

# NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISHES OF

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

Tel: 0151 546 3574

Email: [olqom@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:olqom@rcaol.org.uk)

Web: [queenofmartyrs.org.uk](http://queenofmartyrs.org.uk)

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

Tel: 0151 226 1354

Email: [st.teresasng@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:st.teresasng@rcaol.org.uk)

Web: [st.teresasng.com](http://st.teresasng.com)

*In the Pastoral Area of St Raphael and St Paul  
with Blessed Sacrament 0151 474 2682*

*Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 0151 476 0289*

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

*Deacons: Chris Housbey, Malcolm Fletcher, Donagh McKillop*

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

Second Sunday of Christmas

## **Live Streaming System**

All services from both churches are live streamed via Church Services TV. You can view services via the links on our websites, Facebook and Twitter sites or for Our Lady's at [www.churchservices.tv/croxteth](http://www.churchservices.tv/croxteth) and for St Teresa's at [www.churchservices.tv/teresanorrisgreen](http://www.churchservices.tv/teresanorrisgreen).

**Your prayers are asked for those who have died recently, especially**  
Joan Carter, Brian Monaghan, Mary Baines, Mary Garforth, Marie Benson  
Joseph Cullen.

**and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time**  
Mary Freeman, Mary Flack, Brian McMullen, Dorothy Hawtrey, Anne Wright,  
Ann Bernadette Sumner, John "Terry" Owens, Mary (Molly) McGlynn,  
Rose 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, Margaret Bradley, Peter Fraser, John Murphy, T. C. Sheila Willcox, Andreas Samaras, John Walker, David & Julie Pearce, J. G., Mary Mousley, Paul & Kate, Angela Adlen, Giles Rowe, Angela Gregory, Anna Gawlik, Jon, Mick Lawrence, Joan Turner, Brian McEvoy, Elizabeth O'Grady, David Holgate, Eleanor March, Raymond Doran, Joan, Daria McCusker, Robert Gibson*

**THE MASSES IN BOLD TYPE ARE OPEN FOR PEOPLE TO ATTEND**

**Saturday 2nd January**

**6.00pm: Queen of Martyrs**

**6.00pm: St Teresa's**

THURSDAY 7th January

9.00am Queen of Martyrs

10.00am Requiem St Teresa's

**Sunday 3rd January**

**10.00am: St Teresa's**

**11.30am: Queen of Martyrs**

FRIDAY 8th January

11.00am Requiem St Teresas

9.00am Queen of Martyrs

1.00pm Funeral Queen of Martyrs

Monday 4th January

9.00am Queen of Martyrs

**SATURDAY 9th January**

**6.00pm St Teresa's**

**6.00pm Queen of Martyrs**

Tuesday 5th January

11.30am Requiem St Teresa's

**SUNDAY 10th January**

**10.00am Mass: St Teresa's**

**11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs**

**Wednesday 6th January**

**9.00am St Teresa's**

**7.00pm Queen of Martyrs**

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

**Most Holy Name of Jesus - 3rd January**

The name of Jesus means "saviour". We read in the Bible how the Angel Gabriel revealed the name to Mary: "You shall call His name Jesus." And to Joseph the angel not only revealed the name but explained its meaning: "You shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." So on this day we are reminded that Jesus' name tells us of the greatest gift we are ever to receive ... salvation!

**The Epiphany - 6th January**

Jesus' birth was made known to Jewish shepherds by angels singing in the heavens. Today, on the feast of the Epiphany, Jesus' birth was made known to three wise gentiles, the Magi, by a guiding star. The story reveals the universality of the Messiah, one single saviour for both Jews and Gentiles alike. Jesus did not come to establish different religions. Jesus came for us all, regardless of race, creed, colour and status. On this feast day, we ask that God may wipe out all harmful prejudices from the world, and especially from within our midst.

## WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome *Sienna Harris* who was baptised into our faith community this week.



New resources now available on the Archdiocesan website include:

- [Reflection for the Feast of the Holy Family \(also available as an audio download\)](#).
- [Reflection for the Second Sunday of Christmas \(also available as an audio download\)](#).
- [Readings for Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family and the Second Sunday of Christmas.](#)
- [Week 16 and 17 in the series of 'Armchair Retreats' with Fr Denis Blackledge SJ.](#)

## IF YOU FEEL LONELY DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE

- Text 'SHOUT' to 85258 (24/7)
- SAMARITANS 116 123
- MIND 0300123 3393
- THE CALM ZONE 0800 58 58 58
- REFUGE 0808 200 0247
- YOUNG MINDS 0808 802 5544

There are many other places to contact, however you are feeling.

Wherever you are in the world there are always people and places you can contact. You are NOT alone; you WILL get through this!

## Thank you

Fr Anthony and Fr Chris thank you for the many cards, gifts and assurances of prayers and good wishes we have received this Christmas, and for all your kindness, patience and support throughout the last year, with all the challenges it has brought. We feel blessed in being called to serve the communities in Croxteth and Norris Green and proud of the way you have responded to the circumstances of the pandemic, finding new and creative ways to witness to God's love and to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable among us.

## *In the beginning*

At the start of 2021, the Church gives us the opening words of John's Gospel. Each of the evangelists begins the story in a different way. Mark dives straight in with John the Baptist announcing Jesus's public ministry, telling us nothing of where Jesus came from. Luke gives us most of the details we think of as 'the Christmas story': angels, shepherds, the stable, the temple. Matthew will tell of Joseph's dreams, Herod and the wise men, but begins with the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his ancestry through Joseph's family tree all the way back to Abraham. John's starting point is the beginning of the world, the Word who was with God in the beginning, who was God, the source of all life. He tells how that Word, the light shining in the darkness, came into our world, took on our flesh and lived among us, so that we could see his glory.

However they begin the story, all four Gospel writers agree that God has become human so that we can become divine. As John puts it, the Word gives us power to become children of God. This is mind-blowing stuff! In our second reading this weekend Paul echoes the same amazing claim that, before the world was made, God chose us to live through love in his presence. Paul goes on to pray that the Lord will enlighten the eyes of our mind so that we can see what hope his call holds for us, what rich glories he has promised we will inherit.

Pope St Leo the Great, in a famous Christmas sermon, asked 'When the angels on high are so exultant at this marvellous work of God's goodness, what joy should it not bring to the lowly hearts of men?' and urged 'Christian, remember your dignity, and now that you share in God's own nature, do not return to your former base condition. Bear in mind who is your head and of whose body you are a member. Do not forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of God's kingdom'. If you're reflecting on the extraordinary year that has just ended and looking for a New Year Resolution to help you face the mixture of hope and challenge that lies ahead, you could do a lot worse than take Pope Leo's words to heart.

*Fr Chris*