

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 26th April 2020
Third Sunday of Easter

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

Louisa Arnold, Michael Dwyer, Ellen Gilbert, Mary Teresa Hughes,
Ilias Ntomalis, Mr J O'Neill, Leo Robert Marland,
Gloria Sonia Russell, John Steadman.

and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Jock Murray, Teresa McCarthy, Kathleen Jones, Stephen Jones,
Susan Williams, Robert Smith

**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 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

MONDAY 27th April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

TUESDAY 28th April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

WEDNESDAY 29th April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

7.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

THURSDAY 30th April

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

FRIDAY 1st May

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SATURDAY 2nd May

6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 3rd May

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.

Feast of St Joseph the Worker 1st May 2020***Day of Prayer for the Work of Human Hands***

Whether we are currently working or unable to because of lockdown or for other reasons, this is a time for us all to value what we do and consider how to make our skills more available to others.

Resources available online

The Archdiocesan website www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk has video messages from Archbishop Malcolm and Bishop Tom and its Prayer and Resources section has pages on Sunday Reflections, Family Life, Pastoral Care and Outreach and Sustaining Faith in Difficult Times.

The Bishops' Conference website www.cbcew.org.uk features video message from Cardinal Nichols, a national list of churches that are live streaming, prayer resources and sections on Mental Health, supporting Catholic charities and links to advice and information.

You may also be interested in www.sacredspace.ie, a ministry of the Irish Jesuits and www.pray-as-you-go.org, the British Jesuits' prayer site.

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>

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.

Back to Normal?

How many times in the last few weeks have you heard people talk about getting back to normal? But there are two big problems with that idea. The first is that, as the author Margaret Atwood puts it, the arrow of time never moves backwards. We can never go back, only forwards. The second is that we have to ask ourselves, what is normal? Was the life we were living before the Coronavirus pushed us into lockdown normal? Was it normal to be so busy that we didn't have time to cherish what is real and good in life? Was it normal to consume goods and exploit natural resources so much that our common home was threatened? Was it normal to accept that a tiny minority of the world's people would own most of its resources while the majority would go hungry? One of the many videos circulating through social media thanks the Coronavirus for making us stop and think, forcing us to re-evaluate our attitudes, our priorities and our desires. A significant theme throughout the spirituality not just of Christianity but of all major religions is that suffering can make us grow and death can turn into new life.

The two disciples in today's Gospel story had been through a life changing event. They had begun to believe that Jesus would be the one to set their people free but their hopes had been shattered by his death. Having been raised up in hope and then dashed down with disappointment, they were trying to get back to normal, just as Peter, in another story of the days after the death of Jesus, decided to go back to fishing, to what he knew before the roller coaster of hope and despair had crashed in on his life. But there is no going back and what they thought was normal did not satisfy. The walkers on their way to Emmaus were downcast and Peter, back in his own boat on his familiar lake, could catch no fish.

Into their disappointment and despair comes a figure they fail to recognise until the breaking of bread, at dusk in the inn and at dawn on the shore, reveals that reality can never be the same again, that death is no longer an ending, that life can never be destroyed, because Jesus has broken the chains of death, offering us all a chance, not to get back to normal, but to live a new life.

Fr Chris