baptism.

*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

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 rising rapidly, with 1 in 15 now carrying the virus to others. **Three injections now seem to protect most people from severe illness, including from the Omicron variant**, but will probably only prevent half of the people from being infected and carrying the infection to others. Other variants can still develop that current vaccines may be 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 delay ambulances, clinics & operations. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier. Hence due Caution! The official government guidance for Churches 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, face coverings, working from home if possible and minimising mixing with people you are not usually mixing with; 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 the Winter and into next Spring. Knowsley over-12s are currently 70% 2-jabs vaccinated, Liverpool City 64% 2-jabs vaccinated; both these areas are below the national average of 83% for 2-jabs. We see rapidly growing overall infection rates above the national average, people who are currently carrying the virus to those they mix with. With this being the new reality of living-with Covid, **everyone needs to act with GREATER caution 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 higher, you see adjusted seating capacity in Church to fit more people in, whilst still being spaced out. **PLEASE KEEP MORE SPACED OUT, WITH A TWO BENCH GAP & SPREAD OUT MORE 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.

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.

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

NATIVITY OCTAVE/TWELVE-DAY FEAST Plus Plus.....

Having spent the four weeks of Advent preparing for the Nativity of the baby Jesus, the Church gives us more time to celebrate the significance of the feast; eight days were celebrated as if it were Christmas day. Twelve days to the Epiphany Feast too... more time to deepen our appreciation of the great gift God has sent us! Even if you normally take down the decorations on Twelfth night, keep your cribs up longer still.

Traditionally, the Christmas season used to continue up to the 2nd February and the Feast of the Presentation of the baby Jesus in the Temple of Jerusalem; when the Holy Family of Joseph & Mary and the baby Jesus enter the Temple of Jerusalem, the place where God has promised to live in the midst of His people. Jesus, the Word, God-made Flesh and Blood; 'Emmanuel'; a name which means 'God is with us.'

The Church now offers us this time and we continue the Christmas season, officially up to the 8th/9th January and the feast of the Baptism of the adult Jesus. From baby to adult; from birth to death; Jesus saves us.

FR SEAN

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre –

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

Coming soon.....

2022 Weekly Saturday Entertainment nights, plus game of Bingo