

Sunday 20th September 2020 **25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Yr A**

Sun 20th **7.00 PM PUBLIC MASS: Parishioners**

Feast of the St Matthew, Apostle

Mon 21st 11. 00 am Private Funeral: William Reid

7.00 pm PUBLIC MASS: Billy Reid

Tue 22nd 12.30 pm Private Funeral : Florence Higgins @ St Helen's Crem

7.00 pm PUBLIC MASS: Pat Higgins

Wed 23rd **NO MASS**

Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham, National Marian Shrine of England

Thur 24th 1.00 pm Private Funeral: William Weedon

7.00 pm PUBLIC MASS: Billy Weedon

Fri 25th **7.00 pm PUBLIC MASS: Betty & Kevin Kirwin**

Memorial of St Cosmas & Damian, 3rd Century, Arabian brothers

Sat 26th **10.00 am PUBLIC MASS: Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund**

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time Yr A (NOT a day of OBLIGATION)

Sun 27th **7.00 PM PUBLIC MASS: Parishioners**

Mass Intentions: Peter Sloan, Johnny Elvis, Pat Middleton Charlie Newport, Edna, Ken Mawdesley, Maureen Fleming, Frs Michael Gaine, Kevin Kelly

I have the PPE safety equipment and materials to regularly cleanse benches and surfaces people touch, but I need more teams-of-two, over 18 yr old stewards- those who are not still under health concerns due to underlying medical conditions in their households. They will supervise the cleansing & manage visitors to Church. Please contact me to volunteer to be stewards. All access will be through the front doors of Church only- NOT the Presbytery- everyone must wear a face-covering to enter. I will keep things under review and will confirm on next weekend's newsletter any additional times of opening. This week the Church will be open 15 minutes before each Mass. Everyone has options to visit the Blessed Sacrament each evening **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Sunday**, from 6.45pm & Masses at 7pm - there will be a morning Mass at 10am on Saturday - there is a limited maximum capacity of people inside Church due to social distancing and the law, but there are often spare spaces, as we gradually and cautiously take the next steps, for those able to come. **The new legal 'rule of 6', nor the new local restrictions, do not prevent attendance at regular Mass but prevent 'mingling' or groups socialising at home, gardens or the streets. We do still need to 'social distance' in all settings.** In our lives in general we then need to minimise the total number of people we personally meet in other settings, to reduce any infection-spread. **Please remember to also wear a face covering before entering Church.**

*Each of our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence's Primary schools, have now returned after Summer. I'd like to **THANK** our three Head Teachers, all the staff and governors, who have worked so hard to keep our schools safe for ALL children after the Covid-lockdown. Parents will have been informed of the procedures in place to keep them safe whilst in school, whilst the rest of the local community also needs to continue to follow public health advice, to keep the level of local infections low, to allow schools to remain fully-open.*

*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](#)

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.

In previous 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 has now begun to cautiously re-open for private prayer, lighting candles, and six public Masses. NOW it is still STAY ALERT, keeping safe 'social distancing' and not mingling with people from outside your own household; staying alert, to slow the spread of any infection, break the chain to other people and protect the NHS and save lives.

This week I will continue to celebrate six public Masses in Church, but I still invite most of you to continue 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.

**This week I will be celebrating public Masses
at 7pm , Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri & Sunday,
& at 10 am on Saturday, 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 **Angelus** prayer, printed over the page, inviting us to pray as the Angel Gabriel, Mary, and the unborn baby Jesus.*

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 'Blessed art thou amongst women' 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: moved back to 8pm each evening, as the nights start to draw in!

Jesus, the Blessed Sacrament, present in the Tabernacle:
Please 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.

PLEASE email (or phone) the parish if you are a willing, healthy volunteer and we can then prepare and talk about what might be possible.

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 Fax: 546 9857

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre- Re-opened for Table-service nights, not functions

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> for donations

With the increasing new cases of Covid-19 in Knowsley and the Liverpool City region, we have all been reminded that transmission of the virus, between people in different households, presents the current risk of increase in the number of infections; & potential acceleration of more severe conditions, particularly for the more vulnerable people of our society. Now, residents must not meet in each other homes, nor in some social settings. Work, school **and** Church worship is still allowed. Our cautious re-opening of Churches for public Masses minimises any risks, we have the strict social distancing, with face-coverings and limited numbers inside Church, for limited, shorter amounts of time than normal. Churches operate as Covid-safe space.

There is still no obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday, but we are caught by that feeling of wanting a Sunday Mass, but not needing to come to a Sunday Mass; I would like to give more people the chance to attend more Masses, more than two Masses every week. Rather than encouraging too many to come next weekend parishioners are encouraged to instead choose to come to several days of the week if you are able. There are now six Masses each week to choose to attend- every day except Wednesdays- and are alternative choices allowed instead of Sundays. I am also planning to add more Masses at the weekend the first weekend of October, to increase the space across more Masses so regularly MORE people attend Church. Our bishops have confirmed that no-one is obliged to return to Church at this time and those most at risk should stay at home. If anyone in a household has symptoms of Covid-19 none should come to Church. All visitors to Church need to wear a face covering, sanitise their hands entering and leaving Church, follow the one-way direction and try to stay at least '1metre+' from others not in their household. Touch is to be avoided. The toilet will remain closed. Votive candles can be lit, from lit candles already there, but only when you enter Church. When at Mass there will be no sign of peace, no chalice, no hymn books, no singing. Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass and people will leave the Church immediately, with no chatting or gathering inside or outside. **Come & See! Gather, at a distance!**