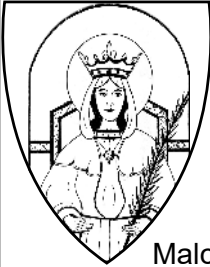


Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.

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

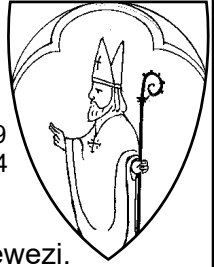
Blessed Sacrament 474 2682. St Teresa's 226 1354

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Kelly.

Deacons:

Malcolm Fletcher, Chris Housbey and Justin Malewezi.

Safeguarding Representatives: Malcolm Fletcher and Catherine Housbey.



Week 23

10th September 2023.

The Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 94; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

In the first reading from the Old Testament Prophet Ezekiel we are warned that if we do not try to turn the wicked from their ways then we will be held responsible for their punishment. This is a further reminder of our duty to spread the gospel. In the gospel for today, Christ echoes the words of Ezekiel that we must try to win people back to the right road to eternal life. He also reminds us that where we gather in his name, he will be there amongst us. The readings remind us today that we are a people who live in community and must therefore look after those in community with us. To help us in this we are also told in today's gospel passage by Christ that he will be with us even if there are only two or three gathered in his name.

In the second reading from Romans, St Paul tells us that love is the root of everything. If we act out of love then we will always be able to keep the Commandments.

The Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary 12th Sept

This feast is a counterpart to the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus; both have the possibility of uniting people easily divided on other matters.

The feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary began in Spain in 1513 and in 1671 was extended to all of Spain and the Kingdom of Naples. In 1683, John Sobieski, king of Poland, brought an army to the outskirts of Vienna to stop the advance of Muslim armies loyal to Mohammed IV of Constantinople. After Sobieski entrusted himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he and his soldiers thoroughly defeated the Muslims. Pope Innocent XI extended this feast to the entire Church.

Reflection

Mary always points us to God, reminding us of God's infinite goodness. She helps us to open our hearts to God's ways, wherever those may lead us. Honoured under the title "Queen of Peace," Mary encourages us to cooperate with Jesus in building a peace based on justice, a peace that respects the fundamental human rights of all peoples.

Our Lady of Sorrows 15th Sept

For a while there were two feasts in honour of the Sorrowful Mother: one going back to the 15th century, the other to the 17th century. For a while both were celebrated by the universal Church: one on the Friday before Palm Sunday, the other in September. The principal biblical references to Mary's sorrows are in Luke 2:35 and John 19:26-27. The Lucan passage is Simeon's prediction about a sword piercing Mary's soul; the Johannine passage relates Jesus' words from the cross to Mary and to the beloved disciple. Many early Church writers interpret the sword as Mary's sorrows, especially as she saw Jesus die on the cross. Thus, the two passages are brought together as prediction and fulfilment. Saint Ambrose in particular sees Mary as a sorrowful yet powerful figure at the cross. Mary stood fearlessly at the cross while others fled. Mary looked on her Son's wounds with pity, but saw in them the salvation of the world. As Jesus hung on the cross, Mary did not fear to be killed, but offered herself to her persecutors.



Reflection

John's account of Jesus' death is highly symbolic. When Jesus gives the beloved disciple to Mary, we are invited to appreciate Mary's role in the Church: She symbolizes the Church; the beloved disciple represents all believers. As Mary mothered Jesus, she is now mother to all his followers. Furthermore, as Jesus died, he handed over his Spirit. Mary and the Spirit cooperate in begetting new children of God—almost an echo of Luke's account of Jesus' conception. Christians can trust that they will continue to experience the caring presence of Mary and Jesus' Spirit throughout their lives and throughout history.

Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for September 2023

"A homeless person who dies on the street will never appear among the top stories of search engines or newscasts." Pope Francis attributes this indifference to a "throwaway culture in which millions of men and women are worth nothing compared to economic goods". "Our necks are going to get stiff from looking the other way so we don't have to see this situation." To combat this indifference we need to work on a culture of welcome. Everyone, regardless of circumstance needs to be treated with equal respect and understanding. We are invited to join in Pope Francis' prayer intention for September. We are invited to pray "for those people on the margins of society living in subhuman living conditions."

St John Bosco Open Evening

Thursday 21st September 4pm – 7pm

All catholic girls in years 5 and 6 are very welcome.

Lourdes Reunion Mass

St Mary's Church in St Helens will be holding a Lourdes Reunion Mass this Sunday 10th September, Lowe House, WA10 2BE at 5pm.

Care for Our Common Home Embrace the CAFOD Harvest

Fruit & vegetable sale 23rd/24th September Eating seasonally, and locally, is one of the biggest things you can do to reduce the impact of your diet on the planet. September is full of amazing produce, from blackberries to King Edward potatoes. Get creative! If you have a surplus of fruit and vegetables from your garden or allotment, please sign up and donate to our parish sale.

Education Sunday 10th September 2023

The Church has always identified the importance of the Catholic School in its mission and that is clearly the case in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. With 220 schools and colleges situated across the Archdiocese, there is a clear commitment to that mission. The mission of our schools and colleges is to provide a true education which allows all to flourish and become true sons and daughters of God. You will of course be aware that those who work there are operating under many different pressures such as school funding, teacher recruitment and retention and other societal pressures. Education Sunday offers us the chance to celebrate our schools and colleges and give thanks for all that they do.

Please take home and use the prayer cards.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS)

Enrol for Year 1, anytime from now! This is a national qualification awarded by the Bishops Conference of England and Wales, for the teaching of Religious Education in our Catholic primary and secondary schools, as well as for parish catechesis. The Archdiocese of Liverpool are about to gather new Year 1 candidates in readiness to start at the end of September. The course duration is for two years and requires online virtual participation in eight modules. Each module has up to five sessions. A session lasts for a maximum of two hours and all sessions take place after school. For more info contact Paul Mannings p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

Back to School

Our children will all be back in school this week.

Pray for teachers, support workers, children and parents, that this will be a happy and productive year, and that children, especially those with special needs will be well supported.

Remember this Sunday is 'Education Sunday' when we will be looking particularly at the role of our Catholic schools.

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	09th	6.00pm	Jimmy McDonald, Mark Sullivan
Sunday	10th	11.30am	Bernard Hough
Thursday	14th	10.00am	Funeral: Terence Clarke
Friday	15th	11.45am	Funeral: Mary (Dylis) McQueen
Saturday	16th	6.00pm	Patrick Magee (Anniv), Geraldine Gilbertson (Anniv)
Sunday	17th	11.30am	Janet Clark (L.D.)



Blake Dylan Crookham

Confirmation Meeting

For all candidates who have enrolled to be confirmed this year, there will be a meeting at St Teresa's Church, Sedgemoor Drive on 15th September at 7pm

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Patricia (Paddy) Cohen, Mark Sullivan,
Stephen Rooney, Lynn Bracken,
Michael Dooley, George Ford,
Michael Goodison Jones.

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Paul Ledwich,
Kevin Ready (7th Anniv),
Geraldine Gilbertson.

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	Joan Foster	<u>Fitzsimmons</u>
Moya Russell	Josie Dunne	Robbie Ross	Margaret &
Bernie Boyde	Joan Turner	Peter Fraser	<u>Joseph Maloney</u>
Angela Adlen	Julie Pearce	Ann Shreeve	Vassilis
David Holgate	John Murphy	Sr Edith Culliton	<u>Alamaniotis</u>
Margaret Lace	Angela Gregory	Peter & Jane Kelly	Joan, Andreas
Marie O'Connell	G., + MP., + TC.,	Marie O'Shaunessy	<u>Samaras</u>