

16//17th April 2022 EASTERSUNDAY Yr C

Holy Saturday Vigil & First Mass of Easter

Sat 16th 9.00 pm Eileen Tierney

EASTER DAY & Eight Day, Easter Octave, Daily Masses

Sun 17th 10.00 am Parishioners

Mon 18th 10.00 am Thomas Scott

Tue 19th 7.00 pm Family (EK)

Wed 20th 10.00 am Michael Fenlon

Thur 21st 7.00 pm Frank Ryan

Fri 22nd 10.00 am Irene & Paddy Campbell

7.00 pm Tomas Cedno

Vigil and First Mass of Sunday

Sat 23rd 10.00am LISCF

Sat 23rd 7.00 pm Parishioners

2nd Sunday of Easter OCTAVE DAY

Sun 24th 10.00 am Sr Jessie D'Souza DHM

Mass Intentions received this week: Pope Francis, Paul Austin, Kathleen McIlory, John Smullen, Ryan Moran, Jane Devereux, Fr Richard Firth, Fr Michael Gaughran SSC, Canon John Gaine, Fr Dermot Casey, Fr Thomas Lambe, Fr Cyril Thomas, Fr George Russell, Canon James Collins, Fr Bernard Bimson

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

Traditionally your offertory donations at the Vigil and Easter Day Masses are your personal gift for the Priest.

Hopefully soon the worst of Covid infection rates will be behind us and we can hope for a more normal pattern returning to everyday life. 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 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 **in the light of the currently higher infection rates.**

(Week 109 of Covid-19 UK guidance)

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 having their Easter breaks. I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers and Governors, children and 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, as part of their **family preparation** for the **LIVING-out** of the sacraments we will celebrate with them before the Summer. Any other children who missed their preparation meetings earlier this year, are also now invited to any of the Fri/Sat/Sun weekend Masses and their next newly scheduled 'catch up' preparation at the end of April

*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 remains very high, 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. However, a number of those who do get infected are re-infections, all still need to isolate and potentially have long covid symptoms and health consequences.** Numbers are increasing in hospital, although the vaccination is working to reduce the severity of the cases for most people. Other variants will still develop. Fourth, boosters are now to be offered to the over 75s and those most vulnerable. At this late stage, with infection rates still high people don't want to risk having long covid effects after even a mild infection. For some, the demands for A&E and beds will delay ambulances, clinics & operations. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier. 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, or whose immunity is waning with time, with 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 into late Spring. 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 after mild symptoms from infection, and for reinfection to even vaccinated people from those who are currently carrying the virus to those they mix with. Whilst legal restrictions and penalties have now been lifted in England, the new reality is to look to move to 'living-with' Covid. **When we come to church we still need to act with some caution;** this will also minimise the need to isolate or testing positive As Knowsley covid rates are still high, you see we have adjusted seating capacity in Church to fit more people in, whilst still allowing good spacing out of the congregation. **PLEASE KEEP SPACED OUT BETWEEN HOUSEHOLDS, WITH A CLEAR BENCH GAP IN FRONT & SPREAD OUT ALONG EACH BENCH.**

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

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

World events don't stop for Ramadan, Passover or Easter Feasts and why would they? The news continues to highlight the hot spots of wars, violence, famine, and floods. Nothing has apparently changed since the beginning of time

But, after the seven weeks of the Lenten season and the commemoration of the events of Jesus final mortal life here on earth during this last Holy Week, we have been moved by and through the real-life story of one human being, Jesus, whose life, struggles, passion and death has **changed** the world- whilst the world still slept, or carried on with its normal business of the day.

Dead and buried, and very early in the morning on the third day since Jesus was crucified, early before the sun rose, His grieving disciples go to the tomb, to show respect for the dead body of the One whom they have loved. But, the stone has been rolled away from the entrance and tomb is empty. Has someone now stolen His dead body too? These same disciples and the 11 Apostles then begin to meet the Risen Jesus; He is Alive again! He is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! It is quite a day! The world HAS been changed forever. Death is now NOT the end of our life's journey and there will be reunion with our loved ones again.

But, we may not personally feel that at the moment, as the world events continue to unfold about us and we may feel stuck, perhaps more like Good Friday than Easter Day emotions in our heads and hearts. That is OK too. Whether it's a mix of Good Friday, or Easter Day feelings now, it will **change** and be Easter for All, in the end.

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.