*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 communities of sisters and brothers, 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 in prayer, with the Pope.*

*All our local parish schools, All Saints Catholic High, St Joseph the Worker and St Laurence’s Primary are officially ‘GOOD’ schools after OFSTED inspection. As they now enjoy the Summer holidays, I would like to again thank*

*our three Head Teachers and the Governors, children and families,*

*for all their efforts to build on the work & support*

*that our partnerships continue to see, as our children flourish.*

***Children and their families are***

***WELCOME to Mass EVERY week***

 ***as part of their family-catechesis, ‘Living-out’ of the faith.***

***Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession now celebrated in the half hour before Saturday evening and Sunday Morning Masses each week.***

***The ‘Missionaries of Africa’ Mission appeal raised £262.89. Thank you!***

 **There is extra car parking space at the back of the Presbytery and then,**

**Walk through the back garden & ‘Collins Room’ to the back of Church.**

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

 the staff will give a warm welcome to all customers, old and new.

**07377341977** to book future functions

for **any day of the week,** day, or evenings. FREE Wi-Fi

**! 2023 Private Functions can also now be booked for SATURDAY nights !**

Lounge normally open every week;

**Thur 12- 6pm, Sat** from 8.00 pm & **Sun** from 11.45 am. All Welcome !

***TODAY, Sunday 13th August,*** *Teas and coffee will be served*

*in the Parish Centre after Sunday 11am Mass, from 11.45am - All Welcome!*

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH CLUB**

***Monday 7th August*** *from 1pm £5 per ticket- from parish office*

*Monthly ‘Open Invitation’ to join in a social and lunch, with entertainment.*

*Bingo and raffle fundraiser for parish Lourdes pilgrims and local charities.*

**LATE Applications to attend Catholic Schools~:** Each Primary & High School has its own admissions forms, completed and returned to each school. Parents ALSO needed to complete Knowsley Council’s on-line application form for schools. The school admissions criteria, the geographical parish boundary families live within and whether a child is a baptised Catholic at the time of the Council deadline date, are all important facts that families need to be aware of and ensure they comply with, to be considered by each schools’ Governing Body, for a place for their child at any Catholic School. Contact the schools direct if you haven’t completed each of the forms.

Sat 12th **AUGUST**  6.00 pm Parishioners Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

**NINETEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

Sun 13th 11 00 am Steven Clarke

**Memorial of St Maxmillian Kolbe, Priest, and WWII Martyr**

Mon 14th 10.00 am Isobel Stewart

**12.30 pm Funeral Sheila Smullen**

**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY- HOLY DAY**

Tues 15th 10.00 am Tony Brown

**Memorial of St Stephen, King of Hungary**

Wed 16th **2.30 pm NO SERVICE @ the Convent this week**

Thur17th 7.00 pm Mary Collins

Fri 18th 10.00 am Lewis Barlow

Sat 19th  **9.30 am Mass****@ St Michael’s and All Angels, Westvale**

**Twentieth WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sat 19th 6.00 pm Joe Braniff Vigil & 1st Mass of Sunday

Sun 20th 11.00 am **Parishioners**

*Masses Received this week Sheila Smullen, Mary Brechin, Philip Jewel,*

*Tommy Pomeroy, Brian Conway, Sheila Kirwin, Fr Gerald Hurst, Fr Godfrey Carney, Parishioners’ Intentions, remembrances for all who have died, anniversaries, birthdays, sick, lonely, unemployed, and depressed.*

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

 **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

cafod.org.uk (Children’s Liturgy materials) &Catholic Pictorial

 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

**\*\*\*NEXT CHURCH CLEANING , THURSDAY, 17th August after 7pm Mass**

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

In late September I will be looking to form a preparation group for adults who wish to be baptised, or confirmed/ receive Communion,

or adults of other Christian Churches who may wish to become Catholics.

 **Prayer to God 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, & rejoice in His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord Amen.

*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 Church & society and continues to be something that has to be continuously prioritised.*

**With Covid guidance still in place (Week 175 of Covid-19 UK guidance) for visiting the elderly and vulnerable and with the need for new Eucharistic Ministers to have DBS checks, we currently cannot normally provide communion visits at home. If a parishioner is ill in hospital, please ask family to inform nursing staff that they are Catholic and wish to be seen by a Catholic Chaplain on their ward.**

**If parishioners are sick at home and their condition is likely to get worse, please telephone the presbytery and Fr Sean will arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion.**

**Fr Sean is the Catholic Chaplain to Alder Hey Children’s Hospital**

*More than 600,000 people obtain legal visas to travel to work in the UK because we are short of local staff. They then pay UK taxes and work to support our public services like the NHS, schools, and social care etc.*

*Only 60,000 people travel over the channel each year in dangerous dingeys organised by criminal gangs who charge thousands of pounds from them and end up risking their lives at sea. The majority of these qualify as asylum seekers fleeing war and persecution, but they are not allowed to work in this country, pending UK asylum decisions that drag on for years, which lead to emergency accommodation demands in hotels. Why not give these same people who qualify as asylum seekers in Europe UK visas and bring them here in government ferries? Get the workers and more taxpayers. Destroy the people-trafficker gangs’ businesses and save the vulnerable ??Better?*

**ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE’S PARISH AUGUST 2023**

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

 Archdiocese of Liverpool. A Registered Charity No 1199714

Church is open for prayer every day 8.30 am til 4pm, except Sunday 8.30 am til 1pm

**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: Tel: 07377341977**

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

St Laurence’s RC Primary: Head: Mrs Sarah-Jane Carroll-McKevitt 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)

A **WARM WELCOME** to everyone at Church this week. The gift of God keeps on giving! God’s WORD and the gift of Jesus’ Body & Blood, Holy Communion, each give us strength to live our lives each day with Faith, Hope & Love. We have been moved by and through the real-life story of one human being, Jesus, whose life, struggles, passion, and death has **changed** the world.

We all need to plan for the future, across our 4 Kirkby parishes & the wider ‘Knowsley Deanery’- Stockbridge, Huyton, Prescot, Whiston parish districts. With fewer people regularly attending Mass after Covid restrictions were lifted we need to look at the number and times of Masses in our parishes. I am seeking your views on starting maybe a 6pm Sunday evening Mass to replace the Saturday evening Mass here. This would provide a Sunday evening option for Kirkby town and allow the priests to be better able to cover each other’s Masses. **Please e-mail the parish or write me a note with your thoughts in the next few weeks and I will gauge support for this suggestion.**

I’m looking to buy two statues for Church, one of St Laurence and the other of St Gregory the Great, to complement those we already have. St Laurence would be positioned in our beautiful day-chapel at the back of Church to be dedicated to one of our Parish Patron Saints and put St Gregory near to the Mosaic of St Kevin, near the Sacred Heart, to recognise the two former boys and girls Catholic High Schools in Kirkby. If you are willing to support this project, could you please add extra to your weekly offertory giving, and/or please hand in donations in envelopes to the Presbytery. **FR SEAN**