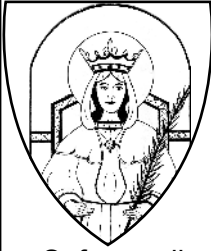


Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.



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.

Lent Week 5

26th March 2023.

Reflections of The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14; Psalm 129; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

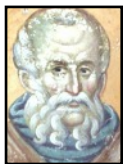
The first reading from the Prophet Ezekiel recounts the Lord telling his people that he will give them his spirit and they will live. St Paul in our second reading, which comes from his letter to the Romans, continues this theme and says that the spirit of God has been given to the people and that it is life-giving for them. This is because their only interest is in spiritual things and not things of an unspiritual nature. In the gospel, we have the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. This reminds us of the death of Jesus and of his resurrection but also provokes us to think about our own death in baptism and resurrection at the end of time. While Lazarus returned to life we know that he died again but that final death was so that he could live in life eternal.

Saint Catherine of Genoa 26th March

Going to confession one day was the turning point of Catherine's life. When Catherine was born, many Italian nobles were supporting Renaissance artists and writers. The needs of the poor and the sick were often overshadowed by a hunger for luxury and self-indulgence. Catherine's parents were members of the nobility in Genoa. At 13, she attempted to become a nun but failed because of her age. At 16, she married Julian, a nobleman who turned out to be selfish and unfaithful. For a while she tried to numb her disappointment by a life of selfish pleasure. One day in confession she had a new sense of her own sins and how much God loved her. She reformed her life and gave good example to Julian, who soon turned from his self-centered life of distraction. Julian's spending, however, had ruined them financially. He and Catherine decided to live in the Pammatone, a large hospital in Genoa, and to dedicate themselves to works of charity there. After Julian's death in 1497, Catherine took over management of the hospital.

She wrote about purgatory which, she said, begins on earth for souls open to God. Life with God in heaven is a continuation and perfection of the life with God begun on earth. Exhausted by her life of self-sacrifice, Catherine died September 15, 1510, and was canonized in 1737.

Saint Stephen of Mar Saba 31st March



A “do not disturb” sign helped today’s saint find holiness and peace. Stephen of Mar Saba was the nephew of Saint John Damascene, who introduced the young boy to monastic life beginning at age 10. When he reached 24, Stephen served the community in a variety of ways, including guest master. After some time he asked permission to live a hermit’s life.

The answer from the abbot was yes and no: Stephen could follow his preferred lifestyle during the week, but on weekends he was to offer his skills as a counsellor. Stephen placed a note on the door of his cell: “Forgive me, Fathers, in the name of the Lord, but please do not disturb me except on Saturdays and Sundays.” Despite his calling to prayer and quiet, Stephen displayed uncanny skills with people and was a valued spiritual guide.

His biographer and disciple wrote about Stephen: “Whatever help, spiritual or material, he was asked to give, he gave. He received and honoured all with the same kindness. He possessed nothing and lacked nothing. In total poverty he possessed all things.” Stephen died in 794.

Saint Stephen of Mar Saba knew the value of solitude. Even though he was generous and served whoever came to him, he relished his time alone. Maybe we can learn from him the value of solitude and seek it out a little more in our lives.

**At the age of Thirty, Jesus travelled the land.
Preached kindness and love, now firmly, takes his stand.**

Good Friday Walk of Witness

To St Mary’s, West Derby Village – meet in the church car park at 10.30 - 10.45am. The Service will begin at 12 noon.

Mother’s Day Raffle

Raised £265 - All proceeds to Lourdes Fund – Jumbulance.
Thank you to everyone who donated items and bought tickets.

Good Friday ‘Soup & a Roll’ For CAFOD

Come and join Joan Darwent & Pat Threlfall in the Community Room after The Walk of Witness, for a bowl of soup and a chat. If you’d like to make a bowl of soup to share, please let Joan know. All money raised will be given to CAFOD .

Sts. Agnes and Aidan

The Parish of Sts. Agnes and Aidan will be hosting Canon Stephen Maloney’s next LGBTQ + Mass and social gathering at 2pm on Sunday 16th April 2023, at St. Agnes RC Church, 82 Huyton Hey Road, L36 5SQ.

The Parish of Sts. Agnes and Aidan’s LGBT + Social Group will meet for a Mass followed by a social gathering at 2pm, instead of our regular meeting scheduled for 6pm on the same day. This is an open invitation for LGBTQ+ Catholics, their family and friends, and anyone else who wishes to come along.

On behalf of the Saint John of God Hospitaller Services (SJOG)

Homes for Ukraine Scheme to make you aware of the work we do in supporting Ukrainian refugees and UK hosts.

SJOG Homes for Ukraine is an official provider of this government scheme. It is a matching, training and support pathway for guests from Ukraine and hosts in the UK willing to provide much-needed support. Our programme is run collaboratively by Saint John of God Hospitaller Services (SJOG) and Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) and some of our team have come to the UK as part of the Scheme and bring first-hand experience of the process.

At SJOG Homes for Ukraine, we provide online training for hosts and guests, transfer from the Polish-Ukrainian border, a welcome box for Ukrainian guests upon arrival, a multilingual team to support the needs of both parties, and thoroughly developed resources for both hosts and guests to help navigate the process. Additionally, we ensure support from local communities to make the experience as seamless and fulfilling as possible.

I am writing to let you know that we will be holding a webinar for UK residents interested in hosting a Ukrainian guest or family under the Homes for Ukraine scheme on Wednesday, March 29, at 7 pm.

You can find more details about the event here: <https://fb.me/e/N9EtGqhe>

H.C.P.T. Easter Pilgrimage

At the back of church you will find a HCPT Box for Prayer Intentions. It will be taken to Lourdes on Good Friday.

NUGENT DONATIONS

The Nugent Charity shop on Allerton Road is looking for donations such as clothes, shoes, handbags and toys. They can arrange pick up. If anyone can donate the contact number is 0151 737 2951.

Lourdes Centenary Year – Need Your Help

As you know, this summer will mark 100 years since the archdiocese's first pilgrimage to Lourdes. We would like to mark this special occasion by asking people across the archdiocese to share their memories of the archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes and any photographs or video clips you may have taken on any trips there over the years. We will collate these memories and use them on the archdiocesan website, social media channels and the Pic. It could be that generations of your family have travelled to Lourdes, you could have photos from decades ago or even that a member of your family went on our very first pilgrimage in 1923. If you have anything you are happy for us to share publicly or if you would even like to record a video message for us, then please email any details to communications@rcaol.org.uk and lourdespilgrimage@rcaol.org.uk and include your name, parish and year(s) you travelled to Lourdes. More details can be found here:

Lourdes centenary year – we need your help! | News (liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

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	25th	6.00pm	Joseph Jones L.D.
Sunday	26th	11.30am	Special Intention J. & B. C
Monday	27th	12.15pm	Funeral: Gerrard Conder
Wednesday	29th	6.30pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.00pm	Peter Jennings (L.D.)
Thursday	30th	9.00am	Anne Jasper
Saturday	1st Apr	6.00pm	David McLoughlin (B'day Rem)
Sunday	2nd	11.30am	Bocken family (Anniv)



BAPTISM

Ethan Ward, Rose Lynn Ward, Hugo Long.



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING - FRIDAY 31st MARCH 6.30pm - 7.30pm IN CHURCH.

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Carol McEntee, Mary Kirkwood, Joseph Dillon
Bridget Draper, Gerard Conder,

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Edward Cummins

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

Diane Bell	Paul & Kate	Toni Dal	Christine & David
Eileen Guy	Ellen Cooke	June Fee	<u>Fitzsimmons</u>
Bernie Boyde	Janet Clark	Robbie Ross	Joan, Andreas
Angela Adlen	Josie Dunne	Peter Fraser	<u>Samaras</u>
David Holgate	Joan Turner	Ann Shreeve	Margaret &
Margaret Lace	Julie Pearce	G., + MP., + TC.,	Joseph <u>Maloney</u>
Angela Gregory	Kenny Morley	Peter & Jane Kelly	Vassilis
Eddie Unsworth	John Murphy	Marie O'Shaunessy	<u>Alamaniotis</u>
Marie O'Connell	Sr Edith Culliton	Canon Brendan Alger	
Linda McCarthy	Casey Anderson	Fr Vin McShane	