

# Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin.

Stonebridge Lane Croxteth Liverpool 11

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

**PASTORAL AREA of St Raphael and St Paul**

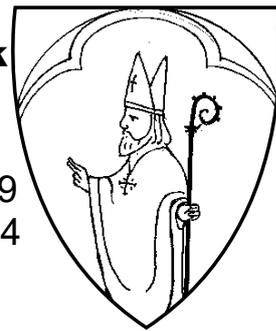
Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 476 0289

Blessed Sacrament 474 2682. St Teresa's 226 1354

**Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Kelly.**

Deacons: Chris Housbey & Malcolm Fletcher.

Safeguarding Representatives: Catherine Housbey & Malcolm Fletcher.



**Easter Week 5**

**15th May**

## Gospel Reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Easter Love Is Catching

Does it ever seem to you that Jesus can be a little unrealistic? Today Jesus tells us,

**"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.**

**Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."**

But how can we go round loving everyone we meet? Isn't love reserved to those closest to us ... our parents, children, and partners? Harder still, how can we love as Jesus loved? Jesus loved us to the point of death. Surely following this kind of example is a very tall order!

The main thing to remember in following Jesus' teaching is that he wouldn't ask anything of us that we couldn't do. Secondly, we might not be ready to love each other to the point of death, but Jesus gives us plenty of other lessons in how to love. We're not talking some impossible ideal or some form of idealistic behaviour. We simply need to recognise, as Jesus recognised that love is a basic human need. Jesus had a talent for seeing everyone as an individual. We too need to see people as individuals rather than lump them together into categories. We too need to recognise need and respond accordingly. Loving someone is a decision we make rather than the harbouring of fluffy romantic sentiments found in greeting cards. Loving someone is about serving the need to be liked, appreciated, forgiven or helped. We follow Jesus' lessons in love every time we seek to alleviate someone else's suffering ... every time we reject violence and retaliation ..... every time we make a stand against neglect or greed or apathy.

There are plenty of people who are already living their lives by Jesus' example. These people are shining examples of discipleship, not be what they say but by how they behave. Have you ever been filled with so much respect for someone that you wanted to imitate them? If you start to behave in the same way it won't be long before others are looking up to you as a role model. **Watch out .... love is catching.**

### National Children's Day UK



NCDUK Is all about the importance of a healthy childhood, and how we protect the rights and freedoms of children and young people. It is a day of celebration, but it is also a great opportunity for anyone involved with children to raise awareness about projects they are running or things they care about.

Get Involved!

**For National Children's Day UK2022** we will be exploring how we need to create a kinder world, what makes people **UNKIND**, and how everyone can choose to be **Kind**.  
[www.savechildhood.net](http://www.savechildhood.net)



### Free Guitar Lessons

**Sr. Linda is offering free guitar lessons to allow you to practise that gift by playing the guitar at the Saturday evening Mass.**

**The details are:**

**Thursday Evenings**

**Venue: OLQM Parish Community Room**

**Time: 6.30pm - 7.30pm**

**Age: 8 years old upwards**

**You will need to provide your own guitar.**

**For further information please contact**

**Sr. Linda: 546 4820 or email: [srlindafma@gmail.com](mailto:srlindafma@gmail.com)**





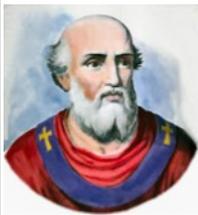
## **Saint Isidore the Farmer, Feast day 15<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Isidore has become the patron of farmers and rural communities.** In particular, he is the patron of Madrid, Spain, and of the United States National Rural Life Conference. When he was barely old enough to wield a hoe, Isidore entered the service of John de Vergas, a wealthy landowner from Madrid, and worked faithfully on his estate outside the city for the rest of his life. He married a young woman as simple and upright as himself who also became a saint—Maria de la Cabeza. They had one son, who died as a child. religious instincts. He rose early in the morning to go to church and spent many a holiday the churches of Madrid and surrounding areas. All day long, as he walked behind the plough, with God. His devotion, one might say, became a problem, for his fellow workers sometimes he often showed up late because of lingering in church too long. He was known for his love of the poor, and there are accounts of Isidore's supplying them miraculously with food. He had a great concern for the proper treatment of animals.

**He died May 15, 1130,** and was declared a saint in 1622, with Saints Ignatius of Loyola, Francis Xavier, Teresa of Avila, and Philip Neri. Together, the group is known in Spain as "the five saints."

### **Reflection**

Many implications can be found in a simple labourer achieving sainthood: Physical labour has dignity; sainthood does not stem from status; contemplation does not depend on learning; the simple life is conducive to holiness and happiness. Legends about angel helpers and mysterious oxen indicate that his work was not neglected, and his duties did not go unfulfilled. Perhaps the truth which emerges is this: If you have your spiritual self in order, your earthly commitments will fall into order also. "Seek first the kingdom [of God] and his righteousness," said the carpenter from Nazareth, "and all these things will be given you besides" (Matthew 6:33).



## **Saint John I, Feast day 18<sup>th</sup> May.**

Pope John I, inherited the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. Italy had been ruled for 30 years by an emperor who espoused the heresy, though he treated the empire's Catholics with toleration. His policy changed at about the time the young John was elected pope. When the eastern emperor began imposing severe measures on the Arians of his area, the western emperor forced John to head a delegation to the East to soften the measures against the heretics. Little is known of the manner or outcome of the negotiations—designed to secure continued toleration of Catholics in the West. On his way home, John was imprisoned at Ravenna

because the emperor had begun to suspect that John's friendship with his eastern rival might lead to a conspiracy against his throne. Shortly after his imprisonment, John died, apparently from the treatment he received in prison. John's body was transported to Rome and he was buried in the Basilica of St. Peter. Pope John I was born in Tuscany Italy, died May 18, 526.

## **Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest, Feast day 20<sup>th</sup> May.**



Saint Bernardine of Siena was the Billy Graham of his day. Graham was a well-known American evangelist who travelled ceaselessly from city to city preaching the good news of the Gospel over many decades. Yet while today's saint was certainly a roving evangelist, he was also much more. He was first and foremost vowed to poverty, chastity, and obedience as a Franciscan Friar. Saint Bernardine was also ordained into the one Priesthood of Jesus Christ by a successor of the Apostles. And he had received a long and complete theological and humanistic education

before he ever opened his mouth in front of a crowd. He was even a doctor of canon law.

Saint Bernardine of Siena was one of the many bright lights of fifteenth-century Italy who did everything in his power to create a holier Church through his preaching and witness. He was such a thoroughly compelling and entertaining speaker that enormous crowds turned out to hear him, normally first thing in the morning.

He encouraged devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus and often held the IHS monogram in his hand when preaching. In the Franciscan tradition, Bernardine of Siena walked everywhere. No horse or mule or carriage for the journey. Preaching, he understood, was an essential charisma of the Priesthood of Christ, not an add-on.

Saint Bernardine was three times offered to be made a bishop by the Holy See. And three times he said, "No." Bernardine of Siena was the Saint Paul of his era and was canonized in 1450, just six years after he died, numerous miracles having already been attributed to his intercession.

*Saint Bernardine of Siena is the patron Saint of advertising and gambling. he inspires all preachers to not count the personal cost of stating uncomfortable truths but instead to suffer the repercussions of honest talk. Help priests to fortify their preaching with impeccable lives of prayer, fasting, devotion, and virtue.*

## **Saint Christopher Magallanes, Feast day 21<sup>st</sup> May.**

Like Blessed Miguel Agustín, Christopher Magallanes and his 24 companion martyrs lived under a very anti-Catholic government in Mexico, one determined to weaken the Catholic faith of its people. Churches, schools, and seminaries were closed; foreign clergy were expelled. Christopher established a clandestine seminary at Totatiche, Jalisco. He and the other priests were forced to minister secretly to Catholics during the presidency of Plutarco Calles (1924-28).



Today's saint, and the others canonized with him, were caught in the storm that was Plutarco Calles. Christopher Magallanes was a priest of humble origins like those of Calles, but Magallanes walked a different path than the strongman. After working the land as a youth for his poor family, he entered the seminary and was ordained a priest in 1899. He then served faithfully as a chaplain and pastor for many years.

But the otherwise ordinary arc of his life took an extraordinary turn when, on May 21, 1927, he was on his way to celebrate the Feast of St. Rita of Cascia (May 22) in a small village. A shootout between Cristeros and Federal forces near the village led to Father Magallanes' arrest, along with a brother priest, Father Caloca. There were no accusations and no trial. There was neither the presentation of evidence nor the right of defence, since priests had no civil rights in Mexico at the time. On May 25, 1927, the two priests were led to the courtyard of a municipal building for what always happened next. Father Magallanes stated: "I am innocent and die innocent. I absolve with all my heart those who seek my death and ask God that my blood bring peace to a divided Mexico." The priests absolved each other, spoke some few words of comfort, and then were shot to death by a firing squad of fellow Mexicans in soldiers' uniforms. Father Caloca's last words were: "For God we lived and for Him we die."

*Father Magallanes, your quiet witness and noble death are an inspiration to all who suffer physical violence for the faith in unknown ways and in unknown places. May your intercession and courage be an inspiration for all priests, laymen, and religious who are tempted to bend in the winds of persecution.*

### **Pray In May for Mary's Meals**

**'Mary's Meals' is a mission carried out in Our Lady's name to feed children a daily school meal in some of the world's poorest communities. During May, the month traditionally dedicated to the Virgin Mary, we are asked to pray for the children who eat Mary's Meals.**

**To do:-**

**Pray the Rosary for Mary's Meals.**

[www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)

### **Supporting Ukraine With Your Small Change**

Calling all Consumers. Lots of our supermarkets are now sending support packages out to Ukraine. Find out if your local supermarket is one of them and lend your support. Some supermarkets are requesting consumers round up their payment at the self-service check-out to the nearest pound. In this way supermarkets have raised millions to provide Ukrainian refugees with warm clothes, food and shelter. They are also focusing on restoring water supplies and medical facilities. This is an easy and quick way to support. Your small change can make a big change in Ukraine.

### **Vocations Weekend for Young Women**

Theme: Discernment and Vocation

Dates: 27-29 May 2022 - Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the sisters,

**Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).**

There is nothing quite like religious life – it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com) or visit our website

[www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

### **PLIGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM**

**Monday 18th July – Thursday 21st July**

**For those who have indicated they would like to go on the parish pilgrimage a deposit of £30 is now due with the remainder £198, full board, £162 half board, due by 18th June.**

**Money can be paid in cash or by cheque. Please put it in an envelope with your name, telephone number and email address.**

**Thank you**

### **Towards Pentecost 2022**

**Listening and Responding to the Cry of the Poor and the Cry of the Earth**



**Live Streaming System**

All services are live streamed via Church Services TV. You can view Services via the link on our website, Facebook and Twitter sites or at:

[www.churchservices.tv/croxteth](http://www.churchservices.tv/croxteth)

**Liturgy for the Week**  
**Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	First Holy Communion Mass
		<b>6.00pm</b>	D&M For Healing
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15th</b>	<b>11.30am</b>	Parishioners Intentions
<b>Monday</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>1.00pm</b>	Funeral - Geraldine Hayes
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>18th</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>9.45am</b>	Funeral - Susan Fay
<b>Friday</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	First Holy Communion Mass
		<b>12.30pm</b>	First Holy Communion Mass
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Special Intention M.N.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22nd</b>	<b>11.30.am</b>	Parishioners Intentions

**Baptisms**



Tommy Paul Melling



Your prayers are asked for those who have

**Died recently**

Charles Murphy	Dorothy Jones	Thomas Grice
Kelvin Clarke	Gillian Haake	Julie Sinnott
	Beppy,	

**Anniversaries and Birthdays**

Kath Morley	Marie Donnelly
Paul Gaffney	Annie Cunningham
	Ellen Berry

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

Angela Adlen	Eileen Guy	Dave McLoughlin	Christine & David Fitzsimmons
Angela Gregory	Ellen Cooke	Paul & Kate	Kathy Fox
Baby Bella	Janet Clark	Peter Fraser	Eleanor Mawdsley
Bernie Boyde	John Murphy	Robbie Ross	Joan, Andreas Samaras
Brian Threlfall	Josie Dunne	Toni Dal	Margaret & Joseph Maloney
David Holgate	Kenny Morley	Joan Turner	Vassilis Alamaniotis
Diane Bell	Margaret Bradley	Canon Brendan Alger	Sr Edith Culliton
Eddie Unsworth	Margaret Lace	David & Julie Pearce	G., + MP., + TC.,

**Next week is Dementia Action week and at the Irenaeus Project**

*we are offering a Dementia Awareness Refresher Zoom session at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 17th May. It will be an evening to refresh our Dementia awareness and to share our experiences of working with and supporting people living with Dementia. It's important that we support each other at times like this. If you would like to join us, please email [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) for a link.*

Would you like to hear the experiences of others?

Have you ever attended a Dementia Awareness session yet?