

THE PARISH OF ST CHARLES AND ST THOMAS MORE

Postal address for all communications:

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PARISH PRIEST

& **Vocations Director** Fr James Preston

Deacons

Rev Paul McNicholl

Rev Jeremy Mitchinson

Office Admin

Mrs Val Hogg

Primary School

St Charles, Tramway Road

Liverpool L17 7JA.

Tel. 0151 727 5830

Headteacher

Mrs A Roberts

Newsletter items to mart.wood52@gmail.com by 8pm on **Wednesday 7th March**

3rd Sunday of Lent (B) - 4th March 2018

DAY	FEAST	TIMES	MASS INTENTION
Sat 3rd	Vigil Mass with Neocatechumenal Community	5.00 pm	Annie Hughes (RIP)
Sun 4th		6.15 pm (Hall) 9.30 am 11.00 am	Parishioners Catherine Angell (ld) Kathleen Winter (bd)
Mon 5th		7.00 pm	Victoria Guerrero (RIP)
Tues 6th		7.30 am	Margaret McGuinness (A)
Wed 7th	Ss Perpetua & Felicity	8.15 (School)	David Dunn (A)
Thu 8th		12 noon	Alan Lavin (ld)
Fri 9th		7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Molly McNally (RIP) Stations of the Cross
Sat 10th	Vigil 4th Sunday of Lent Mass with Neocatechumenal Community	5.00 pm	Hugh Halpin (A)
Sun 11th		6.15 pm (Hall) 9.30 am 11.00 am	Parishioners Anne Bates (RIP) Chris McNally (RIP)



*'Take all this out of here
and stop turning my
Father's house into a
market.'*

John 2:16

Confessions:

Mon 6.30 - 6.45pm

Sat 4.30 - 4.45 pm

PLEASE PRAY for all who are sick and housebound or in hospital, for all those who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.



ANNIVERSARIES: Sheila Turnbull, Gail Francis Jones, Jean Owens, Catherine Lundstrom, Helena McNamara, Elizabeth Shearon, John Costello, Margaret Worswick, Alan Taylor.

SICK: Elizabeth Reid, Russell Grindley, Paula Williams, John Sunners.

LATELY DEAD: Pat Mahoney, Joanne Gaul, Billy Harold.

Little Church is cancelled for the 9:30am and 11:00am Masses on Sunday 4th March because the hall is in use for the Easter Fair.

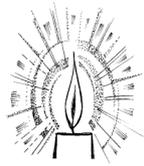


to any visitors and new parishioners.

TEA AND COFFEE will be served after the 9.30am and 11.00am Masses today. All proceeds to the Lourdes Fund.



The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit this week for **Norah Toohey** and the **Marian Candle** is lit for **Rachael Dodd (A)**.



Choir to celebrate Easter

Rehearsals have started but there is still time to join. Come along Wednesday evenings 7-8pm.

Easter Mass Times

Holy Thursday 7pm Mass of the Lords Supper
Watching til 10pm

Good Friday 10am Morning Prayer/Office of Readings
11.30am Children's Stations of the Cross in the Church Hall
1.15pm Good Friday CAFOD Lunch
3pm Celebration of the Lords Passion

Holy Saturday 9.00pm First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday 9.30am
11.00am

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Congratulations on wanting your child to receive the gift of Baptism. Please see Fr James after Mass to discuss it. A date can be arranged, for a Sunday, after completion of a three-week course.

Courses for this year are as follows

April 15, 22, 29 for baptisms in May, Jun and Jul
July 1, 8, 15 for baptisms in Aug Sept and Oct
October 7, 14, 21 for baptisms in Nov, Dec and Jan

MUSIC ON 11 March

9.30am MUSIC GROUP
11.00am ORGAN



OFFERTORY 24/25 February

Plate: £551.40 Envelopes: £600.21 S/O: £426.25
Total: £1577.86

Lourdes Tea Money: £ 12.51
Boiler: £ 5.00
CAFOD: £401.57

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE 24/25 February

5.00pm: 172 9.30am: 166 11.00am: 226
Total: 564

RESURRECTION CANDLES

During Easter there will be the opportunity to burn a candle in memory of a loved one. The candles will be lit on Holy Saturday Night during the Easter Vigil and will be left lit in church for 7 days. Each candle will have the name of the person in whose memory it is dedicated written on it.



If you would like a candle to burn in memory of one of your loved ones, please place £5 in an envelope write 'Memorial Candle' together with their name on the front and post it through the letterbox at the Presbytery or leave it in the sacristy.

Altar Servers' Rehearsal

On Tuesday 13 and 20 March at 6pm in Church there will be a rehearsal for our Easter Services. Parents are asked to sit in church whilst the training is taking place. Any children in year 3 or above who wish to begin serving at Mass are very welcome to come along to the rehearsal.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday night during Lent there will be Mass at 7.00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7.30 pm. These will be led by different parish groups.



Annual Celebration of Marriage and Family Life

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon invites you to join him in celebrating the **Annual Marriage and Family Life Mass** at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King

Sunday 11th March, 2018 at 11.00 am

All are welcome to attend (the Mass will include a special blessing for those celebrating significant anniversaries)

Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gibberd Room.



Oscar Romero (1917—80) - A Eucharistic Martyr

Oscar Romero was born to a family of modest means in the small town of Ciudad Barrios in El Salvador. He went to the seminary at thirteen, studied for the priesthood in Rome, and was ordained in 1942. At work in San Miguel he was a zealous pastor with a simple lifestyle, shy and bookish. In 1970 he was made a bishop; and in 1977, he was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador. There followed three tumultuous years of ministry before his assassination.

In the 1970s, El Salvador was deeply divided between a tiny land-owning elite and the mass of landless poor. There was economic exploitation, social deprivation, and malnutrition in the countryside, on the coffee estates and sugar plantations. Killings, torture, disappearances, and political imprisonment were the routines of the military regime. The Church put itself alongside the poor in their struggle for basic rights and human dignity - and suffered persecution too.

Archbishop Romero had a deep and prayerful spiritual life and he loved the poor. His sermons were legendary. He sought to make the Word of God come alive in the lives of the poor. He preached a message of social justice and non-violent change. He became known as the voice of the voiceless. From the pulpit Romero confronted the human rights abuses, the political violence, the corrupt system of justice, the iniquitous land tenure system, and the suffering of El Salvador's poor. He was attacked and insulted for his prophetic words and witness. Death threats followed.

As civil war loomed, Romero spoke freely about his death and those around him tried to persuade him to wear a bullet-proof vest or have a bodyguard. In response he asked why the shepherd should have protection when his sheep were still prey to wolves. The threats intensified and, on March 24th 1980, Archbishop Romero was shot dead as he celebrated Mass in the hospital chapel where he lived.

The killing was carried out by a death squad linked to the country's armed forces, it was planned and financed by wealthy and powerful members of the Catholic and evangelical Christian oligarchy and their military.

Archbishop Romero had known he was going to die. On the afternoon before his death he had unexpectedly visited his confessor, Fr Azcue, saying "I want to feel clean before God." He overcame his deep-seated fears. He accepted it with great equanimity. He prepared himself and he went like a lamb to the slaughter. It was a given-life, a free gift with consequences, not a taken-life, with fearfulness of victimhood. Jesus is the Eucharistic martyr par excellence. Oscar Romero, his faithful follower, died 'Eucharistically' in the middle of the celebration of the Eucharist - an unfinished Eucharist.

Ignacio Martin-Baró, himself martyred in 1989 said eloquently "Monseñor died as he had lived: in a priestly fashion, that is to say, offering his life as a prolongation of the sacrifice of Jesus."

Oscar Romero was a martyr to the option for the poor. His ministry exemplified a faith that does justice, courageously and consistently. He evokes affection and admiration across the globe, within and beyond the Church. An ecumenical icon, Oscar Romero is an inspiration to lay Christians, bishops and clergy alike, who embrace the cause of the poor as their own - and through prayer and action, join in the quest for peace and justice today.

EASTER LILIES

We are reviving an ancient tradition which associates a lily with the resurrection of Christ and our hope in eternal Life. You are invited to buy a lily in memory of a departed loved one by placing £5 and the name of the person in an envelope and bringing it to the Parish Office or giving it to Fr James. The lilies will be used to decorate the Sanctuary during Easter, and the Vigil Mass will be offered up in their names.



Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2019

Led by Fr James

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

Follow in the footsteps of St Bernadette. Enjoy a 4 night, 5 day Pilgrimage to Lourdes staying in the 3 star Hotel Beau Site situated an 8 minute walk from the Domaine on a full board basis. English speaking guide for the duration of your stay and a full spiritual programme will be arranged for you.

To express an interest in this Pilgrimage, please contact Fr James or call 0151 727 2493.

Pizza & Prayers had a wonderful time last weekend at Castlerigg Manor retreat centre in Keswick. 15 young people worked together to share their thoughts about their faith journeys, celebrate Mass and reflect during adoration. We also had such fun letting off steam running around the grounds as well as a fun film and quiz night. We had a lovely 3 mile sponsored walk in the most beautiful surroundings raising funds for our Lourdes trip this summer. If any members of the parish would like to donate towards the sponsored walk feel free to pass any cash into Val in the office in an envelope labelled Pizza & Prayers sponsored walk. Blessings to you all.



Film Night

Monday 19th March at 7.30pm

Another Mother's Son



Staring Jenny Seagrove, John Hannah, Amanda Abbington, Ronan Keating and Julian Kostov.

This is the extraordinary true story of Louisa Gould. A tale of defiance, bravery and betrayal set against the backdrop of Nazi occupation on the Channel Islands during the Second World War.

Entrance by donation. Please let us know if you are coming.

Thomas Clarke

This weekend Thomas Clarke returns home for his half term break. Please keep Thomas in your prayers as he prepares for his Ordination to the diaconate in June. Thomas will preach at each Mass this weekend.

Afternoon Tea

The programme this week, Thursday 8th March
'My Favourite Poem'
 All are welcome, 1.30-3.00pm, in the Parish Hall

Knights of St Columba Council 9, Late St Patrick's night charity social at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Club, High Park Street, Liverpool L8 8XD, on Saturday 24th March 2018. Featuring Michael Coyne. Tickets £5 from Pat Mc Gann phone 07825236064 or pay on the door. Bingo and Raffle. If any one would like to donate a prize for the Raffle it would be appreciated.

CEILIDH



Sat 17 March 2017, 7.30 PM

St Anthony of Padua, Queens Drive

Tickets £7.50 Buffet Included

Dancing to Gerry Jones Country Dance Band

This event is strictly entry by **TICKET ONLY** and tickets must be purchased in advance. There will be no tickets for sale on the night.

Donations of raffle prizes gratefully accepted.

Tickets are available from the Parish Office or after Mass from members of the Social Committee.



EASTER FAIR

Saturday/Sunday,
 3/4 March
 after all Masses.

Tombola, home bake, toys, raffle.