

# 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.

**Easter Week 1**

**31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.**

## **Easter Sunday**

*Acts 10:34, 37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9*

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter is proclaiming the Risen Lord and saying that not only has Christ risen but he has also appeared to his followers, and that he himself has witnessed this. The Psalm is a hymn of praise for this great day – the day of the Resurrection of the Lord. St Paul in his letter speaks of us becoming new people, living as Christ commanded, and looking to heaven and to God for that is where our future lies. The gospel tells of the finding of the empty tomb and the realisation that scripture had pointed to this moment – the Resurrection of Christ. If we too follow the path Christ has marked out for us then we too will inherit eternal life.



## **Pope Francis Prayer Intention for April 2024**

### **For the Role of Women**

Regardless of where you live in the world, gender equality is a fundamental human right.

Advancing gender equality is critical to all areas of a healthy society, from reducing poverty to promoting the health, education, protection and the well-being of both girls and boys.

There has been progress over the last decades, but there is still lots to do in order to achieve the UN gender equality goal by 2030.

Pope Francis invites us to join his prayer intention  
“...that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.”

## Saint Francis of Paola 2<sup>nd</sup> April



Francis of Paola was a man who deeply loved contemplative solitude and wished only to be the “least in the household of God.” Yet, when the Church called him to active service in the world, he became a miracle-worker and influenced the course of nations. After accompanying his parents on a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi, he began to live as a contemplative hermit in

a remote cave near Paola, on Italy’s southern seacoast. Before he was 20, he received the first followers who had come to imitate his way of life. Seventeen years later, when his disciples had grown in number, Francis established a Rule for his austere community and sought Church approval. This was the founding of the Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi, who were approved by the Holy See in 1474. In 1492, Francis changed the name of his community to “Minims” because he wanted them to be known as the least (minimi) in the household of God. Humility was to be the hallmark of the brothers as it had been in Francis’s personal life. Besides the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, Francis enjoined upon his followers the fourth obligation of a perpetual Lenten fast. He felt that heroic mortification was necessary as a means for spiritual growth.

It was Francis’s desire to be a contemplative hermit, yet he believed that God was calling him to the apostolic life. He began to use the gifts he had received, such as the gifts of miracles and prophecy, to minister to the people of God. A defender of the poor and oppressed, Francis incurred the wrath of King Ferdinand of Naples for the admonitions he directed toward the king and his sons. Following the request of Pope Sixtus IV, Francis traveled to Paris to help Louis XI of France prepare for his death. While ministering to the king, Francis was able to influence the course of national politics. He helped to restore peace between France and Brittany by advising a marriage between the ruling families, and between France and Spain by persuading Louis XI to return some disputed land. Francis died while at the French court.

### THE GIFT OF EASTER

Celebrating faith in the  
Resurrection of Jesus and  
our in our own lives.

Inspiration from the Scriptures  
and Fr Chris Thomas from the  
Irenaeus Spirituality Centre.  
Wednesday evenings, 7.00 -  
8.30pm. Social Centre,  
St Teresa’s, Utting Avenue East

### Gift Aid

Thank you to everyone who has completed  
a Gift Aid declaration form. Your boxes of  
envelopes are at the back of church.

### Money Collection Report

Last week’s loose collection came to  
£279.16, add to this £123.10 from gift aid  
and standing orders, makes a total of £  
402.26 Thank you.

**A  
Very  
Special  
Thank  
You  
For  
Your  
Offers**

**ALL OVER THE WORLD THE SPIRIT IS MOVING**

## **Saint Isidore of Seville 4<sup>th</sup> April**

The 76 years of Isidore's life were a time of conflict and growth for the Church in Spain. The Visigoths had invaded the land a century and a half earlier, and shortly before Isidore's birth they set up their own capital. They were Arians—Christians who said Christ was not God. Thus, Spain was split in two: One people (Catholic Romans) struggled with another (Arian Goths). Isidore reunited Spain, making it a center of culture and learning. The country served as a teacher and guide for other European countries whose culture was also threatened by barbarian invaders.



Born in Cartagena of a family that included three other sibling saints—Leander, Fulgentius and Florentina—he was educated by his elder brother, whom he succeeded as bishop of Seville. An amazingly learned man, he was sometimes called “The Schoolmaster of the Middle Ages” because the encyclopedia he wrote was used as a textbook for nine centuries. He required seminaries to be built in every diocese, wrote a Rule for religious orders, and founded schools that taught every branch of learning. Isidore wrote numerous books, including a dictionary, an encyclopedia, a history of Goths, and a history of the world—beginning with creation! He completed the Mozarabic liturgy, which is still in use in Toledo, Spain. For all these reasons, Isidore has been suggested as patron of the Internet. Several others—including Anthony of Padua—also have been suggested.

He continued his austerities even as he approached age 80. During the last six months of his life, he increased his charities so much that his house was crowded from morning till night with the poor of the countryside.

### **Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024. £899.00 pps.**

Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimimages@gmail.com).

### **Easter Bunny Walk - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 11am**

The Easter Bunny Walk to raise money for the Liverpool Lourdes Pilgrimage will be taking place on 1 April this year.

The walk will go from St Gregory the Great, Lydiat, to Our Lady, and back, and guests of all ages and well-behaved dogs are welcome.

Each person will get a water bottle, bunny ears, and an Easter egg.

The walk costs £8 per person, or £20 for a family of 4. A poster is attached so you can publicise this in your parish.

**ALL OVER THE WORLD AS THE PROFITS SAID IT WOULD BE**

**E  
A  
S  
T  
E  
R  
  
W  
E  
E  
K**

## **The Resurrection**

They go to the tomb to anoint Mary's Son.  
Jesus is not there, He is risen, He has gone.  
To Mary Magdalene He came, in a gardeners disguise.  
She said 'where have you laid him', with tears in Her eyes.  
His word to her, with Love was 'Mary'.  
In recognition, she answered... 'My Rabbuni'.  
I go before them, tell My Disciples from Me.  
I will see them, when they follow on the road to Galilee.



**Lord Jesus stay close, we will follow your way's.  
Now and forever, till the end of our days.  
You taught us to love, showed us how to care,  
Following Your footsteps, we now offer this prayer.**

**E  
A  
S  
T  
E  
R  
  
W  
E  
E  
K**

## **The Ascension**

Jesus has died and is risen again. Miracles He performed in view of all men.  
He tells us to go, preach His Word and His Law.  
Wherever we knock there's an open door. He ascended to Heaven,  
when his work here was done, United are the Father, the Spirit and the Son



**Jesus our Saviour, You went from our sight.  
You Ascended to Heaven, on a cloud of white.  
In our hearts You will stay, in our minds always be.  
We pray now to You on our bended knee.  
For Love, Understanding Wisdom, and Care.  
Abundantly with others, that we may share.**

# The Coming of the Holy Spirit to Our Lady and the Apostles

The apostles and Our Lady were locked in a room.  
They were full of fear, and an awful gloom.  
Jesus appeared on a breath of fresh air  
He said, 'Don't be afraid, there is nothing to fear'.  
Tongues of great fire was the Holy Spirit's form.  
They were given new life they were all reborn.



**Oh come Holy Spirit, fill our hearts to the brim.  
Now and for always is our plea, not a whim.  
Fill our heart's with your Love,  
and our tongues with your Word  
When the Gospel's are preached,  
let Your Word be heard.  
All over the world, may Thy Kingdom come.  
Father, Son, and Spirit, our Blessed Three in One.**

**E  
A  
S  
T  
E  
R  
  
W  
E  
E  
K**

## The Assumption

She was foretold her death, by an Angel with a palm.  
She was ready; she was willing, and ever so calm.  
Miraculously from afar the apostles have come.  
To the entombment of Mary, they are friends of her Son.  
Jesus received her in Heaven above.  
Her Body, Soul, and Spirit, with all His Blessed Love.



**Holy Mother Mary when our earthly life is done,  
Prepare us a place, In Heaven with your Son.  
Help us practice, your ways, of care, kindness, and love.  
Pray for us dear Mother from Paradise up**

**E  
A  
S  
T  
E  
R  
  
W  
E  
E  
K**

## **The Crowning of Our Lady**

Mary dear mother, you bore us God's Son.  
Saw Him through the painful years, till His earthly life was done.  
Waited in a room, with the apostles who feared.  
With the Holy Spirit, you were all revered.  
Now you're in Heaven crowned Queen of the Way.  
With your Son united Amour Amourous Qua.



**Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of Heaven above.  
Father, Son, and Spirit, fill us with your Love.  
With thanks praise and honour it's You that we adore.  
Thine be the Glory, Now and Evermore.**

## **The Transfiguration**

On Mount Tabor, the Apostles all see the glory of God,  
this was meant to be. Shining forth from the face of Jesus.  
Was the voice from HIS Father it came from a cloud, saying:  
"THIS IS MY CHOSEN SON, LISTEN TO HIM"



**Dear Father in Heaven, we will listen to the Lord.  
We will carry out his wishes, and never be board.  
We will keep Him with us, all of our days.  
With love adoration and certainly best praise.**

## **Hygiene collection**

### **Maundy Thursday Mass - continuing until Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

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. 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 to all who have donated so far,  
we will carry on collecting until next Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

## **Season of Easter**

### **Easter isn't just one day; it's a 'season'.**

The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one "great Sunday".

The gospel readings for the first three Sundays recount the appearances of the risen Christ. The readings about the Good Shepherd are assigned to the Fourth Sunday.

On the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays, there are excerpts from the Lord's discourse and prayer at the last supper.

## **An Introduction to Vatican II**

### **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.**

Light of Truth, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Liverpool, will be hosting a study day introducing the basics of Vatican II.

This is the perfect opportunity to learn the basic concepts covered in Vatican II for anyone new to the document. This will take place in the Gibberd Room of the Metropolitan Cathedral. To sign up for this free event, visit this page:

<https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/jaujdgxs>

## **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)



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

## Liturgy for the Week

### Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin

**Holy Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm** Henry Bird & Ann Jones

**Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 11.30am** Parishioners

**Saturday 06<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm** Parishioners

**Sunday 07<sup>th</sup> 11.30am** Maureen Readhead & Peter Kelly

## Urbi et Orbi

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 BBC 1 11.00am

Live from St Peter's Square in Rome, on the eleventh Easter of his pontificate, Pope Francis gives his Easter message and blessing, Urbi et Orbi, to the city and to the world. Petroc Trelawny sets the scene.

## Your prayers are asked for those who have

### Died recently

Virginia, Kenny Halton, Sue Lawson,  
Mary Kennedy-Abbott,  
Lisa Walsh, Charles Garnham.

### Anniversaries and Birthdays

William Morley (14<sup>th</sup> Anniv),  
John Russell (24th anniversary).

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

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>
--	--	--	---

## Thank you to those who have donated, our pile of books is growing!

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, both new or second hand, and place them at the back of church.

**Thank you.**