

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 25th / 26th March 2023

Sat 25th 6.00 pm Jimmy Price Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

Sun 26th 11.00 am **Parishioners**

Mon 27th 10.00 am Helena & Bernard Holmes

12.00 pm Funeral George Woods

7 30 pm **Stations of the Cross**

Tue 28th 10.00 am Right Rev Bernard O'Reilly 3rd Bishop of Liverpool

Wed 29th **9.30 am LENTEN MASS @ St Michael & All Angels, Westvale**

2.30 pm Holy Hour @ the Convent

Thur 30th 7.00 pm Harriet Coma

Fri 31st 10.00 am Frances Edwards

Fri 31st 7.00 pm John Laffan

APRIL

Sat 1st 10.00 am Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund (LISCF) Intentions

Sat 1st 6.00 pm Eileen Bell Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Sun 2nd 11.00 am **Parishioners.**

Mass Intentions received, George Woods, William Jones, Kathleen Coghlan, Fr Michael O'Dowd, Fr Anthony Fleming, Brian Dunn, Bishop Tom Williams (Happy Retirement), Parishioners' Intentions, and remembrances for all those who have died, anniversaries, birthdays, sick, lonely, unemployed, the depressed.

Sacrament Of Reconciliation/Confession now celebrated in the half hour before Saturday evening and Sunday Morning Masses each week.

Volunteer Church cleaners' duty, Thursday AFTER EASTER.....

More information about the Catholic faith is available on-line.

Archdiocese website liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

Pope Francis Website Vatican-Holy See

cafod.org.uk (Children's Liturgy materials) & [Catholic Pictorial](#)

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

[Please join in prayer with the Holy Spirit, for the success of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan](#)

[The newly formed 'Knowsley Deanery Synodal Council' has its first meeting next Saturday.](#)

[Please collect the 'Caring for Priests' Synod Document at the back of the Church](#)

Prayer to God the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.
O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit,
we may be always truly wise,
and rejoice in His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

All our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence's Primary are officially 'GOOD' schools after OFSTED inspection.

I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers and Governors, children and families, for all their efforts to build on the work & support that our partnerships continue to see, as our children flourish.

Children and their families preparing for their next sacraments are invited EVERY week and now need to be at Mass: Friday evening, OR Saturday AM/PM, OR Sunday AM, weekend Masses, as part of the family-catechesis 'Living-out' of the faith, if they are to be prepared and ready for the sacraments. Provisional dates have been sent by letter to those parents who have returned the application forms from the parents' meetings and who have attended the meetings. Proof of baptism is still needed for those not baptised here. Any queries please e-mail Parish address.

Any family of Year 8 parishioners who would like their child to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation.** Please Register at: Liverpoolcalled.co.uk

In late September I will be looking for form a preparation group for adults who wish to be baptised, or confirmed/ receive Communion, or adults of other Christian Churches who may wish to become Catholics. More to follow.

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.

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre –

Elaine and staff will give a warm welcome to all customers, old and new.
07377341977 to book future functions for any day of the week, day, or evenings.
'WARM & COSY' Every Thursday 1-3.30pm FREE tea and coffee ,biscuits, TV Wi-Fi
! 2023 Private Functions can now be booked for SATURDAY nights !
Lounge open every week on **Thur 1- 8pm Fri & Sat** from 8.00 pm. Sun 12.30

Across England the average Covid infection rates are still rising 1 in 40 now carrying the virus to others. **On-going booster injections seem to protect most people from severe illness, including from the now multiple Omicron variants. This year's Flu outbreaks are also rising.** Numbers of both infections are now affecting hospitals, although the vaccinations are working to reduce the severity of the cases for most people. For some time, the demands for A&E and beds will delay ambulances, clinics & operations and worsen the speed & level of treatment available. 1 in 30 are suffering from long-covid conditions after being infected by the virus. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier, as is mixing with the elderly & those most vulnerable whilst infected. In these still unusual times, the Church building is still open: Masses, lighting of candles, silent prayer in benches before the Blessed Sacrament.

Some may still wish to continue to wear face masks in Church.

The Bishops' Independent Review of Safeguarding in England & Wales & the ICSA reports: The published national inquiry ICSA report into the crimes and sins of abuse across many organisations, including the Catholic Church, has highlighted historic cases over the last fifty years and recent examples. It and a separate report have recommended further reforms to the Church's safeguarding processes and to address the victims & survivors needs. All our bishops have accepted the recommendations and committed to constantly further improve safeguarding & support throughout Church & society and this continues to be something that has to be continuously prioritised.

With Covid guidance still in place for visiting the elderly and vulnerable and with the need for Eucharistic Ministers to have their DBS checks renewed, we currently cannot normally provide communion visits at home. If a parishioner is ill in hospital, please ask family to inform nursing staff that they are Catholic and wish to be seen by a Catholic Chaplain on their ward.

If parishioners are sick at home and their condition is likely to get worse, please telephone the presbytery and Fr Sean will arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion.

Fr Sean is the Catholic Chaplain to Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

The central heating is on in church two hours before each Mass or service each day, so anyone is welcome to come to sit in Church at those times, to be 'warm and cosy' here then, as well as during and after Masses.

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE'S PARISH

Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

Archdiocese of Liverpool. A Registered Charity No 1199714

Church is open for prayer every day 8.30 am til 4pm, except Sunday 8.30 am til 1pm

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: Mrs Sarah-Jane Carroll-McKevitt Tel: 546 4733

All Saints Catholic High: Head: Mr Tony McGuinness. Tel: 477 8740

(Week 156 of Covid-19 UK guidance)

Our Parish e-mail jsl@rcaol.org.uk : for any queries/ concerns/volunteers
<https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-joseph-st-laurence-kirkby>

A **WARM WELCOME** to everyone at Mass this week. The gift of God keeps on giving! God's WORD and the gift of Jesus' Body & Blood, Holy Communion, each give us strength to live our lives each day with Faith, Hope & Love. As we move through Lent and now enter the final two weeks, we do things differently to remind us of what we usually do...statues are removed or covered and no need to light candles before the saints, as we focus our minds and hearts on **Jesus** and the events of His approaching arrest, Passion & Death. Lent is **also** about positively choosing to be more; focusing more on God, as the reason for the seasonal efforts:- Church is open every day for private prayer there are Monday night Stations of the Cross; there are morning and evening Masses here and at St Michael & All Angles Church, Westvale; Holy Hour at the Convent Wednesdays; daily prayer books and reading material for use at home. It might become a controversial thing to say in our day, but we are to find time and prioritise bible-inspired actions that are just, for 'the poor, the widow, the orphan & the stranger', all people in greatest need.

Holy Week Advance Notice

2nd April Palm Sunday: 11am Mass

Wednesday 5th April: There will be a parish bus leaving Church for the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral, at 6.00pm PROMPT. Return by 10pm.

(Sign-up Sheet for coach at the back of Church)

Holy Thursday: 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper and 'Watching at the Garden' 'til 10pm.

(Sign-up sheet to have one foot washed at that Thursday's Mass)

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross 10 am and 3pm Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday: 8.30pm Vigil and First Mass for Easter

9th April Easter Day: 11am Mass