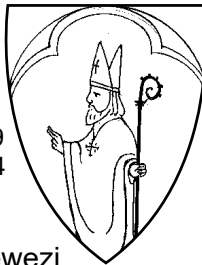


# Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.

Stonebridge Lane Croxteth Liverpool 11

Tel: 546 3574 - Email: [olqom@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:olqom@rcaol.org.uk)

Website: [queenofmartyrs.org.uk](http://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 5**

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

## **The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 50; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-30*

In our first reading from the Prophet Jeremiah we see God telling his people that he will make a new and everlasting covenant with them which will be unlike any of the previous covenants. With this covenant he will wipe away their sins and not call them to mind. St Paul tells us in the second reading that Christ obeyed the Father and suffered for us and in that suffering he became the source of eternal salvation for all people. We as Christians know that Christ is the everlasting covenant spoken of in the first reading and so we must believe in him with our whole hearts. If we believe in him then we will give up our selfish ways and live only for him so that we may yield the rich harvest which Jesus speaks of in the gospel. He died so that we might all be drawn to him and we will only be drawn to him if we spend time in prayer and living the life to which we are called. When we suffer, we do not do so alone because Christ is with us and so our suffering is not for nothing.

## **Gift Aid**

New envelopes are ready. 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 this weekend and Margaret will explain what you need to do.

## **World Water Day - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

Water for Prosperity and Peace, Campaign for Clean Water  
Sustainable water management generates a plethora of benefits to individuals and communities, including health, food and energy security, protection from natural disasters, education, improved living standards and employment, economic development and a variety of ecosystem services.

Become an e-campaigner and support WaterAid. To find out how visit

[www.wateraid.org/uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us](http://www.wateraid.org/uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us)

## **Saint Patrick 17<sup>th</sup> March**



At 16, he and a large number of his father's slaves and vassals were captured by Irish raiders and sold as slaves in Ireland. Forced to work as a shepherd, he suffered greatly from hunger and cold. After six years Patrick escaped, probably to France, and later returned to Britain at the age of 22. His captivity had meant spiritual conversion. He may have studied at Lerins, off the French coast; he spent years at Auxerre, France, and was consecrated

bishop at the age of 43. His great desire was to proclaim the good news to the Irish. In a dream vision it seemed "all the children of Ireland from their mothers' wombs were stretching out their hands" to him. He understood the vision to be a call to do mission work in pagan Ireland. Despite opposition from those who felt his education had been defective, he was sent to carry out the task. He went to the west and north—where the faith had never been preached—obtained the protection of local kings, and made numerous converts. Because of the island's pagan background, Patrick was emphatic in encouraging widows to remain chaste and young women to consecrate their virginity to Christ. He ordained many priests, divided the country into dioceses, held Church councils, founded several monasteries and continually urged his people to greater holiness in Christ. He suffered much opposition from pagan druids and was criticized in both England and Ireland for the way he conducted his mission. In a relatively short time, the island had experienced deeply the Christian spirit, and was prepared to send out missionaries whose efforts were greatly responsible for Christianizing Europe.

### **Reflection**

What distinguishes Patrick is the durability of his efforts. When one considers the state of Ireland when he began his mission work, the vast extent of his labors, and how the seeds he planted continued to grow and flourish, one can only admire the kind of man Patrick must have been. The holiness of a person is known only by the fruits of his or her work. Saint Patrick is the Patron Saint of: *Engineers Ireland Nigeria*

### **Books for primary age children**

We aim to collect 700 books so one can be given to each child in our primary schools. Please ask family friends and work colleagues for any donations of good quality books and place them in the boxes at the back of church.

Thank you.

### **On Good Friday we will be having**

A simple lunch of soup and roll in the Community Room at 1pm after the Walk of Witness. Money raised will be for CAFOD'S Lent appeal. If you are able to make soup, please sign up on the sheet which is on the CAFOD table.

Joan, CAFOD Volunteer

### **Good Friday Little Church 3pm**

**If your child would like to attend,**

**please add their name on the sheet at the back of church**

## Saint Joseph Husband of Mary 19<sup>th</sup> March

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a “just” man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God “justifying” someone, it means that God, the all-holy or “righteous” one, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God’s own holiness, and hence it is really “right” for God to love him or her. In other words, God is not playing games, acting as if we were lovable when we are not.



By saying Joseph was “just,” the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage.

It is no contradiction of Joseph’s manly holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this “quietly” because he was “a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame”. The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage.

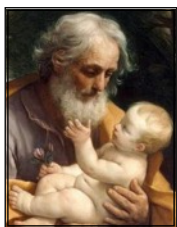
### *Reflection*

The Bible tells us nothing of Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except the incident of finding Jesus in the Temple. Perhaps this can be taken to mean that God wants us to realize that the holiest family was like every other family, that the circumstances of life for the holiest family were like those of every family, so that when Jesus’ mysterious nature began to appear, people couldn’t believe that he came from such humble beginnings: “Is he not the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother named Mary...?”. It was almost as indignant as “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”.

Saint Joseph is the Patron Saint of: *Belgium Canada Carpenters China Families Fathers*



## 19<sup>th</sup> March St Joseph Husband of Mary, Mass 7.00pm



Joseph was wholeheartedly obedient to God .... In marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage. The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment in calling him a “just” man. This just man lived his life by faith, seeking to do good in every concrete circumstance of life .... a model for fathers everywhere.

**This poem illustrates Lent as a time of introspective silence and spiritual awakening.**



In the stillness, hearts seek light,  
paths of solitude, through Lent's night,  
whispering prayers, out of sight,  
in quiet, souls take flight.



Candles flicker in the dark,  
guiding the inner, spiritual arc,  
each flame, a hopeful spark,  
in Lent, begins the hallowed mark.



In silent moments, truths we find,  
in every prayer, peace entwined,  
in Lent's embrace, spirits refined,  
in quietude, with God aligned.



# Lent



**'Walking the way of the passion' a Holy Week retreat  
27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> March**

This retreat begins with a Passover meal on Wednesday evening 27<sup>th</sup> March  
and concludes with the Easter Vigil on The Saturday Evening 30<sup>th</sup> March.

Residential places are available.

To book: contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)

***THE SPIRIT LIVES IN YOU AND ME - WALK WALK IN THE LIGHT***

## **Reconciliation**

Fr Anthony will hear confessions on Saturday 5.15pm – 5.45pm  
and Sunday 10.45am - 11.15am. Good Friday – 2.00pm – 2.45pm

### **Thank you for giving to CAFODS Family Fast Appeal this Lent.**

Your generous donations, given in love,  
amounted to £300 and this will support  
families around the world and help them with  
the resources to feed their families for good.

### **Money Collection Report**

Last week's collection came to  
£242.94.  
Add to this £142.03 from gift aid and  
standing orders, makes a total of  
£ 384.97. Thank you

## **Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Preparation**

Please keep our year 4 children in your prayers as they received the  
Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday.

# **Jesus**

**"Jesus."**

Say my name often.

It was in My Name Peter  
bade the lame man walk.

**"In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth arise and walk."**

**"Jesus."**

The very sounding of My Name,  
in Love and tenderness, drives away all evil.  
It is the word before which all the hosts of evil flee.

**"Jesus."**

My Name is the call for a life line  
to rescue you from temptation.

**"Jesus."**

The Name banishes loneliness - dispels gloom.

**"Jesus."**

Summons help to conquer your faults.

I will set you on high

because you have known My Name.

Yes! My Name - **"Jesus."** Use it more. Use it tenderly.

Use it prayerfully. Use it powerfully. Use it...



## **Hygiene collection Maundy Thursday**

**Mass 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm**

On Maundy Thursday last year, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, we had a very successful collection of over 300 hygiene products which were donated to the hygiene bank at the local food bank. As we know many people locked in poverty, or those who find themselves in times of crisis, can experience restricted options. This leaves them caught between being able to heat their home, pay their rent, buy food or keep clean. Hygiene poverty can be shaming, humiliating and excluding, and can result in social isolation. We would like to repeat this collection on Maundy Thursday and over the Easter weekend. Please donate new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials - including deodorant, shower gel, soap, shampoo, nappies, toilet rolls, laundry detergent and other cleaning products. If you need these products and use them then it is likely that someone else needs and uses them too. Please remember that one item will make a difference. Thank you

## **Good Friday Walk of Witness**

**From Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church to**

**St Mary's, West Derby for a service.**

**At 12.00 noon. Meet in the car park at 10.30/45am**

**Good Friday Stations of the Cross is at 12 noon  
for those who cannot do the Walk of Witness.**

## **The Chrism Mass**

Which this year will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 p.m. in the Metropolitan Cathedral, is usually the largest annual gathering of archdiocesan clergy and faithful throughout the year. At the mass, Archbishop Malcolm blesses the holy oils that are used throughout the archdiocese for celebrations of the sacraments in the next year. He does this in the presence of priests, deacons and lay faithful.

## **Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal**

We have all been shocked and saddened by the devastating conflict in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. After weeks of intense conflict, over 18,000 Palestinians and 1,400 Israelis have been killed, thousands more injured, and over 1.9 million people in Gaza are displaced. Food, water and fuel are in increasingly short supply. Families need urgent help. You can donate online at [www.cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/israeli-palestinian-crisis-appeal](http://www.cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/israeli-palestinian-crisis-appeal)

***COME TO ME ALL YOU WHO LABOUR AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST***

## The Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

At the age of Thirty, Jesus travelled the land.  
Preached kindness and love, now firmly, takes his stand.  
He was Baptised, in the Jordan, by John.  
A voice came from heaven, saying....

**"THIS IS MY SON. IN WHOM I AM PLEASSED - LISTEN TO HIM"....**

Jesus preached for three years.



LOVE... one another, as I have loved you.  
SERVE... one another, and not just a few.  
OPEN YOUR HEART'S... to men of all kind.  
LISTEN TO ALL... have an open mind.

## Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage 2024

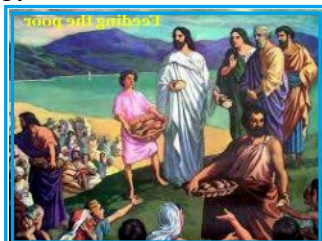
Places are still available on youth coaches! If any young person wishes to go to Lourdes as part of the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage later this year, please make yourself known to Fr Anthony. As a parish we always try to help with the funding of this trip for any interested young person.

## The Proclamation of the Kingdom

Jesus cast out demons, and raised the dead.  
Gave sight to the blind, and the hungry He fed,  
He cured the leper's, He healed the sick.  
Was "HE", GOD'S SON?...or, was this all a trick.  
Jesus spoke with "Authority",  
**God's Kingdom has Come.**  
There was some discernment....  
His work now, almost done.



Lord Jesus we ask you, listen to our prayer,  
Keep us safe and sound, and always be there.  
Be with us always, through the night and day,  
Thank you sweet Jesus as we always will pray.





## 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](http://www.churchservices.tv/croxteth)

## Liturgy for the Week

### Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin

<b>Saturday</b>	16 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b>	17 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Jean Holmes & Tom Owen (L.D.)
<b>Tuesday</b>	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Mass: Peter Maloney
<b>Wednesday</b>	20 <sup>th</sup>	6.15pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.00pm	Mass: Frank Bird S. I.
<b>Thursday</b>	21 <sup>st</sup>	12.30pm	Requiem: Evelyn Steel

#### Mass Times for Holy Week

<b>Saturday</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	6.00pm	Kathy Powell (32nd Anniv)
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	A Very Special Intention
<b>Tuesday</b>	26 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 noon	Requiem: Joan Foster
<b>Wednesday</b>	27 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm	Requiem: Vincent Torley
<b>Thursday</b>	28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Mass of the Lords Supper
<b>Good Friday</b>	29 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Passion of the Lord
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	30 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Henry Bird & Ann Jones
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	31 <sup>st</sup>	11.30am	Parishioners

## Baptisms



**Poppy May Campbell,  
George Alexander  
Jessica-Rei Duffy  
Campbell Duffy**



## Your prayers are asked for those who have

### Died recently

Vinny Torley, Joan Foster, Evelyn Steel,  
Catherine Kinsella

### Anniversaries and Birthdays

Joseph Farrell,  
Kathy Powell (32<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)

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

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