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Alpha	THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA Churches of St Robert Bellarmine and English Martyrs Parish Priest: Canon Mark Madden Tel 0151 922 1352/0151 928 3471 Registered Charity No 1199714 23rd February 2025 – 2 March 2025	Omega

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

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Sunday 23 February	(English Martyrs)	9.30 am	Harry Jackson
Sunday 23 February	**(St Robert's)**	**11.00 am**	**People of the Parish**
Monday 24 February	(English Martyrs)	10.00	Michael McLeary
Tuesday 25 February	**(St Robert's)**	**10.00 am**	**Chris Culligan**
Thursday 27 February	(English Martyrs)	10.00 am	Michelle McMullen
Friday 28 February	**(St Robert's)**	**10.00 am**	**Sandra Kane**

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

Sunday 2 March	(English Martyrs)	9.30 am	Bridget McDermott
Sunday 2 March	**(St Robert's)**	**11.00 am**	**Dave Taylor**

PARISH OFFICES

The Parish Office for St Robert's and St Elizabeth's can be contacted on 0151 922 1352 or by email strobert@rcaol.org.uk
Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 9:30am-1:30pm.
The Parish Office for English Martyrs can be contacted on 0151 928 3471 or by email englishmartyrs@rcaol.org.uk
Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 9:30am-2:30pm.

Please pray for the following who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Lately Dead: David Ford

Anniversaries: Chris Culligan

Please remember the sick and those who care for them:
Hazel Dempster, Rachel Capener, Alan Mercer, Colin Faulke, Robbie Pennington, Gary Ford, Kathleen Colleran, Rose Westhead, Tony Mitchell, Sheila Thompson, Alan Wain, Dougie Wain, Janet Broomfield, Anthony Ward, Frances Williamson, Harriet Lawler, Paul James, Carol Barnes, Ged Barnes, Ellen Carragher, Ed Schofield, Wendi Warner, John Mitchell, Joe Mitchell, Fr Des Seddon, Gill Platt, Ann Marie Hore, Michael Coyne, June Keir, Eugene McIntyre, Michelle Leadbetter, Marie Hughes, Ray Keir

To be included on the sick list please, write down names and post them in the presbytery letter box, or email the Parish Office – strobert@rcaol.org.uk
Please make the person aware, as they may not want their name published.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which is the most difficult challenge for me: turning the other cheek when I have been hurt or wronged, refraining from judging others, or giving without repayment? How will I change my thinking and my behaviour?

SUNDAY THOUGHTS

Saul chases David into the desert because he is consumed with jealousy of the young giant slayer. David has every reason to fear for his life, seeing an army of thousands in pursuit, led by a king who kept a spear right next to him as he slept. But given the opportunity to kill Saul while he sleeps, David elects to spare his life. He tells his comrade Abishai that he will not kill Saul because Saul has been anointed by God. Jesus takes it one step further in the Gospel, teaching his disciples to love their enemies, whether or not they have been anointed. Our enemies may not be anointed by God, but no matter who they are, they were created in the image of God and are children of God. We have no right to hate or fight a fellow child of God.

St Paul puts it all together for the Corinthians. In speaking of the first Adam, who was made a living being on earth by God, and the last Adam—Christ— who comes from heaven and gives life, Paul writes, "Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one". As we now resemble Adam in our humanity, one day we will resemble Christ in his glory. Putting the lessons from today's Gospel into practice is a major challenge. It is tempting to fight back, to be judgmental, to condemn those who do not agree with us. After all, isn't that what we see online or on television, or practice ourselves on social media or among our family and friends? The key to meeting this challenge is to become as selfless as possible. We must overcome our self-centeredness and choose self-sacrifice, as Jesus himself did. He freely gave his healing power knowing he could not be repaid. He lived without possessions, trusting in God's generosity. He forgave his enemies, even from the cross. It helps to see life as a collaboration, with all God's children growing and developing in harmony, not as a competition, where we fear that we will not get or keep what is our fair share.

FUNERAL SERVICE

There will be a Funeral Service for **Rose Cunningham** on Wednesday 26th February at 1:15 pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

May She Rest In Peace

CONFIRMATION 2025

Any young person currently in year 8 or above is welcome to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please register at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk

Registration closes on 17 March.

MY DAY BY DAY – LENT AND EASTER

We have some new books in our piety stall for daily readings and scripture for Lent and Easter – price is £1.00

SURVIVE-MIVA

This is a Catholic lay Association, based in Liverpool and founded in 1974, which provides grants to fund essential transport for health outreach work in isolated rural areas, and for the Church's pastoral care in places of difficult access, across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Next weekend. Geraldine Roberts-Stone, will join us to tell us more about this Association and a retiring collection will be taken to help its important work.
For more information: www.survive-miva.org

BOUNDARY CONSULTATION

It has been proposed, that to better enable good pastoral care, the boundaries of Saint Josephine Bakhita parish and Saint Oscar Romero Parish be slightly changed.
The territory of the former parish of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary below the canal (towards the river) will become part of an enlarged parish of Saint Oscar Romero. This means that the pastoral care of the school of Saint Elizabeth will become the responsibility of the parish priest of Saint Oscar Romero parish.

If you have any comments on this proposal, please put them in writing to your parish office by 12 noon on Tuesday 4 March or to the Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Organisation, Mgr. Philip Inch holyrosary@rcaol.or.uk

CIVIC MASS 2025

Sunday 2 March (book tickets now)
The Dean of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, Monsignor Anthony O'Brien, has pleasure in inviting you and your partner/guest to attend the Annual Civic Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon. The Mass will be on Sunday 2 March 2025 at 11.00am. Light refreshments will be served in the Gibberd Room after Mass.
If you are able to attend, please RSVP to c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk
If you would like a Car Park Pass for the Cathedral Car Park, please advise when accepting the invitation and one will be sent to you.

VIGIL FOR PEACE

Father Taras Khomych and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic community present in Liverpool invite you to pray with them at a vigil for peace on the third anniversary of the outbreak of war in their beloved homeland.

The vigil will take place at Liverpool Parish Church (Old Churchyard, Liverpool L2 8TZ) on Monday, 24 February, starting at 6:30 pm. It will include representatives from the city and faith leaders. All are welcome.