

5th/6th FEBRUARY 2022 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME/ Yr C

Sat 5th 7.00 pm **Parishioners** (Vigil and First Mass of Sunday)

Sun 6th 10.00 am Mary Joyce McHale

Mon 7th 10.00 am Pat Guven

Memorial of St Josephine Bakhita Patron against Modern Slavery

Tue 8th 1.00 pm Private Funeral Ann Mary Hoey

7.00 pm Ann Mary Hoey

Wed 9th **NO MASS**

Memorial of St Scholastica, Benedictine Nun

Thur 10th 1.00 pm Private Funeral John Cahill

7.00 pm John Cahill

Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

Fri 11th 10.00 am Deceased Sisters DHM

7.00 pm Michael (EK)

Sat 12th 10.00 am Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday

Sat 12th 7.00 pm **Parishioners**

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sun 13th 10.00 am Baby Sienna Morgan

Mass Intentions received this week Ralph Leyland, Kate Morley, Joseph Sweeney, Catherine Walsh, Cheryl Fitzsimmons, Fr George Robson, Fr Kevin Snape, Archbishop Derek Worlock, Fr Augustine Measures OSB, Fr Dan Cadogan, Canon Gerry Wharton

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

(Week 99 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 back working hard. 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 4 children and their families have been especially invited to attend weekend Masses from 18th February, as part of their **family preparation** for the **LIVING-out** of the sacraments we will celebrate with them before the Summer.

*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 still high, whilst starting to fall back from the very high numbers, with 1 in 20 carrying the virus to others. **Three injections now seem to protect most people from severe illness, including from the Omicron variant. Recent research suggests the third booster prevents 75% catching the infection. However, a number of those who do get infected are re-infections, still need to isolate and potentially have long covid symptoms and health consequences.** Other variants will still develop that current vaccines may be less capable of protecting people. Re/infection of people who have been vaccinated is happening and some people will still be hospitalised. Higher demands for A&E and beds delay ambulances, clinics & operations. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier. The official government guidance for Churches is complex! Public venue owners still legally need to operate safely.

There still needs to be some **caution** shown for the on-going risks; all can be infected, some are still vulnerable and particularly those not yet fully vaccinated, the risks of long-covid and new variants developing—with still large numbers of new cases each day creating a risk of residual sources of illness and hospitalisation through the rest of the Winter and into Spring. Knowsley over-12s are currently 71% 2-jabs vaccinated, Liverpool City 65% 2-jabs vaccinated; both these areas are below the national average of 84% for 2-jabs. We still have high rates of infection in Knowsley and with significant numbers of people still not yet vaccinated and boosted, there remains a risk of long-covid even with mild symptoms from infection, and for reinfection to even vaccinated people from those who are currently carrying the virus to those they mix with. With this being the new reality of living-with Covid, **we still need to act with some caution when we 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, you see adjusted seating capacity in Church to fit people in, whilst still allowing good spacing out of the congregation. **PLEASE KEEP SPACED OUT, WITH A TWO BENCH GAP & SPREAD OUT BETWEEN HOUSEHOLD GROUPS.** In these unusual times, the Church building is still cautiously open : Masses, lighting of candles, silent prayer in benches before the Blessed Sacrament.

NOW it is still the time to continue to be **cautious** in Church,

Especially with people you don’t normally mix with recognising those who are more vulnerable.

FACE, SPACE, AND HANDS

AND good ventilation if meeting inside, is still advised.

Staying alert, ISOLATING if have symptoms, or ‘Track & Trace’ instruct you, to break the chains to other people and protect the NHS and save lives.

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE’S PARISH

Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

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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>

Over the next couple of months hopefully the worst of Covid infection rates will be behind us and we can hope for a more normal pattern returning to everyday life. There is still a measure of confusion at the moment, as legal penalties are all but gone, whilst we are still all encouraged to protect others and ourselves, by how we interact with other people who we don’t normally regularly meet each week In these in-between times and until all national restrictions are finally lifted towards the end of March I advise people to recognise that people attending Church will have a range of levels of anxiety about mixing and some people are still more vulnerable to infection. To reflect that mixture and range we will retain the current protections up to Holy Week and then look for Spring and Eastertide to carry us over into fuller normality once again. Quite an apt strategy with the approach of Lent in the coming few weeks and its focus on the renewal and refreshment of our lives **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

2022 Weekly Saturday Entertainment nights, plus game of Bingo

Primary School Admission for September 2022

Parents need to have completed **BOTH** the Council application form, for three schools

AND the ‘supplementary information/faith form’ also needs to be completed, and sent to EVERY Catholic SCHOOL YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR .

Where you live is important, for school catchment areas.

Them being a baptised Catholic Child before the admissions deadline date is important.

Full list of the order of Admission Criteria is available from each school websites.