Third SUNDAY OF ADVENT Yr A 14th December 2025 Sun 14th 11 00 am Sr Eva McHale 14th 6.00 pm Parishioners Sun 15th 10.00 am Sr Mary Dominic Mon Tues 16th 10.00 am Thomas Byrne 2.00 pm Funeral - Eileen Murphy Wed 17th 2.30 pm Holy Hour @ Convent DHM – 6 Cherryfield Drive Thur 18th 2.30 pm Funeral -Marjorie O'Leary 7.00 pm Rose Kemp Fri 9.30 am Advent Mass @ St Joseph the Worker Primary School 19th **7.00 pm** John Cummins Sat 20th 9.30 am Mass@ St Michael & All Angels , Westvale, L32 0TP 21st 11.00 am Irene Riley Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A Sun 21st 6.00 pm Parishioners

Masses received this week Eileen Murphy, Marjorie O'Leary, May Hurst, Alice Kearns, Alan Cunningham, Maureen Hennigan, Lily Keely,

Birthday Sr Eva McHale, Sr Mary Dominic, Lily Keely

Anniversary Fr Charles Winstanley, Fr William Mills, Canon Edward Murphy, Fr Kenneth Earlam, Fr Luke Dumbell, Fr Philip Barrett, Fr Thomas Mangan, Mgr James Rigby, Fr Michael Ryan *Parishioners' Intentions, remembrances for those who have died, anniversaries birthdays, sick, lonely, unemployed, or depressed.*

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

Archdiocese Website <u>liverpoolcatholic.org.uk</u>, Pope Leo <u>Vatican-Holy See cafod.org.uk</u> (Children's Liturgy materials) & <u>Catholic Pictorial</u>
The Parish Newsletters can be found <u>on the school websites</u> each week;
<u>St Joseph the Worker Primary School</u>, or <u>St Laurence's Primary School</u>, under 'Our Catholic Life' or 'Our Faith' section

Journey in Faith-RCIA-Rite of Chrisitan Initiation of Adults
At St Joseph & St Laurences' Church, Kirkby, L32 7PZ

Thursday 18th December 2025,
7pm Mass and 'Come and See' meeting 7.30-9pm

NEXT CHURCH CLEANING:THURSDAY** 8th JANUARY 2026** after 7pm Mass. Adult volunteers sought to give one hour, normally every two weeks.

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 communities of sisters and brothers, 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 in prayer, with the Pope.

'Encourage and invite someone back to Church': People, for various reasons, stopped regularly attending Mass and some people also may feel it is difficult to re-start. No-one needs to worry about having been absent from Church, even for many years. Everyone is WELCOME! It might just take a word of encouragement from you. Please ask a friend or relative to come with you to Church next Sunday.

All our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, and St Joseph the Worker Primary, and St Laurence's Primary are still officially 'GOOD' schools after their latest OFSTED inspection. As the children and staff continue to work hard 'til the end of term Friday, I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers and the Governors, children, and families, for all their efforts to build on the work & support that our partnerships continue to see, as our children flourish.

All Children and their Families are WELCOME to Mass EVERY week, as part of their family-catechesis, 'Living-out' of the faith.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession is normally celebrated 10.15-10.45am Sunday Morning, and 5.15-5.45 pm Sunday Evening

NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS READINGS Is 7, Psalm 24, Rm 1, Gospel of Mt 1

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre—All the staff will give a warm welcome to all customers, old and new.

Phone 07377341977 to book future functions for <u>any day of the week</u>, for daytime, or evening bookings. FREE Wi-Fi etc

2025/26 Private Functions you can also book ANY day or night

Also, the <u>Lounge is open every week for anyone who'd like to socialise.</u> **Thur 12- 4pm, & Sun** from 11.45 am.

All Welcome! We have a New Club Manager, Antonia PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH CLUB: 07377 341 977.

Please join in prayer with the Holy Spirit, for the success of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan

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, & rejoice in His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord Amen.

There is extra car parking space at the back of the Presbytery, off Bewley Drive and then, walk through the back garden & 'Collins Room' to the back of Church.

For the regular visiting of the elderly and vulnerable, we need new Eucharistic Ministers to have DBS checks, so we currently cannot normally provide regular communion visits at home, but if parishioners <u>are house-bound and their condition is likely to continue to keep them at home for the longer term, please telephone the presbytery and Fr Sean will arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion. Please remind everyone that this is not just for those who are dying, but for the sick. If people <u>are</u> dying don't wait until their final hours to call for the Priest.</u>

Fr Sean is the Catholic Chaplain to **Alder Hey Children's Hospital** . He also provides some holiday-cover & some weekly night-cover to the Aintree Hospital Chaplaincy priests. If a parishioner <u>is ill in hospital</u>, please ask family to inform nursing staff that they want to be registered as Catholic and wish to be seen by the Catholic Chaplain on call.

'Kirkby Family of Parishes' SVP group are asking for food donations, tinned or dried items, over the next 4 weeks. All food collected at your Church will be bagged and donated to anyone in need during January and February. We are asking Parishioners from all our Catholic Parishes to join with us to support people across the Kirkby community. We will be looking for volunteers from across the parishes to help bag items and to put forward names of people in need to their Parish Priests.

'Kirkby Family of Parishes' and our Primary schools Carol Service Tuesday 16th Dec 6.30pm @ St Michael & All Angels Church, Westvale L32 0TP

Year 8 parishioners who would wish to be prepared to celebrate and live-out the Sacrament of Confirmation, please apply on-line www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk More information to follow.

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE'S PARISH Dec 2025 Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

Archdiocese of Liverpool. A Registered Charity No 1199714

Church is open for prayer every day 9 am 'til 4pm, except Sunday 9 am 'til 7pm

Parish Priest: Canon Sean Kirwin Parish Secretary: Maria Byrne. Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00am – 4.00pm Tel: 0151 546 3674

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre- Manager: Tel: 07377341977

St Joseph the Worker RC Primary: Head: Mrs Jude Ryan. Tel: 477 8173 St Laurence's RC Primary: Head: Mr Paul McKenzie 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

A warm **WELCOME** to everyone at Mass at Church this weekend.

A particular **Welcome** to our other families who are beginning their preparation for the living-out of the next sacraments that we celebrate with the Primary School aged children in the coming 6 months, Reconciliation & Eucharist. These children have been invited as families to one of the weekend Masses <u>every</u> week, as part of their preparation and also to four parents' meetings with their sacramental child. This is also a special time for the whole parish community as we all look to deepen our understanding of the faith as adults and children together.

The season of Advent; is a time of waiting, reflecting on the scriptures and on our faith, so that we are prepared for the return of Jesus from heaven at the end of time. Then, later this week, from 17th December the focus then changes to pray and reflect and be prepared and ready to truly enter into the celebration of the Nativity of the baby, Jesus, on 25th December.

Wed 24th December 7.30 pm Carols, 8pm Vigil & 1st Mass of the Nativity Thur 25th December 11.00 am Mass of the Nativity

Fri 26th December 10.00 am St Stephen's Day & NO 7pm Mass

Sat 27th December 10.00 am Mass @ St Joseph & St Laurences Church

MEMORIAL BOOK. If you would like a dead loved one's name to be entered in the Memorial Book on display near the Lourdes Grotto, please give their name and date of their anniversary of death together with £20 in an envelope into the offertory or the Presbytery and they will be entered in Book. Mass is celebrated every month for those named in the Book.