Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.

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PASTORAL AREA of St Raphael and St Paul Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 476 0289 Blessed Sacrament 474 2682. St Teresa's 226 1354 Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Kelly.

Deacons: Chris Housbey & Malcolm Fletcher.

Safeguarding Representatives: Catherine Housbey & Malcolm Fletcher.

Week 34

20th November 2022

Reflections of The Thirty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2Samuel 5:1-3; Psalm 121; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43 Our first reading for today's Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King comes from the second book of Samuel where we read about the representatives of the people coming to David at Hebron and making him king over all their people. One of the reasons for doing so is because he is their own flesh and blood. This also reminds us that Jesus was of the royal line of David. Our second reading from St Paul reminds us that Christ is the Lord of all and everything comes from him – be it authorities and sovereignties. Our Gospel text may seem a little strange for today coming as it does from the crucifixion where the good thief repents of his crimes and asks to be remembered. Christ confirms the fact that he has a kingdom and tells the good thief that he shall be with his saviour in that kingdom. As the liturgical year draws to a close it is appropriate that as we look back over it we acknowledge all that we have received from the Lord's goodness. It is also a good time to look forward while affirming that Christ is the Lord of all – he is the Universal King.

Solemnity of Christ the King - Youth Sunday/World Youth day.

On this Sunday 20th November, the Church across the world is asked to recognize and celebrate young people and their invaluable contribution to the life of the local, national and universal church. We are blessed in this diocese to have so many young people willing to walk on this journey with the Lord. Pope Francis reminds us,

"World Youth Days are not 'firework displays', flashes of enthusiasm that are an end in themselves: they are the stages of a long journey".

Animate will publish their second Youth Sunday Car Pool Karaoke on the Animate You tube channel as they make their way around the diocese talking to friends in schools and parishes. Beyond today there are other opportunities for young people to be more involved in the life of the Church and more information can be found at animateyouth.org on: the annual Lourdes pilgrimage, training as a Minister of Holy Communion, a trip to Wembley Arena for the flame Congress.

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 21st November



Mary's presentation was celebrated in Jerusalem in the sixth century. A church was built there in honour of this mystery. The Eastern Church was more interested in the feast, but it does appear in the West in the 11th century. Although the feast at times disappeared from the calendar, in the 16th century it became a feast of the universal Church.

As with Mary's birth, we read of Mary's presentation in the temple only in apocryphal literature. In what is recognized as an unhistorical account, the Protoevangelium of James tells us that Anna and Joachim offered Mary to God in the Temple when she was 3 years old. This was to carry out a promise made to God when Anna was still childless. Though it cannot be proven historically, Mary's presentation has an important theological purpose. It continues the impact of the feasts of the Immaculate Conception and of the birth of Mary. It emphasizes that the holiness conferred on Mary from the beginning of her life on earth continued through her early childhood and beyond.

It is sometimes difficult for modern Westerners to appreciate a feast like this. The Eastern Church, however, was quite open to this feast and even somewhat insistent about celebrating it. Even though the feast has no basis in history, it stresses an important truth about Mary: From the beginning of her life, she was dedicated to God. She herself became a greater temple than any made by hands. God came to dwell in her in a marvellous manner and sanctified her for her unique role in God's saving work. At the same time, the magnificence of Mary enriches her children. They—we—too are temples of God and sanctified in order that we might enjoy and share in God's saving work.

Message from Fr. Anthony

I will be returning to the parish on the weekend of 7th/8th January 2023.

Upon my return, I have agreed with the Archbishop that I will celebrate only the weekend Masses throughout that month, and that will be the sole duty that I will perform. I continue to keep you all in my prayers and look forward to seeing you all soon. God bless, Fr Anthony.



Monday 14th December Christmas Dinner, Drinks, Raffle, Bingo and Music. Tickets available from the piety stall. Please write your name on the list so we can let the school know how many would like to go.

Mission Red Mission Boxes

If you would like your boxes emptied, please bring them into church and give them to Anne or one of the Deacons.

Saint Catherine of Alexandria 25th November

According to the Legend of St. Catherine, this young woman converted to Christianity after receiving a vision. At the age of 18, she debated 50 pagan philosophers. Amazed at her wisdom and debating skills, they became Christians— as did about 200 soldiers and members of the emperor's family. All of them were martyred. Sentenced to be executed on a spiked wheel, Catherine touched the wheel and it shattered. She was beheaded. Centuries later, angels



are said to have carried the body of Saint Catherine to a monastery at the foot of Mt. Sinai. Devotion to her spread as a result of the Crusades. She was invoked as the patroness of students, teachers, librarians and lawyers. Catherine is one of the 14 Holy Helpers, venerated especially in Germany and Hungary.

The pursuit of God's wisdom may not lead to riches or earthly honours. In Catherine's case, this pursuit contributed to her martyrdom. She was not, however, foolish in preferring to die for Jesus rather than live only by denying him. All the rewards that her tormentors offered her would rust, lose their beauty, or in some other way become a poor exchange for Catherine's honesty and integrity in following Jesus Christ.

The Brownies

would like to give their sincere thanks for the support and encouragement received from the parishioners during their Bake Sale. With your help we raised the magnificent total of £215.90! This will be used to help and support our young people in the coming year.

Youth Alive Presents Advent Service of Light At St Mary's

Lowe House 27th November 6.30pm Followed by a Christmas Quiz, with mulled wine, mince pies and a Christmas jumper competition All Are Welcome

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish Centre

Are having a warm and cosy day every Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.30pm everyone is welcome for a cuppa, biscuits, a chat, watch TV and have access to free internet.

Come along and say hello, you'll receive a warm welcome!



gofundme

Have you seen "December 500 Feed"?

Justin Mayambo Malewezi is organising this fundraiser.

Even a small donation could help Justin Mayambo Malewezi reach their fundraising goal. And if you can't make a donation, it would be great if you could share the fundraiser to help spread the word.

Please take a look! GoFundMe, https://gofund.me/47a1ef92.

Live Streaming System

All services are live streamed via Church Services TV. You can view Services via the link on our website, Facebook and Twitter sites or at www.churchservices.tv/croxteth

Liturgy for the Week Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin

Saturday 19th 6.00pm Mass of Remembrance

Sunday 20th 11.30am Pious List

Tuesday 22nd 9.00am Eucharistic Service – Adoration until 3pm

Saturday 26th 6.00pm Joe McCormack (5th Anniv)
Sunday 27th 11.30am Ellen Jennings (B'day) Eamonn

Anthony Victory (Anniv)

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Eric Warren

Anniversaries and Birthdays Eamonn Anthony Victory

Ellen Jennings (B'day)

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

Angela Adlen Eileen Guy Paul & Kate Christine & David Angela Gregory Ellen Cooke Peter Fraser **Fitzsimmons** Baby Bella Janet Clark Robbie Ross Joan. Bernie Boyde John Murphy Andreas Samaras Toni Dal Brian Threlfall Josie Dunne Margaret & Joan Turner David Holgate Kenny Morley Canon Brendan Alger Joseph Maloney Diane Bell Margaret Bradley Julie Pearce Vassilis Eddie Unsworth Margaret Lace Eleanor Mawdsley Alamaniotis G., + MP., + TC., Sr Edith Culliton Peter & Jane Kelly Ann Shreeve

Mass of Remembrance, Saturday evening.

Please come along to the Community room where refreshments will be served at the end of Mass.

Enrolment for First Holy Communion & Reconciliation 2023

Enrolment forms for children who are in Year 4, will be available after weekend masses from 26th '27th November until 18th December. Once you have completed a form you will be given details of the first preparation meetings which will begin in the new year.