NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISHES OF

Our Lady Oueen of Martyrs St Teresa of the Child Jesus & St Swithin, Croxteth

Tel: 0151 546 3574

Web: queenofmartyrs.org.uk

Norris Green

Tel: 0151 226 1354

Web: st.teresasng.com

In the Pastoral Area of St Raphael and St Paul with Blessed Sacrament 474 2682 Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 476 0289

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Fallon Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony Kelly Deacons: Chris Housbey, Malcolm Fletcher, Donagh McKillop

Sunday 29th November 2020 First Sunday of Advent

Live Streaming System

All services from both churches are now live streamed via Church Services TV. You can view services via the links on our websites. Facebook and Twitter sites or for Our Lady's at www.churchservices.tv/croxteth and for St Teresa's at www.churchservices.tv/teresanorrisgreen.

Your prayers are asked for those who have died recently, especially Nellie Ward, Terry Sweeney, Betty Ashcroft, John Irvine, Doreen Carroll, Teresa Turner, Oscar O'Neill, Frank 'Bunny' Ellis

> and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time Rose Crowe & Family

Please pray too for all those who are lonely or housebound and for those who are sick, at home or in hospital, especially

Janet Clark, Margaret Bradley, Peter Fraser, John Murphy, T. C. Sheila Willcox, Andreas Samaras, John Walker, David & Julie Pearce, J. G., Mary Mousley, Paul & Kate, Angela Adlen, Giles Rowe, Angela Gregory, Anna Gawlik, Jon, Mick Lawrence, Joan Turner, Brian McEvoy, Elizabeth O'Grady, David Holgate, Eleanor March, Raymond Doran, Joan, Daria McCusker

THE MASSES IN BOLD TYPE ARE OPEN FOR PEOPLE TO ATTEND

SATURDAY 28th November 6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 29th November 10.00am Mass: St Teresa's

11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

MONDAY 30th November 1.30pm Requiem: St Teresa's

TUESDAY 1st December 9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs 11.30pm Funeral: Queen of Martyrs

WEDNESDAY 2nd December 12 noon Requiem: St Teresa's 7.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs THURSDAY 3rd December 9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

FRIDAY 4th December 7.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

SATURDAY 5th December 6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs 6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

SUNDAY 6th December 10.00am Mass: St Teresa's 11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

All Masses are live streamed via the parish websites.

New rules for the Re-opening of our Churches

As the lockdown ends on Wednesday, we can once again gather, with the same precautions as before, to celebrate Mass together, on the occasions when we have enough stewards to welcome, supervise and sanitise. The Masses that are open for you to attend are printed in bold type on this bulletin. The Government has made some changes to the rules for churches in Tier 2: Weddings can take place with up to 15 participants. Funerals can take place with up to 30 participants. Baptisms can take place but with members of only one household present, so godparents and grandparents, unless they live in the same household as the parents, cannot attend. There are some possible exceptions to the rules for Baptisms, which we are currently considering.

Christmas Masses

Following advice from the Archdiocese, because of the possible numbers wishing to attend, we will be issuing tickets for Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We are discussing the details this and the times of the Masses and the way of applying for tickets will be announced next weekend.

CAFOD Advent Reflections by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald MAfr

You are invited a time of reflective prayer by Zoom at 7.00–7.30pm on Mondays 30th November, 7th December, 14th December, 21st December, also available on YouTube Liverpool J&P and Facebook. To receive the Zoom link please register via our Facebook Page <u>ipliverpoolip</u> or online at the <u>J&P website</u>.

Synod 2020 chat on Sundays

Because of the pandemic, the final meeting of our Synod process has been put back from October to June, and our Synod Members are now at the important stage of preparing to prioritise the most important affirmations and propositions that were put forward during the last stage of the process. You can find these at https://synod2020.co.uk/proposals. If you have time to read them, please then take a bit more time to reflect on them and to ask yourself 'Which of these many proposals and affirmations do I feel most drawn to?". Then join our two-parish chats by Zoom at 12.30pm this Sunday, 29th November and next Sunday 5th December, to let our Synod Members know your views and to help them in this discernment process: the link for the chats at 12.30pm on both Sundays is https://zoom.us/j/97285893244?pwd=bHVmUU94ZjYyMlpxLzUzUHJiSU85QT09 Meeting ID: 972 8589 3244. Passcode: 165559. You can also post or email your views to either of the parish offices, before Monday 6th December.

Prayer and other resources

- Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent (also available as an audio download).
- Readings for the Season of Advent.
- Week 12 in the series of 'Armchair Retreats' with Fr Denis Blackledge SJ.

Christmas Cards to The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem

Priests in the Holy Land have asked if we could arrange for all the parishes in Palestine and Jordan would receive cards. We have paired parishes in the Holy Land with parishes in our diocese so that each parish will only send cards to their named parish in the Latin Patriarchate. Our paired parishes are:

Queen of Martyrs: Fr. Ashraf Al-Nimri, The Martyrs of Jordan St Teresa's: Fr. Aldo Tolotto, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Please post any *small* cards into our parish offices as soon as possible.

THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS

Advent Reflections on the Prophet Isaiah – on Zoom, **Thursdays 3rd & 10th December from 10.30am – 12noon**. The link will open from 10am, to book your place email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk. No charge, any donation gratefully received.

Day for Migrants and Refugees



On December 3rd the Church commemorates St Francis Xavier. This is the day chosen by the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People to mark World Migration Day.

Advent

For Christians the season of Advent marks the beginning of the new church year. But what does Advent mean? Is it just a word, or is Advent really an event in itself? Why do we celebrate Advent, and why at this time of year?

The word Advent translates to the coming, the arrival, or the appearance of someone or something. But do we know what is coming, do we know what or whom we are awaiting the arrival of, and do we need to prepare?

The answer to these questions can be found in the events of Christmas Day, at the end of that first Advent season more than 2000 years ago. That heralded the dawning of a new era for our world and a real sense of hope for its peoples, when mankind is offered the gift of eternal salvation through the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So is that all there is to it? Advent is here, the birth of Jesus is near, and the saviour of the world is to free us from sin and grant us eternal life with God the Father.

Well if the word Advent means arrival, then we should prepare ourselves for this arrival, we should be ready when the son of God comes amongst us and we should prepare ourselves to be saved. We hear in our Gospel reading, "We must stay awake!" I don't think this means we have to go without sleep for the rest of our lives. I believe we are to be awake to the presence of God in our daily life, in all that we do, and that we are to ready ourselves for this event.

The season that we call Advent is a time for us to look at our lifestyle and ask ourselves what we have done to prepare for the coming of Christ. So for us Advent is a time of preparation, a time when we can get ready to receive into our world, through the openness of our hearts, the Son of God. It's a time when we can search ourselves for anything that might prevent us from submitting to the will of God, as we offer him our life and service.

Advent is a time of great excitement; a time of hope, a time of expectation, it's a gateway that we pass through as we await the promised arrival of the Messiah.

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