

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**

Tel: 0151 226 1354

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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 14th March 2021
Mother's Day

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 and for St Teresa's at www.churchservices.tv/teresanorrisgreen.

Your prayers are asked for those who have died recently, especially
Helen McDonald, Jane Davis, Joan Hankin, Anne Mitchell, baby Lottie Platt,
Terence Campbell, John OShea, Deborah Irving, Angela Shaw, Violet Durkin,
David Hill, Olive Everson

and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Christina Hobson

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

*Sheila Willcox, Janet Clark, Margaret Bradley, Peter Fraser, John Murphy, T. C.
Andreas Samaras, John Walker, David & Julie Pearce, J. G., Mary Mousley, Paul &
Kate, Angela Adlen, Giles Rowe, Angela Gregory, Anna Gawlik, Mick Lawrence,
Joan Turner, Brian McEvoy, Elizabeth O'Grady, David Holgate, Joan, Daria
McCusker, Robert Gibson, Deb Joyce, Margaret Lace, Irene Kennedy,
Brian Threlfall, Eileen Guy, baby Toby McKuster*

SATURDAY 13th March
6.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs
6.00pm Mass: St Teresa's

SUNDAY 14th March
10.00am Mass: St Teresa's
11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

MONDAY 15th March
9.00am Mass: St Teresa's
1.00pm Funeral: St Teresa's

TUESDAY 16th March
9.00am Mass: St Teresa's
9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

WEDNESDAY 17th March
9.00am Mass: St Teresa's
7.00pm Mass: Queen of Martyrs

THURSDAY 18th March
9.00am Mass: St Teresa's
9.00am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

FRIDAY 19th March
10.00am Funeral: St Teresa's
2.00pm Requiem St Teresa's

SATURDAY 20th March
6.00pm St Teresa's
6.00pm Queen of Martyrs

SUNDAY 21st March
10.00am Mass: St Teresa's
11.30am Mass: Queen of Martyrs

All Masses are live streamed via the parish websites

Re-opening our churches – volunteers needed

We are really grateful to the parishioners who have volunteered as stewards in both churches for the Masses when we were able to be open and for funerals during the last months. As we prepare gradually to open up for more services, including baptisms and weddings, with the Government's required precautions still in place, we will need more volunteers to do welcoming, track and trace, hand sanitising and cleaning benches, door handles etc., especially when there may be multiple services on the same day. If you are able to help, either at weekends or during the week, and are not in a clinically vulnerable category, please email the relevant parish office letting us know which days and times you can be available. Once we have enough volunteers we will make a decision as to how soon and how often we can safely open each church. As all the phases of the road map are dependent on the Government's assessment of their effect on the pandemic and may well be delayed, any advance bookings for weddings or baptisms can only be provisional

First Holy Communion

We hope to be able to celebrate First Holy Communion sometime during 2021 but we don't yet know when that will be possible. If you have a child in Year 4 or above who wishes to receive Holy Communion, please contact the parish offices to request a registration form. The *With You Always* preparation material for parents and children is now available online, so families are encouraged to access

them and begin working through them as soon as possible (though the Church Treasure Hunt in Session 1 will have to wait until restrictions are lifted).

Here is the link: <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/eucharist>.

Lent Talks *BBC Radio 4*

Six people well known in their fields reflect on the story of Jesus' ministry and Passion from the perspective of their own personal and professional experience. Wednesday's at 8.45pm and Sundays at 5.45pm

Laetare Sunday

Lent means 40 days of fast, abstinence, and penitential works, but on the fourth Sunday of Lent there's a change. On Laetare (Rejoice) or Rose Sunday, we look beyond the sorrows of Lent to the rejoicings of the coming Easter.

Mothering Sunday 14th March



Mothering Sunday has been celebrated in the UK on the fourth Sunday in Lent from the 16th century. On this Sunday it was expected that families should attend their 'Mother Church'. Young girls and boys who worked in service were allowed this one day off in the year to visit their family. Often the housekeeper or cook would send the young staff home with gifts of cake or flowers for their mothers, and so it became a day not to just to attend their mother church, but to pay their mothers respect. This history is largely forgotten, but it remains an opportunity for us to show our mothers just how much we appreciate and love them.

Feast of Saint Patrick- Patron Saint of Ireland 17th March



On St. Patrick's day it is customary to wear a piece of shamrock, but why? The old custom stems from an Irish tale that tells how Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day.

Saint Joseph 19th March



Discretion, humility, care, tenderness, courage, integrity, and hard work. We don't get to hear much about St Joseph but the little we do know teaches us a great deal about being a 'guardian', not just for the benefit of the youngsters in our family, but for all those who look to us for example.

Choosing light

A powerful song that opens the musical *Les Miserables*, tells the prisoners doing forced labour in the chain gang, ‘Look down, look down! You’ll always be a slave. Look down, look down! You’re standing in your grave.’ Many people, especially in these Covid-restricted times, have their eyes fixed on the ground, on the daily task of putting one foot in front of the other, getting through the day, without reflecting much on where they’re going.

Nicodemus comes to Jesus under cover of darkness, not wanting to be seen with him, and is told that Jesus is going to be lifted up, as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone can look up at him and, believing in him, have eternal life.

Jesus is the light that has come into the world, revealing that we are not slaves, condemned to labouring for whatever rewards we can get in this material world, but beloved children of God, called to a life of everlasting happiness with God, for which this life is only a preparation. God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son so that all people can be saved. Who could refuse such an offer?

And yet people do continue to choose darkness rather than light. In fact, that tendency is in all of us. We don’t realise we are in darkness until the light shines and then it can seem too bright, showing us up and demanding that we change our ways. The darkness can be more comfortable, even though it is leading us nowhere. People around us assume that we will continue to behave in predictable ways. Our society encourages the notion that this life is the only one that matters, that physical health, social success and material gain are the only goals to be pursued.

The gospel invites us to raise our sights, to remember that we are destined for far more than this world can offer, and that this destiny is not something we can earn, but is the free gift of the God who loves us with so much love that he is generous in his mercy. Raising our eyes to see Jesus lifted up on the cross of suffering and raised from the darkness of death to the brightness of new life will lead us into the future that God has in mind for us, which is beyond our wildest dreams.

Fr Chris