



**Newsletter for  
week commencing  
12 April 2026**



**Second Sunday of  
Easter (Year A)**

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<p><b>Liverpool RC Archdiocesan Trustees Inc : A Registered Charity No: 1199714</b></p>	

On Sunday, 19 April at 4:30pm (UK time), the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales will hold a Holy Hour to pray for the promotion of a culture of life in our lands.

We are asking the parishes and Catholic communities to unite and hold a Holy Hour on the same day as the Bishops. This is to present a unified, prayerful front to offer this petition to Our Lord for the dignity of life from conception to natural end and to pray that assisted suicide will not become law.

In response to this request we will celebrate a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament (including Benediction) **next Sunday at 5.00 pm at St Alban's** to which you are all invited. **Canon Christopher**

#### **Divine Mercy Sunday**

On this day we are invited to develop our trust in God's mercy, however difficult that might sometimes seem. Life has a habit of throwing curveballs, and some weeks we feel we're barely keeping up.

Divine Mercy Sunday gently reminds us that we don't have to have everything sorted before we turn to God. His mercy meets us exactly where we are. Perhaps this week, take a quiet moment to breathe, say a simple prayer, or reach out to someone who might need a bit of kindness. Small steps open big doors, and God's mercy does the rest.

#### **Care for Our Common Home The Big Spring Clean**

**To do :**

- Organise a litter pick to safely dispose of single use plastics.
- Declutter, recycle and donate to charity shops.
- Switch to eco-friendly products.
- Make spring cleaning cloths from old polo shirts that aren't good enough to give to the charity shops.

#### **Gospel Reflection - Moving Mountains**



We live in an age where everything has to be 'seen to be believed'. If we haven't heard it on Breakfast News or read it on the front-page of 'The Independent', then it can't be true. For a scientist to act in faith rather than on proven fact, or for a detective to make an arrest without hard evidence would be deemed negligent.

Faith is the domain of the non-scientific. Faith is reserved for when we follow our hearts and our instincts. The solely scientific see no validation for faith, and yet we are told that faith has the power to move mountains.

The story of 'Doubting Thomas' is interesting in that it addresses doubt in the first place. If Jesus wasn't expecting us to suffer doubts, why address the subject in the first place? We are brought up to think of faith as good and doubt as bad, but would God really want us to bury our doubts and fake our religious experience? For all of us who do not have the benefit of Thomas's first-hand experience, the good news is that doubt and faith are opposite sides of the same coin. Honest doubt can ultimately lead to a stronger faith. Doubt leads to questions, and whereas questions don't always lead to answers, they almost always lead to spiritual growth.

Today we are encouraged to believe without seeing. No, we're not being asked to silence our doubts or to leave our brains at the church door! The reality of our faith boils down not to what we are able or not able to believe, but who we believe in. Can trusting Jesus give us faith enough to move mountains?

**Challenging Hostility with Hospitality** - Watch the Songs of Praise programme on Sunday to hear Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal talk on the theme of '*challenging hostility with hospitality*' in relation to his work on the Church of Sanctuary programme and why marking Sanctuary Sunday is important. The programme is available on BBC iPlayer afterwards

**Canon Christopher reflects ....** We are celebrating Easter Day which lasts for eight days. Having gone through the rigours of Lent and Holy Week concluding with the Sacred Triduum, as usual we, as priests, were encouraged to take a rest. At one time, I used to go away for a few days but that is not easy nowadays. So in obedience to the archbishop I have tried to take some rest but was pleased to celebrate a public Mass every day and I thank the good number of people for attending.

A couple of items that interrupted my peace and quiet was a few requests to complete surveys that arrived in the in-box as we approached the Triduum. They were on religious matters, and I was tempted to reply to the request by underlining the fact we have better things to do at that time. I also felt that the surveys were not meant for me.

One of them concerned the formation and training that I received in the seminary compared with the systems of today. In many respects it was very different, but I answered the questions truthfully which I suspect did not really help to fulfil the purpose of the survey.

The other survey was requested by someone who was probably doing research for a degree and the request had been sent to people throughout this country. The survey concerned a comparison between places of worship built before and after the Vatican Council that took place in the 1960s. For example, our own cathedral was built and opened just after that time and considered to be very modern.

The question being asked related to impressions made on people who want to pray in those places. For example, does the building draw us nearer to God as we try to pray there and are we drawn together as people of God? There are some magnificent cathedrals that were built centuries ago and are of course now Anglican.

The Pharisees were very disturbed by Jesus' popularity especially on Palm Sunday when he was being acclaimed on his way into Jerusalem. Some of them said ... "Teacher, order your disciples to stop". He answered ... "I tell you, if these were silent the stones would shout out." The stones in these medieval cathedrals speak to us of the origins of Christianity, but sometimes there is a conflict with science, art and politics.

Much of the history of churches, cathedrals, abbey churches and monasteries was destroyed through the dissolution that took place in the reign of Henry VIII. In so many places all that remains are museums and monuments rather than places of worship. The stones that remain can speak to us of what has been and has now been lost. Warfare that is taking place in the Middle East is leading to this happening again where destruction is also destroying historic buildings but most of all the lives of people.

Our Holy Father Pope Leo has pressed us to pray urgently for peace on Saturday, inviting people throughout the world to join him in that prayer. This request may be too late for this newsletter, but the urgency still exists for us to continue to be united in prayer. It is good to know that recently, with gentleness and humility he has spoken out courageously against one who is trying to justify war, violence and murder and who has attacked him, unbelievably accusing the Pope of being the enemy of Jesus. I understand that a planned visit to the USA has been cancelled.

Let us pray for the peace that we all need and for all those who are suffering at this time. Amen.

### **The Big Christian Aid Quiz**

with Hotpot Supper

(£10 per person)

Friday 8 May with a 7.30pm start  
Greenalls Social Club, St Helens,  
WA10 4DN

For more information/ booking :  
please contact Janice Watkins on  
01744 27425 or email Andy  
apwatkins137@gmail.com

### **Quote of the Week**

*"He is risen!"*

(Matthew 28:6)

**Bitesize** - Doubt is a pain too lonely  
to know that faith is his twin brother.  
~ Khalil Gibran

### **St Joseph's UCM**

Our next meeting will take place  
on Thursday, 23 April  
(12.30 to 3.30pm)

### **MISSION WORKSHOP**

Have you ever thought about your gift and call? Come and explore your ministry in the Church. The Archdiocese of Liverpool is going to organise a Mission Workshop which will be taking place in April.

During the event, there will be a keynote presentation on 'Exploring Baptismal Priesthood' by Rev Dr Peter McGrail, workshops on ministries (e.g. reader, catechist, evangelisation and Catholic social action) and time for prayer & reflection.

You can choose from two dates as follows :

- Thursday, 23 April (6.30-9.00pm) at St Mary's Community Centre, Leyland, PR25 1PD
- Saturday, 25 April (10.30am to 1.00pm) at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA

If you're interested in joining us, please register online here <https://forms.office.com/e/TYftqFng?origin=IprLink>.

For enquiries, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk) or Ian at [i.parrott@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:i.parrott@rcaol.org.uk)

**Priest Training Fund** – A collection will be taken on Sunday, 26 April. Please give what you can. Thank you.

**Sacred Heart and Saint Alban Safeguarding Reps** - Irene Crowder, Margaret McGrath and Paul Towey

**Right to Life UK** : As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we pray for all who have suffered the loss of a child. May the mercy that flows from the heart of Christ bring healing and comfort to their souls. Lord hear us.

You will by now be aware that **Warrington Walking Day** will not be going ahead in its traditional format this year due to lack of funding.

This event has been part of our traditional heritage for 200 years and none of us wish to see it disappear. We do, however, understand that this important celebration of Christian witness will need to be different this year.

It has been agreed that on Saturday, 4 July from 10.00am until 3.00pm we will be holding a **Public Celebration of Christian Faith** which will involve multiple churches, denominations, schools and cultures.

We hope that by demonstrating the demand for such a Service we may be in a position to attract funding to be able to provide the more traditional Walking Day in the future but it will depend on how many attend this year's event.

For more information please see the letter at the back of our churches.

With this in mind, If you would like to be involved or have any ideas on how we can join together this year please come along to **Sacred Heart Parish Centre this coming Saturday (18<sup>th</sup>) at 11.00am.**

All welcome

Young adults aged 18-35 are warmly reminded to secure their place on the Archdiocese of **Liverpool's Pilgrimage to Assisi**, taking place from 29 November to 2 December. Early booking is strongly encouraged to take advantage of the discount and secure your place. We've had the information evening recently. For those who were not able to attend, please find the recording below and the link for people to book. To book please visit ....

The Archdiocese of Liverpool Pilgrimage for Young Adults to Assisi - McCabe Pilgrimages and then go to <https://vimeo.com/1180929877/2e0ba2368c?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci> More information can be found on the Archdiocese of Liverpool Pastoral Development Bulletin at the back of our churches.

**Church Gardening at St Joseph's** will take place on Saturday, 18 April. Please come and help us keep our gardens looking beautiful for Spring!

**St Joseph's Quiz** – Join us for our Quiz Night on Sunday in the Parish Centre (8.00pm start).  
Jackpot £140. Play Your Cards Right at least £20 plus.  
Come along, bring a team and support your Club.

The final of the **St Joseph's Community Youth Talent Show** takes place today (Sunday, 12 April : 11.00 am-3.00pm).

All welcome to attend.

#### Marriage Support

From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443

#### St Joseph's Bonus Ball Winners

**29/3/26** – No 48 Winner : CMcP (40 numbers sold). Please contact the parish office for your winnings  
**5/4/26** – No 37 Winner : Betty Jones  
Would Cathy Latham collect her winnings from a previous week.

#### Refreshments After Mass on Sundays

- **St Joseph's** – after the 8.30 am Mass hosted by members of the Readers group and after the 4.30 pm Mass hosted by members of the Baptism group.
- **St Alban** – after the 9.30 am Mass. Hosted by members of the Parish.
- **Sacred Heart** (in the Parish Centre) – after the 11.00 am Mass. Hosted by members of the Parish.

**Please feel free to stay for a cuppa and a chat.  
Everyone most welcome.**

#### Help Us Shape Youth Ministry for the Future

We want all young people to flourish and to know that they are cherished by God and are a vital part of the Church. So, as an Archdiocese, we are committed to explore how we can best accompany young people. Your voice is crucial.

**What will happen:** You will meet others and have your chance to share your experiences and ideas about how the Church might best respond to the needs of young people today. All feedback will be carefully listened to as part of a diocesan wide process planning youth ministry for the years ahead.

**Who's invited :** We want to hear from adults, young adults and 11-18 year olds. Please join us. (Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.)

Come to **ONE** of our open meetings.

- Monday, 20 April (7.00- 9.30pm).  
St Joseph's Crow Orchard Road, Wroughtington, Wigan WN6 9PA
- Tuesday, 21 April (7.00- 9.30pm).  
St Monica's Fernhill Road, Bootle, Merseyside, L20 9GA

The process is being facilitated by Danny Curtin, who worked in youth ministry and youth work in the Church for many years.

For more information contact Sarah McGeehan on 07415099048 or email : [s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk)

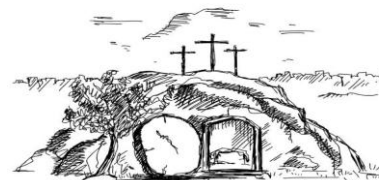
#### Remembering Christine .. One Year On!

On Wednesday, 22 April, Mass will be celebrated for Christine at 6.00pm at St Joseph's. This will be followed by a hot pot supper, drinks, music and celebration in St Joseph's Club to which everyone is welcome. For catering purposes please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to attend.

Thank you. Amv & Lucv.

#### A Prayer During Eastertide

If you believe that Christ has risen from the dead, you must believe also that you yourselves have likewise risen with him.  
And if you believe yourselves dead with Christ, you must believe that you will also live with him.  
And if you believe that Christ is dead to sin and lives to God you too must be dead to sin and alive to God.



## Mass Intentions for week commencing 12 April 2026

	Sacred Heart	Saint Alban	Saint Joseph	Saint Paul of the Cross
<b>Sunday</b> 12 April	<b>8.00 am</b> Syromalabar Mass  <b>11.00 am</b> Eileen Rutter (RoS)	<b>9.30 am</b> People of the Parish	<b>8.30 am</b> Michael Green (RoS) <b>4.00 pm</b> Patrick Moore (RoS) (Anniversary)	<b>10.00 am</b>
<b>Monday</b> 13 April			<b>9.30 am</b> Alex, Maureen & Chris	
<b>Tuesday</b> 14 April		<b>9.30 am</b> Maire Trayers		<b>9.00 am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 15 April			<b>6.00 pm</b> Elizabeth Fuller (RoS)	<b>9.00 am</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 16 April		<b>9.30 am</b> Reginald Oswin		<b>9.00 am</b>
<b>Friday</b> 17 April	<b>9.30 am</b> Gerry Anderson (RoS) (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)		<b>9.30 am</b> Joseph Webster (RoS) (4 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)	
<b>Saturday</b> 18 April	<b>5.15 pm</b> Pat & Betty McWilliams (RoS) (20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)			<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 19 April	<b>11.00 am</b> Laura Smith (Sick)	<b>9.30 am</b> Thanksgiving	<b>8.30 am</b> Tony Birschez (RoS) <b>4.00 pm</b> Patricia Townley	<b>10.00 am</b>

<b>Confession</b>	<b>Saturday</b> from 4.30 pm	<b>Saturday</b> from 9.30 am	<b>Wednesday</b> 5.15 pm-5.45 pm	<b>Saturday</b> 5.15-5.45 pm
<b>Adoration [Exposition]</b>		After Mass on <b>Tuesday</b> and <b>Thursday</b>	<b>Monday</b> 10.00-11.00 am	

- **Holy Eucharist** - Please note that whilst we can receive the Holy Eucharist under both kinds, intinction (dipping the Body of Christ into the Chalice of His blood) **IS NOT PERMITTED**.
- The acronym **RoS** means ... **Repose of the Soul**

**Penketh Support Group Food Hub**  
Meeting Lane Community Centre  
WA5 2HB. Opening Hours Thursday,  
Friday & Saturday until 12:30pm. If  
you require a food parcel please  
contact Helen on 07415 939808 or  
email penketh2020@outlook.com

**The Legion of Mary** meets on  
Tuesdays at 1.30 pm in the  
Loreto Room [behind St Joseph's  
Church]. **All welcome**

Why not visit our website and keep  
up-to-date on all the news at  
[www.sacredheartandstalban.org](http://www.sacredheartandstalban.org)  
or follow us on Facebook @ **Parish  
of Sacred Heart and  
St Alban Warrington**  
Why not take a moment to check in  
– you may find something of interest

Please visit St Joseph's website  
for all its news, Mass times,  
newsletter and much more!  
[www.stjosephenkenketh.co.uk](http://www.stjosephenkenketh.co.uk)

**Please ensure that your  
mobile phone is switched off  
whilst you are in Church.**  
**Thank you.**

**Sanctuary Lamps**  
The Sanctuary Lamps will  
burn this week for the  
following intentions :

**St Alban**  
Peace in Our World

**Sacred Heart**  
Parishioners' Intentions

**St Joseph**  
Prayers for World Peace

**St Joseph's Marian Candle**  
For the people, families &  
carers of those with autism  
for World Autism Acceptance  
Month

Please remember in your  
prayers the following who  
have died recently :  
Philomena Bradshaw,  
Professor Judith Champ,  
Harry Boyle, Maureen  
McNamara and William  
Turner.  
May they rest in peace.

### FUNERALS

#### Week commencing 13 April

Funeral Service for Harry Boyle at 12.30 pm  
on Thursday, 16 April at St Joseph's.

#### Week commencing 20 April

Funeral Service for Maureen Ivy McNamara at  
10.30 am on Tuesday, 21 April at St Joseph's.

#### Week commencing 27 April

Requiem Mass for Philomena Bradshaw at  
10.00 am on Monday, 27 April at Sacred  
Heart.

**May they rest in peace**

#### Scouts Spring Bedding Plant

**Sale** - Saturday, 25 April from  
9.00 am in St Joseph's car park.

First come, first served.  
For those with mobility or  
limited transport constraints,  
please contact us with your  
needs and we will endeavour to  
get your plants delivered as  
normal. Contact:  
alan.spreadbury@15thstjosephssco  
uts.org.uk

