**Prayer to God the Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit

we may be always truly wise

and rejoice in His consolations,

Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

*Each of our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence’s Primary schools are now full speed to their Nativity break. I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers and Governors, children and families for all their efforts to build on the work & support that our partnerships continue to see as our children flourish.*

***Children and their families preparing for their next sacraments are especially invited to any Mass: Friday evening, OR Saturday AM/PM , OR Sunday AM weekend Masses. as part of the family-catechesis ‘Living-out’ of the sacraments.***

*Our* ***HOME-CHURCH-SCHOOL*** *links, each support and build up the parish family, as we recognise and celebrate being part of something bigger; the visible Body of Christ; the gathered community; this is what CHURCH is really all about- we are the People of God- mainly lay people, with religious, the deacons, priests, bishops, altogether across our archdiocese of Liverpool- making up part of the world-wide family of the Church, gathered by God the Father, under His Son, the Word of God and with the Holy Spirit joined with the Pope, in prayer.*

 The Parish Newsletters can be found on the school websites each week:

St Joseph the Worker Primary School, or St Laurence’s Primary School,

under ‘Our Catholic Life’ or ‘Our Faith’ sections

**Application forms to attend Catholic Schools~:**

It is that time of year again when Primary Schools and High Schools application forms start to become available. Each school has its own admissions forms that must be completed and returned to each school. Parents ALSO need to complete Knowsley Council’s on-line application form for schools. The school admissions criteria, the geographical parish boundary families live within and whether a child is a baptised Catholic at the time of the Council deadline dates, are all important facts that families need to be aware of and ensure they comply with, to be considered by each schools’ Governing Body, for a place for their child at any Catholic School.

**10th/11th December 2022 3rd Week of Advent Year A**

Sat 10th **6.00 pm Parishioners** Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

Sun 11th **11.00 am** John & Celia Smullen

Mon **12th** 7.00 pm George Surridge

**Memorial of St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

Tue 13th 10.00 am Deceased Sisters DHM

**Memorial of St. John of the Cross, Priest, and Doctor**

Wed 14th \*\*\*\****2.00 pm* MASS @ The Convent**

Thur15th  7.00 pm Tom Fleming

Fri 16th 10.00 am Teresa Lieb

 Fri 16th \*\*\*\* 7.00 pm James Harrison

Sat 17th **\*\*\*\* 10.00 am** Mary Birchall

Sat 17th **6.00 pm** Robert Boyd Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

**4th Sunday of Advent Year A**

Sun 18th **11.00 am****Parishioners**

*Mass Intentions received: Sp Int EK, Philip Fisher, Helena, Bernard,& Rachel Holmes, Brenda Byrne, Mike’s Intentions, Louie & Phillip Bennett, Fr James Murray, Fr William A. Mills, Fr Kenneth Earlam, Fr Luke Dumbill, Fr Phillip Barrett, Archbishop Malcolm’s McMahon’s 22nd Anniversary of Episcopal ordination, Parishioners’ Intentions, and remembrances for all those who have died, anniversaries, birthdays, sick, lonely, unemployed, depressed.*

**CAROL SERVICE Friday 16th December @ The Convent**

**7.30 pm. All Welcome.**

**Red Box- Mission appeal.**

**Can parishioners please bring their ‘Red Boxes’ to Church. They will be counted and returned to the back of Church in future weeks.**

**Volunteer Church cleaners duty, Thursday 15th December 7.30-8.30pm**

**Friday 23rd December 10 am & 7pm Mass**

**Saturday 24th December 10am Mass**

**Nativity Feast**

**Saturday 24th December 7.30pm CAROLS Vigil & 8pm Mass**

**Sunday 25th December 11am Mass**

**ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE’S PARISH**

**Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ**

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated. A Registered Charity No 232709

Church is open for prayer every day 8.30 am til 4pm, except Sunday 8.30 am til 1pm

**Parish Priest: Canon Sean Kirwin Parish Secretary: Maria Byrne.**

**Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00am – 4.00pm Tel: 546 3674**

 **St Joseph & St Laurence’s Parish Centre- Manager: Elaine Churchill Tel: 07377341977**

St Joseph the Worker RC Primary: Head: Mrs Jude Ryan. Tel: 477 8173

St Laurence’s RC Primary: Head: Miss Sarah Jane Carroll Tel: 546 4733

All Saints Catholic High: Head: Mr Tony McGuinness. Tel: 477 8740

**(Week 142 of Covid-19 UK guidance)**

**Our Parish e-mail:** **sjsl@rcaol.org.uk** **for any queries/ concerns/volunteers**

**.**[**https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-joseph-st-laurence-kirkby**](https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-joseph-st-laurence-kirkby)

**A WARM WELCOME to everyone at Mass this week, as we mark the third week of the season of ADVENT, at the start of the Church’s new liturgical year. JOY is a reaction and feeling to something that surprises us and is different to ‘being happy’. Even in the most difficult or sad times we may still find something suddenly fill us with JOY, even if briefly. These next weeks are a time for preparation and reflection upon who/what is truly important in our lives here on earth, as we both wait for the future return of Jesus from Heaven, the resurrection of the dead & to bring His kingdom of peace and justice here on earth, and then, soon, we celebrate His first coming in the past, with the fast-approaching Nativity Feasts. FR SEAN**

**St Joseph & St Laurence’s Parish Centre** –

Elaine and staff would like to welcome back all customers, old and new.

All welcome! & Lounge open every week. Thur/Sat 8.00 pm & Sun12.30pm **07377341977** to book future functions

for all days of the week & any enquiries

**NEXT Sunday 18th December** ‘Festive Bring & Buy sale’ 10am – 3pm

& **From 1pm Santa Claus** will be here for the children

**BOXING DAY** Monday 26th December Evening Entertainment

Tickets- £6 per person Bar 7-11.30pm

CLOSED on Saturday 24th December & Saturday 31st Dec, NEW YEAR’s EVE

**2023 Saturday Function nights booking dates now available**

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH CLUB**

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Across England the average Covid infection rate is 1in 60 now carrying the virus to others. **On-going booster injections seem to protect most people from severe illness, including from the now multiple Omicron variants.** Numbers are still affecting hospitals, although the vaccination is working to reduce the severity of the cases for most people. For some time, the demands for A&E and beds will delay ambulances, clinics & operations and worsen the speed & level of treatment available. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier, as is mixing with the elderly whilst infected. In these still unusual times, the Church building is still open: Masses, lighting of candles, silent prayer in benches before the Blessed Sacrament.

 ***Some may still wish to continue to wear face masks in Church.***

*The Bishops’ Independent Review of Safeguarding in England & Wales & the ICSA reports: The published national inquiry ICSA report into the crimes and sins of abuse across many organisations, including the Catholic Church, has highlighted historic cases over the last fifty years and recent examples. It and a separate report have recommended further reforms to the Church’s safeguarding processes and to address the victims & survivors needs. All our bishops have accepted the recommendations and committed to constantly further improve safeguarding & support throughout Church & society and this continues to be something that has to be continuously prioritised*

**With Covid guidance still in place for visiting the elderly and vulnerable and with the need for Eucharistic Ministers to have their DBS checks renewed, we currently cannot normally provide communion visits at home. If a parishioner is ill in hospital, please ask family to inform nursing staff that they are Catholic and wish to be seen by a Catholic Chaplain on their ward.**

**If parishioners are sick at home and their condition is likely to get worse, please telephone the presbytery and Fr Sean will arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion.**

**Fr Sean is the Catholic Chaplain to Alder Hey Children’s Hospital.**

**More information about the Catholic faith is available on-line.**

Archdiocese website [liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/)

Pope Francis Website Vatican-Holy See

 cafod.org.uk (including Children’s Liturgy materials)

 **or** Catholic Pictorial[***www.cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical***](http://www.cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical)

**Please join in prayer with the Holy Spirit, for the success of the Archdiocesan Plan**