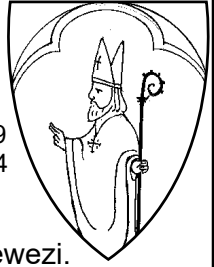
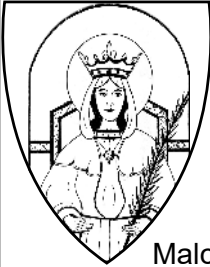


Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.

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.

Lent Week 4

10th March 2024.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday

Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Psalm 136; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

In our first reading from the Book of Chronicles we read how the people had defiled the Temple of the Lord and for this they were punished with deportation. However, the Lord is full of mercy and compassion and so he moved the heart of the king to allow his people to return home and start the Temple afresh in Jerusalem. In the second reading from St Paul we are reminded that we are dead because of our sins but through the grace of God we are raised to life again. In our gospel, we see Jesus speaking with Nicodemus and he tells him that the Son of God must be raised up as a sign for all the people – a sign which, if they believe, will bring them to everlasting life. But part of this believing is that we live as people of the light and allow others to clearly see that we are believers and that we play our part in the spread of the Gospel. Lent is about purifying ourselves of sin but also about strengthening our resolve to be heralds of the Gospel of Christ.

An Invitation to Celebrate the Year of Prayer Together

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee Event, to a great 'Symphony' of prayer. In response to this invitation there will be an opportunity for both individual and community prayer in our Parish, Tuesday's. All are welcome to come along to pray the beads of the Rosary or spend some quiet time with Jesus. "Lord, it is good that we are here" (Mt 17:4)

Welcome Home

One of the themes of Lent is welcoming back Catholics who no longer come to Mass. If there is someone in your family who no longer comes to Mass, you might explore ways to bring them back. Sometimes people who have ceased to attend might keep meaning to come along but just need some gentle encouragement. You could encourage them by offering a lift, inviting them for a coffee afterwards or sharing the newsletter.

Saint Dominic Savio 10th March



So many holy persons seem to die young. Among them was Dominic Savio, the patron of choirboys. Born into a peasant family at Riva, Italy, young Dominic joined Saint John Bosco as a student at the Oratory in Turin at the age of 12. He impressed Don Bosco with his desire to be a priest and to help him in his work with neglected boys. A peacemaker and an organizer, young Dominic founded a group he called the Company of the Immaculate Conception which, besides being devotional, aided John Bosco with the boys and with manual work. All the members save one, Dominic, would, in 1859, join Don Bosco in the beginnings of his Salesian congregation. By that time, Dominic had been called home to heaven. As a youth, Dominic spent hours rapt in prayer. His raptures he called "my distractions." Even in play, he said that at times, "It seems heaven is opening just above me. I am afraid I may say or do something that will make the other boys laugh." Dominic would say, "I can't do big things. But I want all I do, even the smallest thing, to be for the greater glory of God." Dominic's health, always frail, led to lung problems and he was sent home to recuperate. As was the custom of the day, he was bled in the thought that this would help, but it only worsened his condition. He died on March 9, 1857, after receiving the Last Sacraments. Saint John Bosco himself wrote the account of his life. Some thought that Dominic was too young to be considered a saint. Saint Pius X declared that just the opposite was true, and went ahead with his cause. Dominic was canonized in 1954. His liturgical feast is celebrated on March 9.

Saint Dominic Savio is the Patron Saint of: Choirboys. Juvenile delinquents.

A message from Fr Tony Slingo.

Come and join us on this exciting opportunity for exploring inner life together at St Teresa's Church. "Spiritual life by journey with the Enneagram" The 3 evening sessions in Lent of our course "Who Do You Think You Are?" continue on the 14th and 21st March. They are practical ways of practising what St Eugene de Mazenod, the founder of the Oblates, called "Learning to see yourself as God sees you". Hugh Stradling will guide us with the wisdom of the Enneagram teaching to know our own soul more, what we need to flourish in the faith, and how to receive the Easter gifts of God. No charge, donations welcome, sign up now at st.teresasng@rcaol.org.uk or 0151 226 1354 The 3 Eastertide sessions follow on: April 11th, 18th, 25th

First Holy Communion preparation

The next sessions in our Community Room will be on Saturday, 16th March, 10am – 11am and 11.30am – 12.30pm.

On Thursday 14th March

We welcome the children from **Our Lady and St Swithin's School** for a Class Mass.

Collection for Survive Miva totalled £245

Saint Maximilian 14th March

We have an early, almost unembellished account of the martyrdom of Saint Maximilian in modern-day Algeria. Brought before the proconsul Dion, Maximilian refused enlistment in the Roman army saying, "I cannot serve, I cannot do evil. I am a Christian." Dion replied: "You must serve or die." Maximilian: "I will never serve. You can cut off my head, but I will not be a soldier of this world, for I am a soldier of Christ. My army is the army of God, and I cannot fight for this world. I tell you I am a Christian."



Dion: "There are Christian soldiers serving our rulers Diocletian and Maximian, Constantius and Galerius."

Maximilian: "That is their business. I also am a Christian, and I cannot serve."

Dion: "But what harm do soldiers do?"

Maximilian: "You know well enough."

Dion: "If you will not do your service I shall condemn you to death for contempt of the army."

Maximilian: "I shall not die. If I go from this earth, my soul will live with Christ my Lord."

Maximilian was 21 years old when he gladly offered his life to God. His father went home from the execution site joyful, thanking God that he had been able to offer heaven such a gift. St. Maximilian's liturgical feast is celebrated on March 12.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March 2024

Pope Francis tells us that we are "to be truly committed to discipleship and prepared to take risks for the cause of the Gospel." This month we are invited to join Pope Francis' prayer intention, "...for those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, to inspire the Church with their courage and missionary zeal."

Lourdes Pilgrimage

If any young person wishes to go to Lourdes as part of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage later this year, please make yourself known to Fr Anthony. As a parish we always try to help with the funding of this trip for any interested young person.

'Walking the way of the Passion'

A Triduum retreat which is being held at the Irenaeus Project, 32 Great Georges Road, beginning on Wednesday evening 27th March until Sunday 31st March.

Residential and non-residential places available. Everybody more than welcome.

Gift Aid: New envelopes will be ready soon.

Is there anyone else who gives at church and pays tax who would be willing to use gift aid, preferably by standing order or in envelopes? There is no cost to yourself by paying by gift aid. The parish can claim a valuable repayment from HMRC.

There will be forms available at the back of Church next weekend.

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 John & Claire Darwent & Christine Finnigan

Sunday 10th 11.30am Parishioners

Tuesday 12th 9.00am Mass: James Morley (B'day Rem) & Peter Kelly
followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 13th 6.15pm Stations of the Cross

7.00pm Mass Sarah Moore & Elizabeth Moore

Thursday 14th 9.00am Mass: Christina Rose Sherry

Friday 15th 7.30am Mass: James Howell (Anniv)

then 30 mins, of Adoration

Saturday 16th 6.00pm Parishioners

Sunday 17th 11.30am Jean Holmes & Tom Owen (L.D.)

Reconciliation – Fr Anthony will hear confessions on
Saturdays 5.15pm – 5.45pm and Sunday 10.45am - 11.15am

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Vinny Torley, Joan Foster , Hilda Hounhan, Tony Boyd,
Melvyn Murphy, Marie Melia, Jeff Waugh, Brian Harvey

Anniv and Birthdays

Joseph Farrell

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

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