

Sunday 17th MAY 2020- 6th Sunday of Easter- / Year A

Sun 17th 10.00 am Parishioners

Centenary birthday of Pope St John Paul II, 21st Century Polish Pope

Mon 18th 6.30 pm Vera & Larry Ventre

Memorial of St Dunstan, 10th Century Abbot and Archbishop of Canterbury

Tue 19th 6.30 pm Paddy Walsh

Memorial of St Bernadine of Siena, 15th Century Franciscan Friar

Wed 20th 6.30 pm Robert Sanders

Solemnity of the ASCENSION of the Lord to Heaven, 40th day of Easter

Thur 21st 6.30 pm Glenda

7.00 pm Stations of the Cross, including the 15th 'Resurrection'

Memorial of St Rita, 14th century widow and Augustinian nun.

Fri 22nd 6.30 pm Fr Joe Weston

Sat 23rd 10.00 am LISCF (Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund)

7th Sunday of Easter Season/ Year A

Sun 24th 10.00 am Parishioners

Lately Died: Glenda, Fr Joe Weston, John Jones, Francis Connors

The next few weeks and months are still very uncertain as to what will be allowed and safe to re-commence doing; however, within the current restrictions, we do need to put our minds to planning and preparing for the future as a parish and preparing for what may be needed to allow the Church building to re-open for personal prayer-time and progressively perhaps week-day and then Sunday Masses and sacraments; for smaller groups, of socially-distanced people, who are well and able to leave their houses, whilst others will still remain in lock-down, or stay at home if sick or self-isolating. Without knowing yet what we **will** be allowed to do in our Church buildings, I will need healthy-volunteers, to help clean, act as ushers to people, directing parishioners to hand-sanitisers, to space out across the benches and safely distribute Holy Communion. **PLEASE email the parish** if you are a willing, healthy volunteer and we can then prepare and talk about what might become possible in the coming weeks and months.

We pray for our young parishioners who have worked so hard for their A level, GCSEs and other qualifications this year. All Saints Catholic High School continues to have its best results. The efforts of the staff, pupils and family support is seen in the overall positive environment that has been created & @ home.

All Saints Catholic High, and both St Joseph and St Laurence's Primary schools each provide wonderful care to our children, as they study and learn for life. Together, as Home-Church-Schools, we will look to build upon the support and care we can give to each other and our wider society. Please continue to support Catholic education, for the benefit of the wider community too, even now at home.

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

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 recent class Masses with our children from school, 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.

In these most unusual times, the Church building will NOT be open even for private prayer and lighting candles, NOW it is STAY at Home most of the time, keeping safe 'social distancing' when out with people from outside of your own household, staying alert, to slow the spread of any infection and break the chain to other people and so protect the NHS and save lives.

I will be celebrating Mass ON MY OWN in Church, but I invite those who can, to join me in prayer from their 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 on our tongue or our hands.

I will be celebrating Mass each evening at 6.30pm Mon to Fri & then 10 am on Saturday and Sunday, as indicated over the page

I have made temporary repairs to our Church bell and recommenced ringing the bell each day at 12 Noon and 6pm EVERY day. At these times I now invite everyone at home to pray the 'Regina Caeli' prayer, printed over the page, which replaces the Angelus especially for the Easter Season & reminds us of the Resurrection-promise fulfilled. 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 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 Light into the darkness of the streets: from 9pm each evening. 'Clap and cheer for the Carers', Thursday evenings at 8pm, (join me at your front door or window). We join our prayers with Mary and the first disciples, in their locked Upper Room, as they waited not knowing what might happen next in their lives. We know the end of that story; three days in the Tomb was followed by Easter Hope; Jesus is Risen, as the sun rose in the East...and the Risen Lord started to appear to his disciples over the next eight days and the forty days after....'quarantine', before they freely go out into the city streets to proclaim this Good News!

EASTER SEASON Choices still to consider making:

Jesus, the Blessed Sacrament, present-in the Tabernacle:

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.

I will still walk and pray the 'Stations of the Cross',

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE'S PARISH

Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

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St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre-CLOSED

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.

A bit of Mathematics and English lessons continue from last week!

- if a votive candle stand can fit about 200 candles and I light eight per stand per day, but probably only have to use a match to light them perhaps twice, *per day*, how many matches will I use on average to fill a stand of candles and how many days on average will a matchbox of forty last? ANSWERS: 50 matches, on average, needed before a votive candle stand is full; on average a box of matches will last 20 days. The multiplication and division were a bit easier there, but there was a twist that had to be considered!

A final Maths question for now: The red sanctuary lamp on the altar is a large candle, which reminds us that Jesus, the Blessed Sacrament, is still present inside the Tabernacle. I put a new sanctuary candle into the red-glassed holder on the morning of Saturday 2nd May and by the morning of Monday 11th May it needed replacing. Considering this to be the average length of burn-time, roughly what date will I next need to replace the sanctuary candle and how many times will I need to change it from now before the end of May?

In the meantime, the bible readings at Easter-season Masses focus our hearts and minds mainly through the 'Acts of the Apostles', the Psalms, the 'Letter of St Peter' and the 'Gospel of St John'. Find a bible from your shelves or go on-line and set some time aside each day to read each of these smaller books of the Christian bible. 40 days since Easter day this week, Pentecost, 50th day of Easter on Sunday 31st May- we are going through our Passion and Death; unexplained and uncertain times; but with future Resurrection. Jesus has gone before; takes us with Him, safely:-then, now and forever. **FR SEAN**

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- Let us pray for all those who have recently died.
 - for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time
 - all those who are sad, the sick, lonely, or depressed
 - all our Special Intentions for family and friends, alive or dead
 - for the empty place at the table; a candle lit, prayer before our meal
 - the separated and divorced; the unemployed, the hungry & homeless.