

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.

Stonebridge Lane Croxteth Liverpool 11

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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:

Malcolm Fletcher, Chris Housbey and Justin Malewezi.

Safeguarding Representatives: Malcolm Fletcher and Catherine Housbey.



Ordinary Week 6

11th February 2024.

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; Psalm 31; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

In our first reading today from the Book of Leviticus – one of the books containing the Law of Moses – we see Moses instructing that those suffering from leprosy must live as outcasts and that the priests must declare them as outcasts. While they were to live apart to prevent the spread of diseases, it was never decreed that they be treated shamefully. In our gospel for today we see Jesus – the eternal high priest – curing a man of his leprosy and bringing him back into society while Christ himself lives as an outcast. The reading is a reminder that the gospel and the love of God are inclusive and that everyone has a place in the kingdom.

In the second reading St Paul tells us that we should model ourselves on Christ and never do any harm to anyone no matter what they believe. As Christ brought outcasts back into society so we too should have genuine concern for those who are outcasts in our own society.

Church Action on Poverty Sunday 11th February 2024

Give, act and pray as part of the movement to end UK poverty.

The ongoing cost-of-living emergency is driving more and more people into poverty. As a General Election approaches, we urgently need our politicians to take action to tackle UK poverty. We need to explore our dreams of a better world – and work together to turn them into reality. You can sign up for more information, make an online donation, become part of Church Action campaigns, and pray for change. If this sounds like something you want to do visit www.church-poverty.org.uk

Message from ACROSS

To our Across Family and Friends, We are looking for helpers and medics to travel on our first National Group of the year. This group will travel from 25th April - 4th May 2024. If you are interested in travelling or require any further information, please contact the Across office on 0203 542 1800 or email pilgrimages@across.org.uk

Day of Prayer for the Sick

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes 11th February 2024

Every year on the 'Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes', we mark 'World Day of the Sick'. This year's theme is "It is not good that man should be alone".

Healing the Sick by Healing Relationships.



...“Brothers and sisters, the first form of care needed in any illness is compassionate and loving closeness. To care for the sick thus means above all to care for their relationships, all of them: with God, with others – family members, friends, healthcare workers – , with creation and with themselves. Can this be done? Yes, it can be done and all of us are called to ensure that it happens. Let us look to the icon of the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37), to his ability to slow down and draw near to another person, to the tender love with which he cares for the wounds of a suffering brother.”

From Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of the Sick Fr Anthony will be offering Sacrament of the Sick at masses this weekend to anyone who is suffering physically, mentally, emotionally or spiritually .

ASH WEDNESDAY 14th February 2024

Walk of Witness for Peace, Repentance and Reconciliation. Assemble from 1.15pm on steps of St Luke's 'bombed out church' at the top of Bold St, Liverpool L1 2TR.

The walk starts at 1.30pm, with Stations of the Cross. Organised by Merseyside Pax Christi. Contact: Jan Harper janharper20211@outlook.com

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning to the season of soul searching and repentance. On this day we are reminded to change our ways and get our priorities straight. Lent is a season of hope and good intention. On this Ash Wednesday we go about our business wearing the sign of penitence and hope. Masses will be at 9am and 7pm

A LOOK AT MARK'S GOSPEL

Irenaeus Centre Thursday 8 – 29 February 10:30am-12:00pm Over several weeks in February the Irenaeus Centre will be taking a look at Mark's Gospel: Zoom links and further information are available by emailing jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or calling 0151 949 1199.

LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2024

19th July – 26th July

Joe Walsh Tours are offering a variety of hotels with flights from Liverpool airport. For more details see the poster at the back of church or contact Joe Walsh Tours
Freephone 0808 1890 468

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 countercultural 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.

First Holy Communion Preparation Classes

The next class will be on Saturday 16th March

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Registration for Confirmation preparation for children in year 8 and above is open now until 18th March at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk

**All over the world the Spirit is moving,
all over the world as the prophets said it would be.**

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	10th	6.00pm	Parishioners
Sunday	11th	11.30am	William George Chesters (100th B'day Rem)
Tuesday	13th	9.00am	Mass: Kenny Wilson L.D. & John F Speers Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Ash			
Wednesday	14th	9.00am	Mass: Margaret Sherry & Jan Clarke
		7.00pm	Mass: Sr Patricia of the Heart of Mary S.I.
Thursday	15th	9.00am	Mass: Sr Edith C.P. S.I.
Saturday	17th	6.00pm	Parishioners
Sunday	18th	11.00am	Edward (Ned) Burke & Bill Morley

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Brian Tinsley, Linda Quale,
Joseph Convey, Brian Kidd, Mavis Mills,
Trudy King, Bernadette Manghan,
Maureen Ives

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Edward (Ned) Burke (101st B'day Rem),
Bill Morley (100th B'day Rem),
John F Speers (B'day Rem),
Jan Clarke (B'day Rem), P.A. Varkey

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 Eileen Guy Cathy Platt Moya Russell Bernie Boyde Angela Adlen David Holgate Margaret Lace Vera O'Connell	Toni Dal Joan Foster Paul & Kate Joan Turner Julie Pearce John Murphy Angela Gregory G., + MP., + TC., Maureen O'Connor	Colette Jones Mary Wilson Robbie Ross Peter Fraser Ann Shreeve Kathleen Halliwell Peter & Jane Kelly Marie O'Shaunessy Francine & Peter Simpson	Margaret & <u>Joseph Maloney</u> Vassilis <u>Alamaniotis</u> Joan, Andreas <u>Samaras</u> Christine & David <u>Fitzsimmons</u>
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Please bring your Red Mission box to church and give it to Anne Harvey or Doreen Burke and the money will be counted and your mission box left to following week at the back of church.