

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 21st June 2020

Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

John McManaman, Jeanette Thompson Derek Smith, Jim Melia, Helen Kelly,
Mary Trafford, Joseph Furey, Patricia Clifton, Lucy Gibaud, Ken Foy, Maureen
Ashes

and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Edward (Ned) Burke, Angus Hyslop Robert Gallagher, Veronica Bean, Florence
Shead, Kevin Madigan, James Duke, Anne Sudbury, Ernest Heron, Mavis Rooney.
Henry Joseph Riley, Agnes McGee, Peter Spellman, V.V.Philip, Saramma Philip

**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, David & Julie Pearce, J. G., Mary Mousley, Paul,
Angela Adlen, Giles Rowe, Angela Gregory, Phyllis Cook, Anna Gawlik,

Live Streaming System

From last Sunday we are using the livestreaming system for all the Masses and hoping to have a chat by Zoom at 12.30pm on Sunday for anyone who wants to join in – just send your name and mobile number to olqom@rcaol.org.uk and we will email you a Zoom invitation and instructions.

SATURDAY 20th June

6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 21st June

10.00am Mass: St Teresa's

11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

MONDAY 22nd June

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

TUESDAY 23rd June

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

WEDNESDAY 24th June

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

7.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

THURSDAY 25th June

9.00am Mass: St Teresa's

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

FRIDAY 26th June

9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SATURDAY 27th June

6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 28th June

10.00am Mass: St Teresa's

11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

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

Father's Day, 21st June

For some, Father's Day is a chance to celebrate the love they have been given by the men who raised them. For others it is a reminder of lost loved ones, lost hopes and dreams for a family they cannot have, or painful memories of men who were not able to offer a good model of loving care. In all its nuances, both happy and sad, a day for us all to reflect on fatherhood.

Ss Thomas More and John Fisher 22nd June. On the feast day of Ss Thomas More and John Fisher we are asked to pray especially for those who those who suffer persecution, oppression and the denial of human rights.

The Birth of John the Baptist, 24th June. St. John's motto was, "Jesus must become more and more. I must become less and less." He said that he was not even worthy to loosen the strap of Jesus' sandal.

New Parish Twitter Account @olqmcroxteth

Facebook Page Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and St Swithins, Croxteth

EMERGENCY FOOD: The Food Hub is moving from De La Salle School to Ellergreen Community Centre as the school is re-opening for key workers' and vulnerable children. The service is still the same and the contact is **helpline@altvalley.co.uk or 0151 233 4604.**

CHRISTCHURCH FOOD PANTRY: This is now **OPEN** and offers essential groceries worth £15-20 for £3.50. If you are interested, please register on www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk. If you have any problems filling in the form, you can contact the Pantry Team by emailing: christchurchpantry@gmail.com or ringing **07874 772872**.

Home Shopping Options:

Christchurch food pantry: 07874 772872

Croxteth Farm Produce: www.croxtethfarmproduce.co.uk or 0151 233 6942

Morton's Dairy: www.mortonsdairies.co.uk/ or by phone 0151 263 4236

Family Matters: www.facebook.com/Croxteth-Family-Matters- 07893 04739711 or 07803 361794

Fruit & Veg Van: Every Thursday 10-10.30am Ellergreen, 10.30 to 11am Mossway

Cautious Re-opening of Some Churches for Private Prayer

The Archbishop has given permission for up to two churches in each Pastoral Area to open at restricted times for brief visits for individual private prayer, with strict precautions to prevent spread of the Coronavirus, including one-way systems, restricted numbers, social distancing, use of sanitisers, doors kept open for ventilation etc. Holy water, votive lights, books or leaflets will not be available. Piety stalls and toilets will be closed. Volunteer welcomers will be on hand to ensure that procedures are followed and areas are cleaned after each visit.

The Archbishop has stressed that no-one should feel obliged to come out and visit a church and some people should be encouraged to stay at home for their own safety and the safety of others, e.g. anyone who has symptoms of the virus or is living with someone who has symptoms and anyone who is in the clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable categories, as our primary concern must be the health and safety of our people, and it may be necessary to withdraw this permission at short notice if situations change. It is not appropriate for children to visit a church unless accompanied by a responsible adult.

The venues and times in our Pastoral Area will be:

Blessed Sacrament 11.00am-1.00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs: 11.00am-1.00pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

As only two churches can be opened at the present time, these churches have been chosen because of their position, one either side of the East Lancashire Road, as well as their accessibility, ability to meet the health and safety conditions and tradition of being open for private prayer before the pandemic.

More than hundreds of sparrows

I'm no bird expert but during the lockdown, as I've been walking through Croxteth Country Park and Alt Meadows and along the canal, I've been paying more attention to the birds, as well as the trees, the flowers and all the other amazingly complex and chaotic signs of God's creativity, taking time to wonder at the way beauty and ugliness, growth and decline, life and death, all combine to maintain the world as it unfolds before us.

Last week we celebrated the feast of St John Rigby, born at Harrock Hall in Eccleston and martyred in London in 1600, and the feast of the Sacred Heart, a powerful symbol of the outpouring of God's love for all people and for all of creation. This weekend our first reading and psalm express the confident hope of those suffering persecution for their faith, the second reading speaks of divine grace abundantly outweighing the effects of sin, and in the Gospel Jesus reassures his disciples that, though they may be persecuted, the Father, who has counted every hair on their heads and sees what happens to every sparrow, will never forget them.

John Rigby was born just a few miles from where I grew up. Both my brothers attended the school and sixth form college named after him, where Cardinal Nichols, then known as Fr Vin, was the young chaplain. John Rigby, an ordinary man, went to court to speak for his boss's daughter who had been charged with being a Catholic, treason in those days, but was too ill to attend. When questioned about his own beliefs, he professed his Catholic faith whilst also declaring his loyalty to queen and country. A judge gave him every opportunity to recant, urging him to save himself from the brutal death he faced, but John Rigby said, 'I hope in Jesus. He will strengthen me rather to suffer a thousand deaths if I had so many lives to lose.' He also readily forgave his executioner.

The martyrs are not a different race of people from ourselves. Their courage comes from being sure that the love God has for them and for all his creatures, is more real and powerful than anything else in creation, including pain and death. May our contemplation of nature convince us that we too are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

Fr Chris