**3rd / 4th September 2022 23rd Week in Ordinary time Yr C**

 Sat 3rd **6.00 pm** Kenneth Hitchcox Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

S un 4th **11.00 am****Parishioners**

Mon 5th \*\*\*\*\* 11.00 am Funeral John Dempsey

**7.00 pm** Sue Butler

Tue 6th \*\*\*\*\* 1**0.00 am** Lily McAllister

Wed 7th  **NO MASS**

**FEAST OF THE BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Thur **8th**  7.00 pm Patsy Bennett

Fri 9th 10.00 am John Hegarty

Sat 10th \*\*\*\* **6.00 pm** Jackie Farrell Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

**24th Sunday in Ordinary time**

Sun 11th \*\*\*\***11.00 am****Parishioners**

*Mass Intentions received this week : Lesley Black, Maralyn Eastwood,*

*George Fitzsimmons, Michael Brennan, Vincent Maddocks, Thomas Tole, Joan Denton, George Surridge, Tom Fleming, James Harrison, Teresa Lieb, Bishop Tom Neylon’s first anniversary of episcopal ordination, Fr Paul Fegan, Fr Peter Smith, Fr Fred Callon, Fr James Finnigan*

 *Parishioners’ Intentions, and remembrances for all those who have died, anniversaries, birthdays, sick, lonely, unemployed, depressed.*

 ***Some may still wish to continue to wear face masks in Church.***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Volunteer Church Cleaners.**

Any men or woman who can offer a couple of hours each week, daytime, or evening, to help clean the church, please email the parish or signup on the list at the back of Church. Cleaning equipment will be provided by the parish. Volunteers need to be in general good health and be willing to follow the directions of any appointed parish cleaners’ coordinators.

**(Week 129 of Covid-19 UK guidance)**

**Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations,

Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

*Each of our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence’s Primary schools are coming to the end of their Summer breaks. I would like to again thank our three Head Teachers and Governors, children and families for all their efforts to keep schools open, despite higher local infection rates in school age children. They all deserved the good long break to re-charge their batteries and relax.*

***Congratulations to our students from All Saints Catholic High School for their exam results these last few weeks. They have achieved their best results ever!***

*Our* ***HOME-CHURCH-SCHOOL*** *links, each support and build up the parish family, as we recognise and celebrate being part of something bigger; the visible Body of Christ; the gathered community; this is what CHURCH is really all about- we are the People of God- mainly lay people, with religious, the deacons, priests, bishops, altogether across our archdiocese of Liverpool- making up part of the world-wide family of the Church, gathered by God the Father, under His Son, the Word of God and with the Holy Spirit joined with the Pope, in prayer.*

 The Parish Newsletters can be found on the school websites each week:

St Joseph the Worker Primary School, or St Laurence’s Primary School,

under ‘Our Catholic Life’ or ‘Our Faith’ sections

**More information about the Catholic faith is available on-line.**

Archdiocese website [liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/)

Pope Francis Website Vatican-Holy See **Pope Francis’ Year of Prayer for the ‘Care of Creation’**

 cafod.org.uk (including Children’s Liturgy materials) **or** Catholic Pictorial

[***www.cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical***](http://www.cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical)

**Please join in prayer with the Holy Spirit, for the success of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan**

During September I will be looking for volunteers for various roles in the parish. After the restrictions of Covid and the changes that have affected so many parishioners, we will start afresh and look for expressions of interest, for people to respond to and then be considered, before commencing in these roles.

**ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE’S PARISH**

**Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ**

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated. A Registered Charity No 232709

**Parish Priest: Canon Sean Kirwin Parish Secretary: Maria Byrne.**

**Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00am – 4.00pm Tel: 546 3674**

 **St Joseph & St Laurence’s Parish Centre- Manager: Elaine Churchill Tel: 07377341977**

St Joseph the Worker RC Primary: Head: Mrs Jude Ryan. Tel: 477 8173

St Laurence’s RC Primary: Head: Miss Sarah Jane Carroll Tel: 546 4733

All Saints Catholic High: Head: Mr Tony McGuinness. Tel: 477 8740

**Our Parish e-mail:** **sjsl@rcaol.org.uk** **for any queries/ concerns/volunteers.**

[**https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-joseph-st-laurence-kirkby**](https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-joseph-st-laurence-kirkby)

Some of the relics of St Bernadette’s body are being brought to England in September. The idea of relics is to help us reflect upon the life of the person who is a saint and be physically closer to their mortal remains, like when we visit their grave or Garden of Remembrance. There is a religious, devotional, spiritual benefit of such times of prayer and many graces and blessings to be received. For those who have been to Lourdes, or those who haven’t, there is an opportunity to visit her relics at the Cathedral over the weekend of the 17th/18th/19th September. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the Church and we have now arranged a FREE coach trip to the Cathedral for the 3.30pm Service of Welcome on the Saturday, 17th September leaving Church at 2pm. We’ll make the afternoon and evening into a parish day, by returning for our 6pm evening Mass in the parish and then join a parish social in the club, with FREE buffet and entertainment, and to also thank our seminarian, James Finnigan, who will by then be about to complete his time with us, before returning to Seminary at the end of September. Please continue to sign-up on the coach-list at the back of Church.

The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes was a wonderful time after the two-year Covid postponements. This year I travelled with a small group of teachers and pupils from our own local All Saints Catholic High School, who pioneered such a pilgrimage as a school community this Summer, with the hope that next year a whole coachload of pupils and supervising staff will be supported to travel by the school and parishes. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the pupils and staff are really enthusiastic for future pilgrimages with the school, or the diocesan Youth group from Knowsley, or the diocesan youth music group. This will be a major project for the parish throughout this year, to help support our pupils in the faith and assist the school in significant fundraising. More information to follow. **FR SEAN**

Dear Friends in the Parish of St Joseph and St Laurence,

My name is James Finnegan, a 5th year seminarian training for ordination to the Priesthood, and I’ve been given the wonderful opportunity to come and worship with and learn from you over the next four weeks. I honestly cannot wait to move in, and I’m very grateful to Fr Sean and to you all for welcoming me; without your generosity this very important aspect of my formation wouldn’t be possible. I’ll be starting on Thursday, please do come and say hello when you see me at Mass (or just generally loitering around), I’d love to get to know as many of you as possible so that we can share our stories - or just a chat -with one another. Again, I’m so excited to meet you all and, in the space between now and moving in, know that I’m holding you in prayer. With those prayers in my heart and my warmest thanks, **James**

Across England the average Covid infection rate remains high but falling, with 1in 60 now carrying the virus to others. **Three injections now seem to protect most people from severe illness, including from the now multiple Omicron variants. However, a number of those who do get infected are re-infections, and Omicrons seems to be able to infect vaccinated people more easily than other earlier variants, but still affecting less severely those people who are fully vaccinated; all still then need to isolate and potentially have long covid symptoms and health consequences.** Numbers are still affecting hospitals, although the vaccination is working to reduce the severity of the cases for most people. Other variants will still develop. Fourth, boosters are now offered to the over 75s and those most vulnerable and to the over 50s from September . For some, the demands for A&E and beds will delay ambulances, clinics & operations and worsen the speed & level of treatment. Larger crowds in-doors are still riskier. Public venue owners still legally need to operate safely. In these still unusual times, the Church building is still cautiously open: Masses, lighting of candles, silent prayer in benches before the Blessed Sacrament.

NOW it is still the time to continue to be **cautious**,

with people you don’t normally mix with,

recognising those who are still more vulnerable.

Good ventilation if meeting inside

& Face-coverings again, in very crowded spaces, are both still advised.

Staying alert, ISOLATING if have symptoms, to break the chains to other people and protect the NHS from the additional pressures and save lives.

**St Joseph & St Laurence’s Parish Centre** –

Elaine and staff would like to welcome back all our customers, old and new.

All welcome! & Lounge open every week. Thur/Sat 7.30 pm & Sun12.30pm **07377341977** to book future functions

for all days of the week & any enquiries

2022 Weekly Saturday Entertainment nights, plus game of Bingo.

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH CLUB**

*The Bishops’ Independent Review of Safeguarding in England & Wales & the ICSA reports: The published national inquiry ICSA report into the crimes and sins of abuse across many organisations, including the Catholic Church, has highlighted historic cases over the last fifty years and recent examples. It and a separate report have recommended further reforms to the Church’s safeguarding processes and to address the victims & survivors needs. All our bishops have accepted the recommendations and committed to constantly further improve safeguarding & support throughout the Church & society and this continues to be something that has to be continuously prioritised.*