

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.



Lent Week 2

15th February 2024.

The Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Psalm 115; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

Today we read of Abraham's sacrifice of his only son, Isaac. He did so out of love for God and out of a desire to do the will of God even if that appeared to negate the earlier promise of being a father to a great multitude. In the second reading from the letter to the Romans, we are reminded that God gave up his only Son for our sake so that we might have eternal life once again, and that this Son now sits at God's right hand to plead for us. In the gospel, we read St Mark's account of the Transfiguration of the Lord. For a moment Christ was seen in dazzling white robes and it is a foretaste of what we too can be – pure as Christ. Our readings put before us the need for this penitential season as we move towards the great festival of Easter. We will become pure as Christ and enter heaven through our own purification which we must carry out as willingly as Abraham was willing to sacrifice his own son.

SURVIVE MIVA

This weekend we welcome a representative from SURVIVE MIVA who will speak after mass, and we will have a second collection to support their work.

LENTEN COLLECTION

This year our Lenten Alms will be divided between Asylum Link & The children of Gaza and the Holy Land. The collection box is at the back of church.

St Benedict's Church, Warrington.

A message from Chris Sykes - I am organising a pilgrimage to Fatima & Nazare Sunday 1st June - Saturday 7th June. £800.00 (Sharing) Flying from Manchester. For more information contact Chris Sykes 07587046985 Chrissykes2@hotmail.com

On Thursday

We welcome the children from Our Lady and St Swithin's School for a Class Mass
Date: 29th February at 9am

Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows 27th February



Born in Italy into a large family and baptized Francis, Saint Gabriel lost his mother when he was only four years old. He was educated by the Jesuits and, having been cured twice of serious illnesses, came to believe that God was calling him to the religious life. Young Francis wished to join the Jesuits but was turned down, probably because of his age, not yet 17. Following the death of a sister to cholera, his resolve to enter religious life became even stronger and he was accepted by the Passionists. Upon entering the novitiate he was given the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows. Ever popular and cheerful, Gabriel quickly was successful in his effort to be faithful in little things. His spirit of prayer, love for the poor, consideration of the feelings of others, exact observance of the Passionist Rule as well as his bodily penances—always subject to the will of his wise superiors—made a deep impression on everyone. His superiors had great expectations of Gabriel as he prepared for the priesthood, but after only four years of religious life symptoms of tuberculosis appeared. Ever obedient, he patiently bore the painful effects of the disease and the restrictions it required, seeking no special notice. He died peacefully on February 27, 1862, at age 24, having been an example to both young and old. Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows was canonized in 1920.

Reflection

When we think of achieving great holiness by doing little things with love and grace, Therese of Lisieux comes first to mind. Like her, Gabriel died painfully from tuberculosis. Together they urge us to tend to the small details of daily life, to be considerate of others' feelings every day. Our path to sanctity, like theirs, probably lies not in heroic doings but in performing small acts of kindness every day. Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows is a Patron Saint of: Clergy. Students. Young People.

CAFOD Lenten Fast Day, Friday 23rd February 2024

No one should have to risk everything to feed their family.

This Harvest Fast Day focuses on the fishermen of Liberia who risk their lives on stormy seas to feed their families. Your donations can buy signalling mirrors, GPS to track fish and help find safety in a storm, and life jackets. Your donations can help hard working people making a living safely. Donation envelopes can be put into the red bags or left at the back of church.

BBC SONGS OF PRAISE - OUR LADY OF COMPASSION CHURCH, FORMBY

Come and sing with BBC's Songs of Praise as we join together for a congregational music recording at Our Lady of Compassion Church in Formby

on Saturday 16th March, 13:00 - 16:00.

Saturday 16th March - doors at 12:00pm

The recording is expected to finish at approximately 4pm. All welcome

Saint David of Wales 1st March

David is the patron saint of Wales and perhaps the most famous of British saints. Ironically, we have little reliable information about him. It is known that he became a priest, engaged in missionary work, and founded many monasteries, including his principal abbey in southwestern Wales. Many stories and legends sprang up about David and his Welsh monks. Their austerity was extreme. They worked in silence without the help of animals to till the soil. Their food was limited to bread, vegetables and water. In about the year 550, David attended a synod where his eloquence impressed his fellow monks to such a degree that he was elected primate of the region. The episcopal see was moved to Mynyw, where he had his monastery, now called St. David's. He ruled his diocese until he had reached a very old age. His last words to his monks and subjects were: "Be joyful, brothers and sisters. Keep your faith, and do the little things that you have seen and heard with me." Saint David is pictured standing on a mound with a dove on his shoulder. The legend is that once while he was preaching a dove descended to his shoulder and the earth rose to lift him high above the people so that he could be heard. Over 50 churches in South Wales were dedicated to him in pre-Reformation days.



Reflection

Were we restricted to hard manual labor and a diet of bread, vegetables and water, most of us would find little reason to rejoice. Yet joy is what David urged on his brothers as he lay dying. Perhaps he could say that to them—and to us—because he lived in and nurtured a constant awareness of God's nearness. For, as someone once said, "Joy is the infallible sign of God's presence." May his intercession bless us with the same awareness! Saint David of Wales is the Patron Saint of: Wales

Stations of the Cross

If anyone would like to lead the Stations of the Cross on a Wednesday evening before Mass at 6:15pm, could they please sign their name on the sheet on the noticeboard. Thanks

Lent Talks -

BBC Radio 4 Mondays at 11pm
Six people well known in their fields reflect on the story of Jesus' ministry and Passion from the perspective of their own personal and professional experience.

Collection Bags

Have you popped anything into the collection bag by mistake? I have a collection of sixpences, medals and a shilling in the parish office. Please call in if you'd like to claim any of them. Lynne

"What are your hope for the future?" "What are your concerns for the future?"

If anyone has any other replies for the Synodal Council about your thoughts and hopes for the future, please pop them in the box at the back of church or through the presbytery door.

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	24th	6.00pm	Maurice O’Gorman
Sunday	25th	11.30am	Parishioners
Tuesday	27th	9.00am	Eucharistic Service followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
Wednesday	28th	12.30pm	Funeral: Peter Maloney
		6.15pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.00pm	Mass: Kerry Ann Woods
Thursday	29th	9.00am	Mass: Teresa Newhall L.D.
Friday Mar	01st	7.30am	Mass: Parishioners
Saturday	02nd	6.00pm	Barney Whitehead
Sunday	03rd	11.30am	Billy Fox (3rd Anniv) & Vallane Family

Reconciliation – Fr Anthony will hear confessions each Saturday 5.15pm – 5.45pm and Sunday 10.45am - 11.15 am during Lent.

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Peter Kelly, Rose Dillon,
Keith Lees, Ann Booth.

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Billy Fox, Kathy Powell, Barney Whitehead,
David McLoughlin (B’d day Rem)

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

<i>Toni Dal</i>	<i>Kathy Fox</i>	<i>Colette Jones</i>	<i>Margaret &</i>
<i>Diane Bell</i>	<i>Paul & Kate</i>	<i>Moya Russell</i>	<i>Joseph Maloney</i>
<i>Eileen Guy</i>	<i>Joan Turner</i>	<i>Mary Wilson</i>	<i>Vassilis</i>
<i>Peter Kelly</i>	<i>Julie Pearce</i>	<i>Robbie Ross</i>	<i>Alamaniotis</i>
<i>Kathy Platt</i>	<i>John Murphy</i>	<i>Peter Fraser</i>	<i>Joan, Andreas</i>
<i>Joan Foster</i>	<i>Joseph McVey</i>	<i>Ann Shreeve</i>	<i>Samaras</i>
<i>Bernie Boyde</i>	<i>Angela Gregory</i>	<i>Vera O’Connell</i>	<i>Christine & David</i>
<i>Angela Adlen</i>	<i>G., + MP., + TC.,</i>	<i>Kathleen Halliwell</i>	<i>Fitzsimmons</i>
<i>David Holgate</i>	<i>Maureen O’Connor</i>	<i>Marie O’Shaunessy</i>	<i>Francine & Peter</i>
<i>Margaret Lacey</i>			<i>Simpson</i>