

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISHES OF

**Our Lady Queen of Martyrs
& St Swithin, Croxteth**

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**St Teresa of the Child Jesus
Norris Green**

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*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 Fletcher, Donagh McKillop

Sunday 19th April 2020

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday

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

Mary Basnett, Rose Crowe, William Fairfield, Jessica Fallon,
Eleanor Ramsdale, Peter Tallon, Peter Woods.

and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Michael McNally (9th Anniv), Terence Gannon, Mary & Martin Gallagher.

**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, 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, Joyce Rhodes.

Live Streaming System

All public worship in churches is still suspended but you can now follow Mass and other service live from both our churches via the links on the parish websites. Masses are also live streamed from the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham www.walsingham.org.uk/livestream.

SATURDAY 18th April

6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 19th April

10.00am Mass: St Teresa's

11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

MONDAY 20th April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

TUESDAY 21st April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

WEDNESDAY 22nd April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

7.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

THURSDAY 23rd April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

FRIDAY 24th April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SATURDAY 25th April

6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 26th April

10.00am Mass: St Teresa's

11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

*All Masses are live streamed via
the parish websites.*

First Holy Communions Postponed

In both parishes we had planned to have our celebrations of First Holy Communion on 13th, 20th and 27th June but we have now taken the decision to postpone the celebrations because of the uncertainty about when we will be able to complete the preparation sessions and to reopen the churches for public celebrations. On 7th May the Government will review the current restrictions in the light of scientific advice and we will decide then whether we will be able to hold the celebrations in July or whether we will need to wait until September. We realise that this will cause disappointment to the children and their families, which is one of the many losses we have to live with at the present time. Please continue to pray for all those preparing for the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage in this period of uncertainty.

Living in a Virtual World - A Visit to the Vatican

Being stuck at home doesn't mean that we can't get our 'cultural fix'.

Thanks to 'virtual tours' there are many museums that we can visit virtually, including the Vatican. To begin your virtual tour, visit

www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/tour-virtuali-elenco.html.

Help us feed people during the Coronavirus crisis!

Foodbanks are struggling to stay open and feed the hungry. If you are out shopping, please donate items where you can and leave them at the supermarket collection points. For more information visit

www.trusselltrust.org/coronavirus-food-banks

Caritas in Nugent runs a weekly food market in Kirkdale.

Donations can be made online via the following link

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/epsy>

L11 Response to Food Poverty

Feeding Liverpool, a local church based organisation aiming to combat food poverty is receiving from its parent organisation, Feeding Britain, £10,000 each month until August to be used towards the support of food provision for vulnerable families and children. The money is being divided between the foodbanks and other established schemes. In our area, this is helping to fund the L11 response, involving a wide range of community partners including Norris Green Community Alliance, Croxteth GEMS, Croxteth Family Matters, Rhys Jones Centre, Kinship Carers, our local councillors Triple C (Liverpool) and the Church Leaders and Community Partners in Norris Green, Croxteth and Clubmoor. The foodbanks we support in Christ Church and Good Shepherd are helping in creating numbers of families, while the schools which have remained open, including St Teresa's and Our Lady & St Swithin's, are continuing to provide school meals.

Hardship Fund Liverpool City Council

The City Council's Hardship Fund is open to anyone who is experiencing the following difficulties:

- People who have no gas or electricity;
- People who have received benefit sanctions or haven't received an award;
- People who have been put on furlough and are experiencing hardship;
- Any other issue that causes hardship.

To apply ring 233 3053.

A decision will be made within 2 days.

The Wounded Healer

Three times in today's Gospel, the risen Jesus says to his disciples, 'Peace be with you', and the effect of his presence among them is that they are filled with joy. The channels through which this peace and joy flow from Jesus into his disciples are the open wounds in his side and his hands. When he shows them his hands and his side they finally 'see the Lord' and are filled with joy. Through these wounds of Jesus, the love and mercy of the Father and the Spirit is poured out on his disciples: they become one with him as he is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. And being one with him, they share his mission to draw everyone into that unity of life and love. Sin is what drags people apart from each other and from God, so the gift of peace that Jesus gives carries with it the gift of forgiveness. The love of God, made visible and accessible through the wounds of Jesus, has the power to heal and forgive all people.

One disciple is not with the others to receive this gift of peace, forgiveness and joy from Jesus, and he is unwilling to accept it on their word. He demands physical proof, proof that Jesus offers him eight days later when he appears again with the same words, 'Peace be with you' and says to Thomas 'Give me your hand'. That is enough for Thomas: he says, 'My Lord and my God!', responding at last with faith rather than doubt.

In these days of pain and suffering at the loss of loved ones, the restrictions on our freedom and anxiety about our future, we find no answers to our many questions, especially the question, why? But the wounds of Jesus remind us that he has become the answer, taking on our suffering and turning it into new life, inviting us to place our hand in his.

Pope Francis is always reminding us that the Church exists to be a channel of God's love and mercy to all people so that they will all experience the joy of God's presence. The life of God flowing from the wounds of Christ is not something we can contain and keep for ourselves. It must flow out through us to others, bringing them peace and joy, and perhaps it can flow most effectively not from our strengths but from our wounds.

Fr Chris