

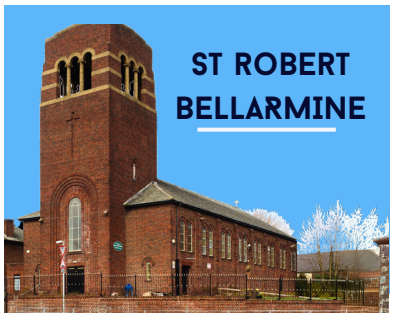
Parish of St Josephine Bakhita





PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev Canon
Mark B Madden
KCHS FRSA



As the Church's year draws toward its close, today's Gospel brings us Jesus' sobering words about upheaval, false promises, and the endurance required of His disciples. The impressive stones of the Temple—symbols of strength and permanence—will fall, He says. Even the things we trust most can crumble. Yet within His warning is a deep reassurance: "Not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Safeguarding Sunday offers us a fitting lens for these words. We are reminded that our mission as a parish is not merely to admire the 'beautiful stones' of our churches or our traditions, but to build communities where every person—especially the vulnerable—is safe, valued, and protected. Structures can look solid from the outside while hiding fractures beneath the surface. Jesus invites us not to complacency but to vigilance, compassion, and courage.

Safeguarding is not simply a policy; it is a Gospel commitment. In a world where trust can easily be broken and where harm sometimes occurs in places meant to be holy, our calling is to be witnesses of Christ's care. This means listening attentively, speaking out when something seems wrong, creating environments where children and adults at risk are genuinely safe, and supporting those who carry wounds from the past.

Jesus assures us that even in trials, He remains close. Endurance, in His sense, is not grim determination but the steady choice to love faithfully. As we mark Safeguarding Sunday, may we renew that choice—individually and together—so that our parish becomes ever more a sign of God's protection, healing, and hope.

Fr Mark

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ILL

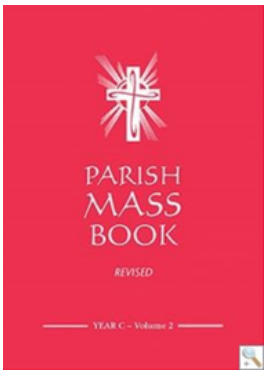


Joseph Mulhaney
Michael Lundon
Margaret Spencer
Peter Gibbons
Mary Spofforth

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER



For the prevention of suicide
Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.
Lord in your mercy...



THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings for Mass today can be found on Page 164 of the Parish Mass Book

WEEKDAY MASSES

Please note that mass on Thursday will be at 10.00am at St Robert Bellarmine's and mass on Friady will be at 9am at English Martyrs. The coach for Chatsworth will then leave after mass

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

NOVEMBER MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

Envelopes are now available at the back of both churches for names of loved ones that you wish to be remembered during the month of November. Please print the names, add a donation and bring it back to church.

Masses in remembrance will be said throughout the month.



LIGHT OF TRUTH: ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS (ONLINE WORKSHOP), Saturday 6 December, 9.00 to 12.00

Join the Dominican Sisters on Saturdays, from 9.00 to 12.00 noon for a short course of 3 sessions, to discover the essential nature and principles of catechesis, the sources of catechesis, and the best ways to prepare and deliver our catechesis. This course is open to everyone involved or interested in any kind of catechesis for adults, young people or children. This course is free, and the Dominican Sisters gratefully accept any donation you may be able to contribute.
https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/essential-training-for-catechists-2025-12-06-09-00

ST ANNE & BLESSED DOMINIC, SUTTON, ST HELENS – PILGRIMAGE VISITS VISITS

From the 8th November St Anne & Blessed Dominic will be open between 2-4pm on Saturday afternoons for pilgrimage visits. This arrangement will remain in place until the end of December.

It is still possible to arrange visits at other times by phoning the parish office - 01744811935. The office is open every Monday and Friday.

ENGLISH MARTYRS PENSIONERS GROUP

The Pensioners have a few spare places in their group if you would like to join them. They meet on a Tuesday in English Martyrs Parish Hall from 1-4pm.

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

LECTIO FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Every Friday at 6pm at St Vincent de Paul's Church, L1 5JN, there is a "lectio" prayer group for young adults. There will be a Mass at 6pm, followed by a short time of sharing the Sunday readings at 6.30pm.
It's a friendly group and sometimes they also organise trips and retreats. If you want more information please contact James: djmoroney@cantab.net or 07394 503 911

LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2026

Applications for the Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage with Sefton Coach 7 are LIVE now at liverpoollourdesyouth.co.uk. Young people aged from Year 10-age of 22 are invited to be part of Coach 7 this year (22nd-31st July 2026). The cost of the pilgrimage is £720 but fundraising will reduce this cost. For more information email coach7@rcaol.org.uk

THANK YOU!

Irenaeus Outreach and Spirituality Centre, Great Georges Road, Waterloo have sent their thanks for the recent donations of food etc. It has been a great help
There is now a box at the back of St Robert's for continuing donations.

Donations left at the back of English Martyrs will continue to be given to the hub on Moss Lane - providing support for families in our immediate local area

CAFOD Christmas Fun Run – 27 December

Signup is open for CAFOD's annual Fun Run!
The run will take place on 27 December at Wavertree Sports Park and is open to all.
Run, walk, or wheel with family and friends to share the joy of Christmas and raise money for those in need!
Scan the QR code on the poster to sign up, or search CAFOD Fun Run.



Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

Exploring Faith, Work and Civic Life: Reading the Signs: Where Are We, Really?

Together Liverpool is running three linked events exploring faith, work and civic life led by Jenny Sinclair, the third and the final one is on November 27th. The event is aimed at Church leaders, volunteers and activists, Community organisers, local councillors and curious neighbours, anyone interested in a deeper, hope-filled vision of public life. More information at eventbrite.co.uk

CHURCHES TOGETHER ON MERSEYSIDE
Faith in the City Anniversary Survey

As part of the Faith in the City 40th anniversary project CTMR/Together Liverpool are developing a manifesto that will be presented to civic leaders within the Liverpool City Region at a 40th anniversary event taking place in November 2025. That manifesto will be developed by asking people to contribute their perspectives through a brief survey. Please see the link(s) below. Thank you in advance for your time.
https://togetherliverpool.org.uk/whats-new/faith-in-the-city-survey/

THE LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR PRESENTS
A Celebration of Christmas – Saturday 13 December



A Celebration of Christmas returns this year on Saturday 13 December with a night of musical cheer, guaranteed to get you into the festive spirit.

Join the Metropolitan Cathedral Choir and some very special guests for what promises to be a magical event for all the family.

Sing along to classic carols, enjoy traditional readings and celebrate Christmas in the glorious surroundings of the Metropolitan Cathedral

.
Tickets: £10 each/ £18 family, available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

This weekend we join parishes across the Archdiocese, and churches throughout the UK, for Safeguarding Sunday — a national day of prayer and action led by the Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone:eight.

The theme this year is “Action Speaks Louder”. We are invited not only to talk about safeguarding, but to take meaningful steps to help create a parish where everyone feels safe, valued and supported.

As part of our response, we will be sharing Safeguarding Pledge Cards during Mass. These are an opportunity for each of us to commit to one small, personal action that will help make our parish a safer place for all.

We give thanks for our parish safeguarding representatives and all who quietly work to protect children, young people and adults at risk. Please keep them and those they help in your prayers.

To learn more about the national campaign, visit safeguardingsunday.org

PARISH BEREAVEMENT GROUP

In every parish family there are times when someone’s world changes overnight through the loss of a loved one. In those moments, the simple presence of a compassionate fellow parishioner can make all the difference. Fr Mark would like to form a new Parish Bereavement Team—a small group of volunteers who can offer gentle support to grieving families through prayer, listening, and practical help around funerals.

You just need a caring heart, a willingness to listen, and a desire to bring Christ’s comfort to those who mourn. A training course within the deanery will begin at the start of February for those interested.

If you feel you could offer a little time to this quiet but essential ministry, please contact the parish office. Together we can ensure that no member of our community walks through grief alone.

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week

YOUTH SUNDAY 2025

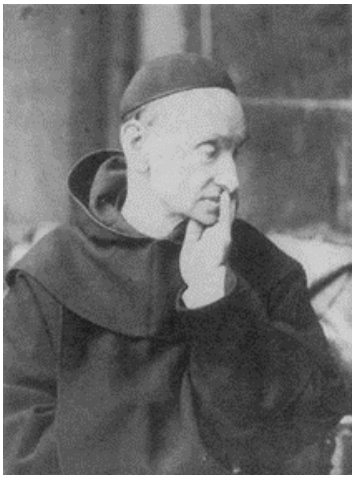
23rd November is National Youth Sunday, a day to recognise and celebrate all that young people in the Church offer us.

To highlight all that young people do, and what we offer young people across the diocese, we ask you to take a leaflet from the back of church.

In order for us to continue to work with young people the collection after Mass next week goes to support the on-going work of Youth Ministry here in the diocese. Even in these difficult times any contribution you are able to give would be welcomed.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Raphael Kalinowski (1835-1907))



Raphael Kalinowski was born to Polish parents in the city of Wilno in 1835. Poland and Lithuania were at that time occupied by the Prussian, Austrian and Russian Empires.

He served in the Imperial Russian Army, but when the Poles rose against their oppressors in 1863 he joined them as Minister of War. Arrested by the Russians, he was condemned in 1864 to ten years of forced labour in Siberia.

In 1877, he became a Discalced Carmelite and was ordained a priest in 1882. He contributed greatly to the restoration of many Discalced Carmelite communities in Poland that had previously been suppressed under Russian occupation. His life was distinguished by zeal for Church unity and by his unflagging devotion to his ministry as a confessor and spiritual director. He died in Wadowice, Austria-Hungary, in 1907. The town was later to become famous as the birthplace of Pope John Paul II.

MARY'S MEALS – DOUBLE THE LOVE

Mary's Meals' Double the Love campaign is now running, which means that any donations made will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.1million. You can give hope this Christmas to hungry children, with life changing school meals. Your gift will help Mary's Meals keep our promise into 2026 and beyond to the world's poorest communities in countries such as Ethiopia, Haiti and South Sudan, where conflict and the devastating impacts of climate change mean our nutritious meals are needed more than ever. There are many ways to get involved, find out more at https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED RED WEDNESDAY

The Catholic Charity, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), supports Catholics who live in places in the world where it is difficult and even dangerous to be a Christian. On Wednesday, 19 November ACN makes Red Wednesday – a global day for us to do all we can – across the world – to shine a light on the suffering of Christians persecuted for their Fath. All benefactors and friends of ACN are invited to stand in solidarity with the suffering church.
Visit acnuk.org/redwednesday for more information on how to support ACN.

Aid to the Church in Need
A Catholic charity under the guidance of the Holy Father

Loving God, we remember our brothers and sisters around the world who sufferer for believing in you. Give them strength, courage, and peace. Help us to be a voice for the voiceless and a light in the darkness. May we never take our freedom for granted, and may our faith always lead us to love and action. Amen.

AFTERNOON TEA WITH FRANK SINATRA (DAVE ASHLEY) AND FRIENDS

The Irenaeus Centre is hosting a 'Songs We Remember (dementia-friendly) Christmas Celebration on Wednesday 10 December, 14:00-16:00. For more information, please contact the Irenaeus Centre.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS



Christmas stock has now arrived in English Martyrs and is available in the Piety stall.
This year we have some wonderful olive wood and stained glass items which have come direct from the Holy Land.
Fr Mark's friend has an online shop and has provided a variety of items.
Proceeds from the sale of these go to support our friends in the Holy Land so please go in and have a browse.
St Robert's Christmas stock is on the way and will be available soon.



Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY - SUNDAY MASS



Sunday Mass will has recommenced at Liverpool Hope University. Mass will take place at 5.30pm in the Chapel on Hope Park Campus each Sunday during term time.
This Mass is in addition to the weekly 12.15pm Thursday lunchtime Mass.
All members of the university community are welcome to attend.
Contact Fr Peter Murphy (p.murphy@rcaol.org.uk) for more information.

COME AND SEE: NOVEMBER 25th 10:30AM - 4:00PM

The next Come and See day in the series will feature a keynote talk from Maria Burgess called Lord, Teach us to Pray. All are welcome to attend - you are asked that you bring a packed lunch and a suggested donation is £10. For more information, contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or call 0151 949 1199

BACH: MACHE DICH, MEIN GEIST BEREIT - Cantata 115 November 23rd 6:30pm

The Liverpool Bach Collective will be performing Cantata 115 at St Monica's Church, Fernhill Rd, Bootle, L20 9GA . Large-print Orders of Service are available. If you would like one, please email at least seven days before the service: liverpoolbach@icloud.com

ST ROBERT'S OVER 50's CLUB

The Over 50's Club meet in St Robert's parish centre on Thursday afternoons between 1.00 and 3.00pm. and is open to all.

Why not pop along and join in the fun - tea and coffee are available and, for a small charge, there is a raffle and a couple of games of Bingo for you to enjoy.
Regular members are asked to make a payment of £1.50 per week

ENGLISH MARTYRS JOSPICE "200 CLUB" NOVEMBER DRAW

1st Prize £20	No. 52	D King
2nd Prize £15	No. 5	D Birrell
3rd Prize £10	No. 41	M Roche
4th Prize £10	No. 33	C Smartt

Spare numbers are available for anyone wishing to join, £1 per month.
Contact Myra on 928 1136

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CATECHISTS NEEDED

Would you like to help engaged couples to prepare for marriage? The archdiocese is now recruiting catechists to join the marriage preparation team. The catechist training will be provided at St Monica's Church, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 9GA and consists of 5 sessions:

· Monday 23 February 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
· Monday 2 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
· Monday 9 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
· Monday 16 March 2026 (6.30pm – 8pm)
· Saturday 28 March 2026 (10am – 2pm)

Upon completion of training, the catechists will be asked to offer marriage preparation course for couples twice a year. If this is something you are interested in, please sign up here https://forms.office.com/e/JGbP8AtZwn?origin=lprLink For more information, please contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk.

WHAT CAN I BRING HIM? ADVENT EVENINGS

The Irenaeus Centre are hosting several Advent evenings on Wednesday 26 November and Wednesday 10 December from 19:00-20:30. For more information and zoom links please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

CHRISTMAS OUTINGS AND FUNDRAISING

All tickets for the two Christmas outings have now been taken up. Can those people who are joining us please now pay the balance

IRISH GUARDS CHOIR CONCERT AND ENGLISH MARTYRS BINGO

We again have the Irish Guards Choir joining us for an afternoon of entertainment on Saturday 29th November. Tickets are £3

Christmas Bingo in English Martyrs is on Wednesday 10th December.

PLEASE NOTE THAT BOTH OF THE ABOVE ARE TICKET ONLY ENTRY. THERE WILL BE NO ADMISSION ON THE DOOR

CHRISTMAS RAFFLES

St Robert's and English Martyrs Christmas Raffle tickets are now on sale at the back of church

DONATIONS PLEASE!

Thank you for those who have given donations. We could just do with a few more bottles/fancy goods etc if possible please to assist in our Christmas fundraisers.

Thank you!



COFFEE MORNING

Join us after mass at St Robert's on Sunday mornings for a cup of tea, coffee and a biscuit in the George Inch Hall. All are welcome.



Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 16 November 2025

Masses and Services for the coming week

DATE	English Martyrs	St Robert Bellarmine
Sunday 16th November **Sanctuary Lamp**	**9.30am** People of the Parish **Anthony Holding**	**11.00am** Paul Anthony Smith **Ann Marie Hore**
Monday 17th November	**10.00am** Winnie Leggett	
Tuesday 18th November		**10.00am** Cathy Morrisroe
Wednesday 19th November	**NO MASS**	**NO MASS**
Thursday 20th November		**10.00am** Pious List
Friday 21st November	**9.00am** Terry Ryan	
Saturday 22nd November	**NO MASS**	**NO MASS**
Sunday 23rd November	**9.30am** Pious List	**11.00am** People of the Parish

English Martyrs Office 0151 928 3471 englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk
School Lane, Litherland,L21 7LX Office hours Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.30am - 2.30pm
St Robert Bellarmine Office 0151 922 1352 strobert@rcaol.org.uk
Orrell Road, Bootle, L20 6DZ Office hours Tues, Wed, Fri 9.30am - 1.30pm

Where is Jesus inviting me to stay faithful with quiet courage and hope this week?