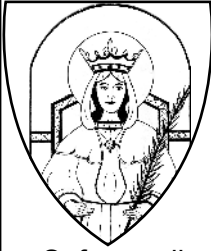


Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.



Stonebridge Lane Croxteth Liverpool 11
Tel: 546 3574 - Email: olqom@rcaol.org.uk
Website: queenofmartyrs.org.uk



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 06

12th February 2023

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20; Psalm 118; 1Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

The first reading this week comes from the Book of Ecclesiasticus and tells us that God knows all that we do and that he has never told anyone to do that which is wrong. We are also reminded that it is within our power to keep the commandments. The gospel passage from St Matthew sees Jesus commenting on the Law as the Jews had it and telling them that they have gone astray in their observance of it. We can only gain eternal life if we take on board the true message and wisdom of Christ and live that out in our daily lives.

The second reading from the first letter to the Corinthians tells us that there is wisdom or knowledge available to us in order for us to gain eternal life. This is not earthly wisdom but a wisdom which was worked out before the ages began and is a simple but powerful one.

Saint Apollonia 12th February

The persecution of Christians began in Alexandria during the reign of the Emperor Philip. The first victim of the pagan mob was an old man named Metrius, who was tortured and then stoned to death. The second person who refused to worship their false idols was a Christian woman named Quinta. Her words infuriated the mob and she was scourged and stoned. While most of the Christians were fleeing the city, abandoning all their worldly possessions, an old deaconess, Apollonia, was seized. The crowds beat her, knocking out all of her teeth. Then they lit a large fire and threatened to throw her in it if she did not curse her God. She begged them to wait a moment, acting as if she was considering their requests. Instead, she jumped willingly into the flames and so suffered martyrdom. There were many churches and altars dedicated to her. Apollonia is the patroness of dentists, and people suffering from toothache and other dental diseases often ask her intercession. She is pictured with a pair of pincers holding a tooth or with a golden tooth suspended from her necklace. Saint Augustine explained her voluntary martyrdom as a special inspiration of the Holy Spirit, since no one is allowed to cause his or her own death.

The Seven Founders of the Servite Order 17th February

Can you imagine seven prominent men of Boston or Denver banding together, leaving their homes and professions, and going into solitude for a life directly given to God? That is what happened in the cultured and prosperous city of Florence in the middle of the 13th century. The city was torn with political strife as well as the heresy of the Cathari, who believed that physical reality was inherently evil. Morals were low and religion seemed meaningless.

In 1240, seven noblemen of Florence mutually decided to withdraw from the city to a solitary place for prayer and direct service of God. Their initial difficulty was providing for their dependents, since two were still married and two were widowers. Their aim was to lead a life of penance and prayer, but they soon found themselves disturbed by constant visitors from Florence. They next withdrew to the deserted slopes of Monte Senario.

In 1244, under the direction of Saint Peter of Verona, O.P., this small group adopted a religious habit similar to the Dominican habit, choosing to live under the Rule of St. Augustine and adopting the name of the Servants of Mary. The new Order took a form more like that of the mendicant friars than that of the older monastic Orders. Members of the community came to the United States from Austria in 1852 and settled in New York and later in Philadelphia. The two American provinces developed from the foundation made by Father Austin Morini in 1870 in Wisconsin.

Community members combined monastic life and active ministry. In the monastery, they led a life of prayer, work and silence while in the active apostolate they engaged in parochial work, teaching, preaching, and other ministerial activities.

Reflection

The time in which the seven Servite founders lived is very easily comparable to the situation in which we find ourselves today. It is "the best of times and the worst of times," as Dickens once wrote. Some, perhaps many, feel called to a counter cultural life, even in religion. All of us are faced in a new and urgent way with the challenge to make our lives decisively centered in Christ.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February 2023

Pope Francis insists on the idea of parishes continuing along the path of being a centre of welcome and listening. Parishes aren't an exclusive club, "They have to become once again schools of service and generosity, with their doors always open to those who are excluded. And to those included. To all."

This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis' prayer intention "....that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need."



**Lord, in everything I do, let me always follow you:
let the moments of my days, overflow with endless praise.**



Monday 20th February 11.00 a.m.

At The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, the Funeral Mass for Fr Dave Melly will be celebrated by Bishop John Rawsthorne.
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him
Amen.

Come Along And Sing

On Saturday 25 March, the cathedral is hosting a come and sing event for singers of all ages and abilities.

A 'come and sing' choir is a group of individuals (or sometimes an established choir/singing group) that joins together with other like-minded people to form a special choir for a day. On this date, all of our singers will come together for the first time in the afternoon, rehearse together, and then perform in the evening!

YouTube rehearsal links are provided to all participants so that they can practice and familiarise themselves with their parts ahead of the day. Reading music is not a prerequisite as music can be learnt with the YouTube links. More details are in the poster at the back of church.

Current vacancies in the archdiocese

There are a number of vacancies and we would be very grateful if you could share any details with anyone you think may be interested. More details and an application form for the roles can be found on the careers page of our website:

Careers - Join the team (liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

The current roles we have live are:

Parish Administrator (15 hours per week) – St Edward the Confessor Parish, Wigan

Parish Centre Manager, designated premises supervisor (DPS) - St Joseph's (WA5)

Parish Centre Manager, designated premises supervisor (DPS) – St Oswald's (WA1)

Parish Administrator (10 hours per week) – St Mary's Woolton

Maintenance Assistant - Metropolitan Cathedral

Peace Actions for February

- In the month where we focus on sickness and suffering, think about supporting a charity that works to eradicate disease in an undeveloped part of the world.
- Since 1971, Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders (MSF) has been ready to respond to humanitarian emergencies around the world. Consider fundraising for this charity at www.msf.org.uk
- February 27th marks the beginning of Fairtrade Fortnight. Begin planning now for Fairtrade events and projects.



**Take my hands and let the move, at the impulse of your love:
every move that I shall make, Lord direct the steps I take.**



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	11th	6.00pm	Bernadette Ness (S.I.)
Sunday	12th	11.30am	Margaret Hough (Anniv), Jennifer Wilson L.D.
Monday	13th	11.30am	Requiem: Alison Jones
Wednesday	15th	7.00pm	Mass: P.A. Varkey (Anniv)
Thursday	16th	9.00am	Mass: Holy Souls
Saturday	18th	6.00pm	Brendan Murphy (Anniv), Bill Morley
Sunday	19th	11.30am	Edward (Ned) Burke (100th B'day Rem)

**The Mother of Mercy Group will be opening the church from
9am – 3pm on alternate Tuesdays.**

Starting Tuesday 21st February 2023 until further notice.

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Brian Threlfall, Joseph Doran,
Fr Dave Melly, Alison Jones, Alan Lane,
John Robinson, Tommy Coyne,
John Ready, Anne F.

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Edward Ned Burke (100th B'day Rem)
Bill Morley (B'day Rem) Marie Shutt ,
Margaret Hough, Francis Doran.

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