**FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT Yr B MARCH 2024.**

Sun 17th 11.00 am **Parishioners**

Sun  **17th 6.00 pm** Marilyn Nolan

Mon 18th **NO 10.00 am Mass this week**

Tue19th **NO 10.00 am Mass this week**

Wed 20th **2.30 pm HOLY HOUR @ the Convent**

Thur 21st **6.45 pm****STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

7.00 pm Peter Fallon

Fri 22nd **NO 10.00 am Mass this week**

**7.00 pm** Baby Rhea Cashen

Sat 23rd \*\*\*\*\*\* 9.30 am Mass at St Michael & All Angels, Westvale\*\*\*\*\*\*

**PALM SUNDAY Yr B**

Sun 24th 11.00 am Ray Thanksgiving

Sun 24th **6.00 pm****Parishioners**

***Masses received this week*** *Monica Cruces, Ann Beckett, May Wilson, Winifred Tole and Thomas Tole, Fr Richard Colbert, Fr Joseph Mercer, Canon Michael Cullhane, Canon William O’ Sullivan ,Parishioners’ Intentions, remembrances for those all who have died, anniversaries, birthdays, sick, lonely, unemployed, or depressed.*

**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 (Children’s Liturgy materials) &Catholic Pictorial

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

**\*\*\*Thursday 14th March 2024, 7pm Mass and ‘Come and See’ meeting 7.30-9pm**

There is now a new preparation group, for adults who wish to celebrate Catholic Sacraments. Let others know! Warm Welcome! Tea and Coffee!

**There is extra car parking space at the back of the Presbytery, off Bewley Drive.**

**and then, walk through the back garden & ‘Collins Room’ to the back of Church.**

NEXT CHURCH CLEANING:THURSDAY 21st March after7pm Mass.

New Adult volunteers sought to give one hour every two weeks

**Our Muslim brothers & sisters have begun their 30-day Ramadan fast.**

***Year 8 parishioners who would wish to be prepared to celebrate and live the Sacrament of Confirmation, please apply on-line*** [***www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk***](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk) ***More information to follow.***

*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 communities of sisters and brothers, 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 in prayer, with the Pope.*

*All our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High,*

*St Joseph the Worker Primary, and St Laurence’s Primary*

*are officially ‘GOOD’ schools after OFSTED inspection.*

*I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers*

*and the 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 are***

***WELCOME to Mass EVERY week,***

***as part of their family-catechesis, ‘Living-out’ of the faith.***

***Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession now celebrated in the half hour before Sunday Morning and Sunday Evening Masses each week.***

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

– All the staff will give a warm welcome to all customers, old and new.

**Phone 07377341977** to book future functions for **any day of the week,**

for daytime, or evening bookings. FREE Wi-Fi etc

**! 2024 Private Functions can also now be booked for SATURDAY nights !**

Also , the Lounge is normally open every week;

**Thur 12- 6pm, Fri from 8pm ,Sat** from 8.00 pm

& **Sun** from 11.45 am. All Welcome !

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH CLUB**

***TODAY, Sunday 17th March,*** *Teas and coffee will be served*

*in the Parish Centre after Sunday 11am Mass, from 11.45am - All Welcome!*

**In the coming few weeks all existing volunteers that need to have DBS for their roles in the parish will need to be renewed by the archdiocese & will be invited to meetings with relevant I.D. and to complete necessary paperwork and Safeguarding updates. This is important or volunteers will have to step-down from their roles.**

**Heart of Jesus, I adore you,**

**Heart of Mary, I implore you,**

**Heart of Joseph, pure and just,**

**in these three hearts I place my Trust**

***Monday 11th December ‘Festive’ Social in the club from 1pm.***

***Food , entertainment, bingo. Fundraising for Lourdes pilgrims.***

***Tickets available, £10, from the parish office***

**\*\*\*NEXT CHURCH CLEANING , THURSDAY, 16th November**

**after 7pm Mass- extra adult-volunteers needed; please come along! \*\*\*\*\*\*\***

***Monday 7th August*** *from 1pm £5 per ticket- from parish office*

*Monthly ‘Open Invitation’ to join in a social and lunch, with entertainment.*

*Bingo and raffle fundraiser for parish Lourdes pilgrims and local charities.*

**LATE Applications to attend Catholic Schools~:** Each Primary & High School has its own admissions forms, completed and returned to each school. Parents ALSO needed 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 date, 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. Contact the schools direct if you haven’t completed each of the forms.

**ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE’S PARISH Feb/March 2024**

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

Archdiocese of Liverpool. A Registered Charity No 1199714

Church is open for prayer every day 9 am ‘til 4pm, except Sunday 9 am ‘til 6pm

**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: Tel: 07377341977**

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

St Laurence’s RC Primary: Head: Mrs Sarah-Jane Carroll-McKevitt Tel: 546 4733

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

**Our Parish e-mail** [**sjsl@rcaol.org.uk**](mailto: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 Church this week. Some of our families and their children are also continuing sacramental preparations and been invited to weekend Mass, as part of their family preparation each week for their children’s next sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Now our Gospels remind us of the adult Jesus public ministry, proclaiming the ‘Good News’ about His Heavenly Father and the Kingdom of God, that begins here on Earth and is now entered by baptism and the Saving Grace of Jesus, Crucified and Risen. We Listen, find out more, Follow and Believe in God, even if we are uncertain or struggle in life!

We commenced the new season of Lent, with the receiving of a cross of ashes on our foreheads, to mark the choices and changes we make first in our minds and then LIVE through the following 40-days and then Holy Week and Eastertide. It’s never too late to begin something extra for the Lenten season.

Bring your struggles and joys to the Lord at His altar.  **FR SEAN.**

**‘SUGGESTIONS BOX’: if any parishioners have suggestions about what you would like to see happen in the parish, please leave a note in the offertory basket. If you want it, you also need to be prepared to help organise it too. What can you or your family do to help?**

**Holy Week Volunteers.**

**Readers and Eucharistic Ministers:-**

**Please sign-up for Holy week Masses and services.**

**We also need 12 people to volunteer to have their feet washed**

**at the Holy Thursday evening Mass.**

**Please Add your names to the sheet at the back of Church.**

There are regular morning and evening weekday Masses and now also the **Stations of the Cross** devotions, 6.45pm Thursdays; **Please** do try to make extra efforts to get to weekday Masses too, to grab these 30 minutes of peace and build them into your weekly pattern.

We have begun the new Church’s Year, with the new season of Advent- a time of ‘preparation’. On this third Sunday of Advent, we ‘rejoice’ and mark when the old ‘St Martin’s’ Advent 40 day Fasting period was relaxed for this middle weekend. The first part of advent focuses on both the prophecies of the Old Testament Prophets’ hope for the promised Messiah or Chosen One and the promised future arrival of the Lord Jesus at the end of time. The second part of the season after this weekend will then focus on our preparations to celebrate the birthday of the baby, Jesus. The Birth, the Nativity, reveals God becomes flesh and blood, to make our flesh and blood new and raised up to the Divine life in Christ. We can be very busy and there is great excitement as the date approaches, but the Church does invite us to focus on what is truly important in this season and not just to get caught up in the pressures that adverts, and other people can impose upon us. Try to also get to some of the weekday Masses if you can, to give this time to God- Advent first, then Nativity-**&** BOTH 4th Sunday morning Mass AND Nativity Mass! We are preparing to celebrate the birthday of the baby, Jesus. Keep this as our focus, or we just get caught up in the pressures and forget the simple joy of a baby born for us.

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

**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, & rejoice in His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord Amen.#

**‘Encourage and invite someone back to Church’: People, for various reasons, stopped regularly attending Mass and some people also may feel it is difficult to re-start. No-one needs to worry about having been absent from Church for a while. Everyone is WELCOME! It might just take a word of encouragement from you. Please ask a friend or relative to come with you to Church next Sunday.**

**The regular visiting of the elderly and vulnerable, with the need for new Eucharistic Ministers to have DBS checks, means we currently cannot normally provide communion visits at home. If parishioners are house-bound and their condition is likely to continue to keep them at home for the longer term, please telephone the presbytery and Fr Sean will arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion.**

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

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

**He also provides some holiday-cover & some weekly night-cover to the Royal & Broadgreen Hospitals & Aintree Hospital Chaplaincy priests. 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.**

**HOLY WEEK in the parish:**

**Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday, 11am Mass & 6pm @ Church**

**Wednesday 27th March Chrism Mass, ( a coach will be arranged-please sign up for a free place on the coach on the sheet at the back of Church))**

**7.30pm Mass @ Cathedral**

**TRIDUUM**

**Holy Thursday 28th March, 7.30pm Mass @ Church**

**Good Friday 29th March, 10am Stations of the Cross**

**3pm Passion of the Lord**

**Holy Saturday 30th March, 8pm Vigil and 1st Mass of Easter**

**Easter Day 31st March. 11am BST. (& NO 6pm Mass)**

**PREPARE & PLAN to be here for all or some more of it!**

**Application Process for applying for a place in Catholic Primary Schools**  Each school has its own admissions ‘SIF forms’ that must be completed and returned to each school. Write on the ‘SIF forms’ if the child is a baptised Catholic. 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 admissions 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. **The deadline for completing/returning all forms was 15th January! Contact the schools and Knowsley Council if you are late.**

*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 continues to be something that has to be continuously prioritised.*