

# 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

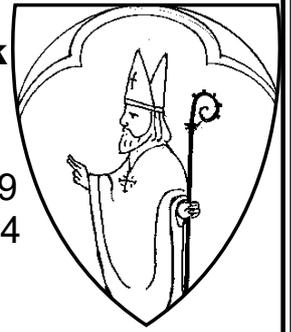
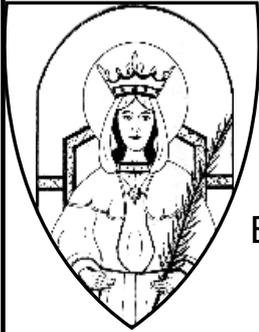
Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 476 0289

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 7**

**29th May**

## Gospel Reflection for Seventh Sunday of Easter.

This Gospel picks up on the theme of encounter and intimacy. The story describes the beautiful unity existing between the Godhead and Jesus. In dialogue with the divine, Jesus expresses his desire for those whom he loves, namely, that they also share in the same divine oneness that he shares in with his God. This unity, based on and flowing from love, is the palpable presence of God that reveals God to the world and continues the mission of Jesus. It is a visible expression of God's love in the community and among its members that not only reveals something of the divine but also draws others to faith. The "glory" that will be revealed in and through the love of Jesus for his own is rooted in his love for the divine and the divine's love for him.

In sum, today's Gospel as well as the other readings for this Sunday invite us into a life of intimacy and encounter with the divine that deepens with time, a gift given not because of one's place or position in life but because of an abiding love that is forever self-revealing and distinctively unifying.

## COMMISSIONING OF OUR PARISH VOLUNTEERS. COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION! PENTECOST SUNDAY 5th JUNE 2022.

On the feast of Pentecost, next week, we will be commissioning all the parishioners who have generously signed up to volunteer in the parish. The commissioning will take place after the homily during the mass.

To mark this special event, we would like to have a feast after mass.

Can you please contribute some food/drink to add to the banquet? It would be wonderful to have dishes from around the world to capture the richness and diversity of our Parish Community. If you can contribute, please bring the dish with you on the day and give it to Anne Harvey or Catherine Houseby.

THANK YOU!

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE!



## Blessed Lawrence Richardson, Feast day May 30.

Lawrence Richardson of Great Crosby, Lancashire, was an English martyr.

Born Lawrence Johnson, he was the son of Richard Johnson, of Great Crosby, Lancashire, and a Fellow of Brasenose College. He was ordained priest at Douai in March 1577, and afterwards, taking the name of Richardson, left for the English Mission, in late July. In 1581, Richardson was arrested in London on his way to France and imprisoned in Newgate, charged with complicity in the pretended "Rheims and Rome plot". He was executed at Tyburn in 1582, with Luke Kirby. His feast day is May 30. He was beatified in 1886.



## Saint Joan of Arc, Feast day May 30.

Burned at the stake as a heretic after a politically-motivated trial, Joan was beatified in 1909 and canonized in 1920. Born of a fairly well-to-do peasant couple in Domremy-Greux southeast of Paris, Joan was only 12 when she experienced a vision and heard voices that she later identified as Saints Michael the Archangel, Catherine of Alexandria, and Margaret of Antioch.

During the Hundred Years War, Joan led French troops against the English and recaptured the cities of Orléans and Troyes. This enabled Charles VII to be crowned as king in Reims in 1429.

Captured near Compiègne the following year, Joan was sold to the English and placed on trial for heresy and witchcraft. Professors at the University of

Paris supported Bishop Pierre Cauchon of Beauvais, the judge at her trial; Cardinal Henry Beaufort of Winchester, England, participated in the questioning of Joan in prison. In the end, she was condemned for wearing men's clothes. The English resented France's military success—to which Joan contributed.

On this day in 1431, Joan was burned at the stake in Rouen, and her ashes were scattered in the Seine River.

A second Church trial 25 years later nullified the earlier verdict, which was reached under political pressure.

Remembered by most people for her military exploits, Joan had a great love for the sacraments, which strengthened her compassion toward the poor. Popular devotion to her increased greatly in 19th-century France and later among French soldiers during World War I.

Theologian George Tavard writes that her life "offers a perfect example of the conjunction of contemplation and action" because her spiritual insight is that there should be a "unity of heaven and earth."

### Reflection

"Joan of Arc is like a shooting star across the landscape of French and English history, amid the stories of the Church's saints and into our consciousness. Women identify with her; men admire her courage. She challenges us in fundamental ways. Despite the fact that more than 500 years have passed since she lived, her issues of mysticism, calling, identity, trust and betrayal, conflict and focus are our issues still."

*(Joan of Arc: God's Warrior by Barbara Beckwith)*

## The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast day May 31.

*Two young mothers and their treasures meet*

Mary visits her cousin, Elizabeth by name.

She tells the vision, when the angel came.

Elizabeth is pregnant the child leapt in her womb.

On seeing Mary, joy filled the room.

They comfort each other and Mary would stay.

Till the birth of the Baptist who would prepare the way.

Zachariah remained mute, till he named his son John.

The scriptures now show, God's will being done.



**We thank you our God, You chose Mary for mother. For the coming of your Son.  
who will call us his brother. For the everyday graces, You bestow all the while.  
To You thanks and praise, with a heart rendering smile.**

## **An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales**

### **This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)**

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence. In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord’s Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

*Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops’ Conference*

*Friday 6 May 2022*

### **First Holy Communion**

**Fr Anthony Kelly**



## **Congratulations**

To our 57 children who received their First Holy Communion over the last two weekends.

Eternal God, we ask you in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this bread to the souls of all our children who receive it. That they may eat in remembrance of the body of your Son, and witness to you, O God.

### **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.**

**Sr. Linda: 546 4820**

**email: srlindafma@gmail.com**



**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>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Special Intention M.N.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.30am</b>	Barbara Newport
<b>Monday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Sr. Kathleen Hamilton (2nd Anniv)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>12.45am</b>	Requiem Mass Thomas Wilson
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	Hugh Joseph Carberry (100th B'day Rem)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Eamonn Connolly L.D.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>No Mass</b>	No Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00.am</b>	Susan Fay L.D
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.30am</b>	George Brazier L.D.

**Baptisms**



**Wynne Hill**  
Tom Carroll,  
Meena Cissie  
Saul Adam Price



**Your prayers are asked for those who have**

**Died recently**

Joe Ford Tommy Jones Joseph Malone  
Madge Cary Michael Power Kenneth Hichcock

**Anniversaries**

John Bennett

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

**Roots in the City Tea Garden Free Woodworking Workshops**

**Plot to Plate**

La Salle Kitchen Garden

Next to De La Salle Academy,

former Brothers' House, Carr Lane East, L11 4SF

Want to learn about growing and cooking your own fresh food? We'll spend time working outdoors and preparing and eating a meal together. This session is ideal for people wanting to get active and feel better!

Every Monday 11.30-2.30 started 23<sup>rd</sup> May,

You must be aged 18 over. To sign up or find out more contact Faiths4Change: [rachel@faiths4change.org.uk](mailto:rachel@faiths4change.org.uk)

or phone: 07715087655.

**Thy Kingdom Come 2022**

**26th May to 5th June**

This year's global wave of prayer for more people to come to know Jesus again takes place between **Ascension and Pentecost – 26 May to 5 June 2022.** Specifically, each and every Christian across the globe is invited to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 friends who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

**For Our Younger Parishioners**

It's that time of year again. We pray for all our young parishioners who are currently negotiating exams and tests. We pray they will be able to do their best.