



**Newsletter for
week commencing
10 May 2026**

**6TH SUNDAY
OF
EASTER**

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Saint Joseph Parish Priest : Fr Raymond Anyanwu C.S.Sp Deacon : Rev John McClure (Retired) 01925 723146	Tel: 01925 722105 Office hours : Monday-Friday (9.00am-12 noon) Alternative Tel : 01925 631086 Email: stjoseph.warrington@rcaol.org.uk Website : stjosephpenketh.co.uk Twitter : @StJosephs_RCC Facebook : www.facebook.com/groups/stjorc
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URGENT NOTICE : Work has started at the junction of Bewsey St, Bewsey Road, Froghall Lane and Tanners Lane. The work is expected to take around 16 weeks (probably longer). It is likely to cause delays so please be prepared! Thank you.



Children from Sacred Heart will receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time next Saturday (16th) at 11.00 am. ***Please keep them and their families in your prayers***
 Congratulations are sent to the children from St Alban's who received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time on Saturday.

Legion of Mary

Join us for a Celebration Mass of Hope, Life and Blessing of the Sick on Wednesday, 13 May at 2.00pm at St Joseph's.

Refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre following the Celebration of Mass.



Gospel Reflection - If You Love Me

Jesus' 'farewell discourses' are a bit like a teacher's final lesson before an exam packed with important advice. "If you love me you will keep my commandments." "Love one another as I have loved you." "The Spirit of Truth will abide with you when I am gone."

Love of course is key to all Jesus' last minute advice. There is lots we already know about love from our own relationships. If we love and care about each other we say where we are going and what time will be back home. If we love each other we don't keep secrets or have affairs. If we love each other we put our loved one's needs before our own. It's the same with God; we show God we love him by keeping his commandments. Commandments aren't there to create unnecessary discipline; they are there to keep us in love with God and with each other.

Jesus knew that once he was gone some of his commandments would become less clear. Two thousand years down the line there are many issues that have grey areas, such as euthanasia, and the sciences that govern nuclear energy or reproduction. For instances such as these, Jesus left us an 'Advocate' a 'Spirit of Truth'. We are promised that the 'Spirit of Truth' will guide us through all of life's difficult decisions. Jesus left us with hope and help, now it's down to us.

Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord *It is a Holy Day of Obligation*

On this day Jesus tells us ...

"Go throughout the whole world and preach the gospel to all mankind."

We are reminded that it is our job to make God known to everyone. Making God known to the whole world might feel like a bit of a tall order, but we need only start with our own corner. Like weeding a garden ... if we each concentrate on our own corner, the garden will soon be a small paradise!

May is the Month of Mary

A time to pause and return to her quiet example of faith.

This month, take a little extra time for prayer and reflection, wherever you are.

You are invited to recite the Rosary before weekday Masses.



Canon Christopher reflects One might be inclined to say that this is the season for the sacraments. This isn't quite true since they are part of our lives through the year. However, at this time of year we seem to have more of them in the forefront of our minds.

At Easter we think of those adults who become new members of the church. They are baptised in the newly blessed holy water and then consecrated with holy oils to confirm their faith. At the Easter Vigil Mass they receive the Eucharist for the first time. If they are already baptised they will have received the sacrament of reconciliation.

As we progress through the Easter season, our attention is often drawn to our young children who receive their first Holy Communion after a period of preparation. More preparation is about to begin for the older children who in just under two months' time will receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Throughout this period the Holy Spirit is very busy and especially as we approach the solemnity of Pentecost which is fifty days after the Jesus' resurrection from the dead. In this coming week we celebrate his Ascension into heaven. His time on earth is complete but he did not leave us alone but promised to send us the Holy Spirit. We receive an increase of that Spirit in all the sacraments.

Three of the sacraments can only be received once namely Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders. The sacrament of Marriage can rarely be received more than once for obvious reasons, and it is not necessarily for everyone. The sacrament of the Sick is usually received towards the end of life, but of course if sickness intervenes in the meantime, it can be received at any age.

Apart from involvement in the preparation programme for first Holy Communion and also for Confirmation which is beginning soon, I have recently been preparing young couples for the sacrament of Marriage that they will receive through the summer months. They are preparing to spend the rest of their lives together so that preparation is very important.

The sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist should be received regularly as Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, wants to be totally involved in our lives as is necessary for salvation. All this activity is a sign of the fulfilment of the last words of Jesus before he ascended to heaven ... *"I will be with you always, yes, until the end of time."* Let us never deprive ourselves of this wonderful privilege. Amen.

Parish of Sacred Heart & Saint Alban Volunteers Required

- **Confirmation Team** - To assist with confirmation preparation we are trying to create a team that can work together across the deanery to help prepare our young people for this important step on their journey of faith. You do not need to be experienced in working with young people: there are a number of roles to be involved with. And there need not be any long term commitment. A willingness to be involved is the main thing – even if only for one meeting.
- **Children Liturgy Catechists at Sacred Heart** are also needed. If we do not have enough catechists, we will, unfortunately not be able to provide this service for our young children.

If you are interested in being involved with preparing our young people or would like to know more about how you can help (without any obligation to commit) please contact Margaret in the Parish Office on 01925 630928 during normal office hours.

Right to Life UK : As we approach the Ascension of the Lord, this coming Thursday, we ask the Lord to protect in body and spirit, all those who are in hospice care and all those who are terminally ill. May they feel the warmth of God's comforting presence and find strength and hope in their time of need. Lord hear us.

Fr Raymond will celebrate a Class Mass in St Vincent's School on 22 May at 2.00pm. If you wish to attend please contact the school on 01925 726544.

Refreshments After Mass on Sundays

- **St Joseph's** – after the 8.30 am Mass hosted by members of the UCM and after the 4.00pm Mass hosted by members of the Legion of Mary.
- **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 is most welcome.

St Joseph's Parish Offertory Envelopes - If anyone else would like a box for 2026/27 please contact Martin Griffiths via the Parish Office.

Quote of the Week

St Francis of Assisi...

"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

Mission Appeal

The Oblates of St Joseph will be collecting this Sunday for their appeal.

The Oblates of St Joseph is a Catholic religious institute founded on 14 March 1878 by St Joseph Marello and dedicated to St Joseph. The principal apostolate of the Oblates of St Joseph is to work with the youth and the poor. However, Joseph Marello's initial plan was to have the Oblates serve in whatever capacity the local Bishop deemed necessary, so long as it was consistent with the spirituality and life of the Oblates. Presently, the Oblates serve in many different capacities, depending upon the needs of the bishops where they serve.

Common apostolates include education and catechesis of the youths, parish ministry, serving the poor and underprivileged and propagating devotion to St. Joseph.

Fr. Stephen will tell us more of their work and make an appeal for help.

St Joseph's Family Centre is having a Celebration Evening and Annual General Meeting on Monday, 18 May (7.00-9.00pm) at Winmarleigh House, Masonic Hall. RSVP 01925 635448 or email iwilkinson@sifc.org.uk.

Parking at St Joseph's - Please ensure that when you use the car park that you only park in the disabled spaces if you have a current permit. Thank you.

Pentecost Sunday International Day Celebration

Sunday 24 May will be the Pentecost Sunday/International Day celebration at St Joseph's. **There will be only one Mass on that day (at 10.00 am).**

Every member of the parish is encouraged to attend this special Mass in the individual's national or cultural outfit. Bidding prayers will be said in the various languages in the parish. Volunteers are needed to lead Bidding Prayers. Please sign sheet in Narthex if you are willing to read a prayer in your own language. Musicians are also needed to help with the music. Please phone 07794230212 if you can help.

We want everyone to feel included. Join us, bring your families and friends, and let make this special day a memorable one for all.

Remember, there will be a buffet in the parish centre after Mass.

13 May 1967 : The Dedication of the Cathedral of Christ the King by Bishop Augustine Harris,

during a private ceremony attended by a small liturgical party (including Canon Christopher as a student) and several builders and cleaners who were finishing works prior to the solemn opening Mass the next day. On Pentecost Sunday 1982, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass there.

The iconic post-Vatican II building soaring above, as mother church of Liverpool Archdiocese, fosters faith and unity in the city, diocese province and country.

St Joseph's UCM

Wednesday, 13 May -7.30 pm
Bi-monthly Mass at St John Fisher
Cars will leave car park at 7.00 pm

Thursday, 21 May – 12.30-3.30 pm
Next meeting

St Joseph's Gardening Team will meet on Saturday, 16 May.

The next **BINGO** at St Joseph's will take place on Monday, 11 May. Doors open at 1.00 for a 1.30pm start. Please help to support our local charities.

QUIZ Sunday (10 May) in Joseph's Club. 8.00pm start. Jackpot stands at £160. Play Your Cards Right is £60+.

Please do come along and support your Club.

St Joseph's Church cleaning will take place after the 9.30 am Mass on Thursday (14 May). All offers of help would be gratefully received.

Holy Ghost Fathers & Brothers (Spiritans) British Province

'The whole group of believers were united body and soul, and no one lacked anything, but they held everything they owned in common'. Acts 4:32

Some go to mission by giving, some give to mission by going. 'Let each one give just as he/she had decided in their heart. Not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver' 2 Cor 9:7.

Be assured of our prayers. Thank you and remain blessed. Support Spiritan Missions (Apostolates) Worldwide. Envelopes are available at St Joseph's for this purpose.

Careers & Events

The latest vacancies from the archdiocese can be found here :

Careers - Join the team
(liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

Latest events from across the archdiocese can be found here

Events - What's on
(liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

West Warrington Family of Parishes invites you to 'Spirit West,' (an evening of worship and music, an uplifting evening of songs of the Spirit for the spirit). Featuring musicians and singers from across our four churches and St Gregory's High School. This will take place on Friday, 26 June at 7.00 pm at St Joseph's, Penketh. Keep the date free and come and help us raise the roof!

This week (11-17 May) is **Mental Health Awareness Week**, and the theme is 'Take Action'. Check in on a friend you've not spoken to in a while. Take a proper break when you can. Reach out if something's been on your mind. Even one small action can make a real difference.

Pentecost March, Saturday 24 May, 3.00pm. From Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral to Liverpool Cathedral. At Pentecost we remember the Church going out with joy and courage. We mark that here in Liverpool by walking together down Hope Street. Many Voices, One Faith. All are welcome to take part.

Franciscan Rosary Resource

To mark the Franciscan Jubilee this year, Pastoral Development have produced a resource to help pray the Franciscan Rosary. Please find the booklet attached at the back of our churches

Saints of the Week

12 May : Sts Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs. These martyrs honoured the early church, were Roman soldiers (or perhaps chamberlains of the emperor's niece, Domitilla, who after converting to Christianity, refused military service and rejected pagan gods. Because of this they were beheaded.

12 May : St Pancras, Martyr. Pancras was a zealous young Roman convert who suffered martyrdom at the age of fourteen in the persecution of Diocletian and was buried on the Via Aurellia. Pope Symmachus built a coach over his tomb and relics were sent to England with St Augustine of Canterbury.

14 May : St Matthias, Apostle. Matthias was chosen by the apostles between Ascension and Pentecost to take the place of Judas so that he might be a witness of the resurrection of the Lord. The story of how he was numbered with the other apostles is found in the Acts 1:15-26.

15 May : Our Lady of Fatima (Transferred). This celebration marks the first of six monthly apparitions of the Virgin Mary to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal on 13 May 1917. The message given at Fatima emphasised prayer, repentance and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Of the visionaries, Francisco and Jacinta were canonised by Pope Francis in 2107 – at 10 and 9 the Church's youngest non-martyr saints – and their cousin Lucia (who died in 2005) has been declared Venerable. This memorial invites the faithful to reflect on the themes of peace, conversion and the maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Parish of Sacred Heart & Saint Alban Safeguarding Reps

Irene Crowder, Margaret McGrath & Paul Towey



Mass Intentions for week commencing 10 May 2026

	Sacred Heart	Saint Alban	Saint Joseph	Saint Paul of the Cross
Sunday 10 May	11.00 am José Antonio Laurencio Da Costa (Anniversary)	9.30 am Sheila O'Neill	8.30 am Annette Parker (RoS) 4.00 pm Sharon Morley	10.00 am
Monday 11 May			9.30 am Brian Crompton	
Tuesday 12 May		9.30 am Special Intention		9.00 am
Wednesday 13 May	7.30 pm (1 st Mass of Feast) Kathleen Mannion		2.00 pm* Legion of Mary Blessing of the Sick	9.00 am
Thursday The Ascension 14 May	1.10 pm People of the Parish	9.30 am Ligia Deonea De Aradjo (RoS)	9.30 am - Mary Rita Segarajasinghe (RoS) 6.00 pm Val Meredith	9.00 am
Friday 15 May	9.30 am David Avery (RoS)		9.30 am Ronnie Ravenscroft (RoS)	
Saturday 16 May	Sacred Heart Church : 11.00 am First Holy Communicants & Families Sacred Heart Church : 5.15 pm Jennifer Maguire (20 th Anniversary)			6.00 pm
Sunday 17 May	11.00 am Louise Smith (Sick)	9.30 am People of the Parish	8.30 am The Mather Family (RoS) 4.00 pm Norma Reading (Remembrance)	10.00 am

Confession	Saturday from 4.30 pm	Saturday from 9.30 am	Wednesday 5.15 pm-5.45 pm	Saturday 5.15-5.45 pm
Adoration [Exposition]		After the Mass on Tuesday	Monday 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**.

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
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.stjosephpenketh.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
First Holy Communicants

Sacred Heart
Jennifer Maguire
(20th Anniversary)

St Joseph
Rhona & Brian Jones

St Joseph's Marian Candle
Rose Price
(4th Anniversary)

Please remember in your
prayers the following who
have died recently :
Joseph Patrick Hooper.
Laurence Serrano, Ronnie
Ravenscroft & Patricia Ford
May they rest in peace.

St Joseph's Bonus Ball
5/5/26 No 20
Winner : Mavis Andrews
36 numbers sold.

FUNERALS

Week commencing 18 May

Funeral Service for Patricia Ford at 10.15 am
on Tuesday, 19 May at St Joseph's

Requiem Mass for Joseph Patrick Hooper at
10.00 am on Friday, 22 May at St Joseph's

May they rest in peace.

Pentecost Novena

This year the Novena to the Holy Spirit will begin
on 15 May and conclude on Saturday, 23 May.
Each session starts at 7.00 pm at St Joseph's
and there is a theme each day to reflect on.

- Friday, 15 May : ***Come Holy Spirit***
- Saturday, 16 May : ***Wisdom***
- Sunday, 17 May : ***Understanding***
- Monday, 18 May : ***Counsel***
- Tuesday, 19 May : ***Fortitude***
- Wednesday, 20 May : ***Knowledge***
- Thursday, 21 May : ***Piety***
- Friday, 22 May : ***Fear of the Lord***
- Saturday, 23 May : ***Gifts to Fruits***

Do come along. Don't miss out.

The facilitator is Fr Phil Marsh C.S.Sp