

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISHES OF

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin, Croxteth **St Teresa of the Child Jesus
Norris Green**

Tel: 0151 546 3574

Tel: 0151 226 1354

Email: olqom@rcaol.org.uk

Email: st.teresasng@rcaol.org.uk

*In the Pastoral Area of St Raphael and St Paul
with Blessed Sacrament 474 2682*

Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 476 0289

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Fallon Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony Kelly

Deacons: Chris Housbey, Malcolm Fletch, Donagh McKillop

Sunday 29th March 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Coronavirus Update

All public worship in churches is suspended from Friday 20th March.

Your prayers are asked for those who have died recently, especially

Mary Roberts, Mary McEvoy

and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Christina Rose Sherry (B'day Rem), Harry Renton, Michael McNally,
Barney Whitehead

**Please pray too for all those who are lonely or housebound and for
those who are sick, at home or in hospital, especially**

Janet Clark, Raymond Doran, Peter Fraser, John Murphy, Peter Tallon, T.
C. Sheila Willcox, Andreas Samaras, John Walker, Sr. Kathleen Hamilton,
David & Julie Pearce, J. G., Mary Mousley, Paul, Angela Adlen, Emily
Purdie, Giles Rowe, Angela Gregory.

**The Archbishop has recorded a video message for the Solemnity
of the Annunciation.**

The message can be found by following the link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3MNOYFSyBI>

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be loving embrace of God to our neighbours.

Amen.

The Redemptorists in Ireland have slightly modified this prayer to reflect the times we are living in.

Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture to beseech your intercession.

We think of you, Mother, at the foot of the Cross. Your heart must have bled to see your Son in agony. But your joy was great when He rose from the dead, victorious over the powers of evil.

Mother of Sorrows, pray for us in this time of trial. Help us not to lose heart. Intercede for your people who are afflicted with Coronavirus. Comfort your people who are vulnerable and anxious. Protect healthcare workers who put their lives at risk. Inspire our leaders to make good decisions. Change our hearts so that we may act responsibly.

Teach us to trust in God's love and mercy and to share with you the joy of having courageously faced up to all the challenges of Life.

Amen

Foodbanks

Foodbanks are struggling to stay open and feed the hungry. With supermarket shelves empty, and volunteers being told to stay at home, foodbanks are depleted and under pressure. In addition to this, it is harder for us to donate to foodbanks when we are limited to buying only one or two items. The advice at the moment is, that when we are out shopping, and only when we have to be out shopping in any case, to donate items where we can, and where foodbanks are still operating. For more information visit www.trusselltrust.org/coronavirus-food-banks/

St Teresa's Parish Lottery

Due to the current situation with the Covid19 virus we will not be selling any more tickets for the parish lottery until further notice.

City Council Volunteer schemes : Please follow these links.

- Liverpool - <https://liverpool.gov.uk/communities-and-safety/emergency-planning/coronavirus/coronavirus-volunteer-to-help/>
- Knowsley - <https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/community-hub>
- Sefton - <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/miscellaneous-pages/volunteering-during-covid-19.aspx>

PRAYERS FOR INNER PEACE

“ I will Help You”

Lord, I ask your help, please help me.
I need your grace, please send Your Holy Spirit
So that I may find peace and happiness again.
Lord inspire me, Lord strengthen me,
Lord heal me.

STAY WITH ME LORD

Stay with me Lord, when it is dark; when pain and troubles are all I see;
Stay with me Lord, in the dawn and the bright,
when love is deep and I sense your presence;
Stay with me Lord

Dead or Alive?

Every day we see on our screens statistics about the number of people dying from the Coronavirus. Death appears to be a fact, as solid and bleak as the stone that closed the tomb of Lazarus. But our readings this weekend tell a different story. In the first reading, God promises to raise his people from their graves, making them alive with his Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus waits until his friend Lazarus is dead and buried, then demands that the stone be rolled away and calls Lazarus forth from the tomb. In Holy Week we will still celebrate, even if we have to do it at home, the central truth of our faith when we affirm that Jesus did die, but then he rose again and he really is alive now. We go further and say that the same is true for all who have died in Christ: our dead loved ones, though we grieve for them as Jesus wept for Lazarus, are not dead, but alive with God for ever.

Then we take one more step: because Jesus is the resurrection and the life we say, with St Paul, that his Spirit is living in us now, even before we die. We can taste, here on earth, the everlasting life of heaven. This makes us live in a new way. It changes our outlook on life and death. We begin to see the difference between real life and what passes for living.

Pope Francis often asks us to reflect on the culture in which we live and to recognise what builds up life and what leads to death. He warns that a global economy of exclusion and inequality kills. He says that the culture of prosperity deadens us, that unbridled consumerism combined with inequality damages the fabric of society. He points to the individualism and selfishness that is weakening the bonds of family life. But he is not a pessimist: he calls us to cherish what is good and life-giving, to weep with those who suffer and to take action against everything that diminishes life. He calls us to be confident that Jesus has won the victory over sin and death and that we are alive with his life. Wherever we hear, in our own lives or in the experience of others, the rattle of the chains of death, we can also hear Jesus calling Lazarus back to life: 'Unbind him, let him go free'.

Fr Chris