Alpha	Parishes of St Robert Bellarmine and St Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Office: 52 Orrell Road Bootle L20 6DZ **Parish Priest: Fr Barry McAllister** **Priest in Residence: Fr Faustinus Ugwuanyi** Tel 0151 922 1352 or 0151 922 3820 Registered Charity No 1199714 **16th March 2024 – 24th March 2024**	Omega

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (YEAR B)

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Saturday 16 March	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**John Patrick Sheekey (Birthday Remembrance)**
Sunday 17 March	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Ann French (Anniversary Remembrance)
Tuesday 19 March	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Pam McHugh (Anniversary Remembrance)
Friday 22 March	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Eileen, Eugene and Thomas Callaghan (Remembrance)

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY (YEAR B)

Saturday 23 March	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Jacqueline Stevens (Birthday Remembrance)**
Sunday 24 March	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Maud Birch (Remembrance)

CONFESSIONS Confessions on Tuesday morning after mass at St Robert Bellarmine's, **OR,** at any other time by appointment – please contact the Parish Office

THE PARISH OFFICE

If you have anything you wish to be added, please post the details though the Presbytery door's marked newsletter or email or phone the Parish Office.
strobert@rcaol.org.uk or 0151 922 1352.
If you know anyone who would like to receive the newsletter by email, please inform the Parish Office.

The Parish Office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday between 9:30am and 1:30pm.
Any calls or messages outside these times will not be answered immediately, but you will receive a call back as soon as possible.

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

Lately Dead: Eveline Gerrard, Catherine King

Anniversaries: Ann French

Please remember the sick and those who care for them.
Hazel Dempster, Rachel Capener, Ken Williams, 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, Maud Lewis, Harriet Lawler, Roy Maloney, Paul James, Ann Barnes, Carol Barnes, Ged Barnes, Ellen Carragher, Ed Schofield, Fr. Barry McAllister

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.

SEEING YOURSELF THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL
John 12:20-30

1.The parable of the grain of wheat reminds us of a truth that any parent can testify to, namely that it is in dying to ourselves that we can give life to other. We will never be of benefit to others if we remain wrapped up in ourselves. In what ways has your dying to yourself brought life to another? How has the generous giving of another brought life to you?

Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead, and we feel like praying *Father save me from this hour.* Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: *No it is for this reason that I gave come to this hour.* Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing so?

John Byrne OSA

DEANERY SYNODAL COUNCIL.

The Deanery Synodal Council met on Monday night. The meeting began with an extended time of scripture sharing. This was the first meeting since the Families of Parishes had been confirmed by the Archbishop so we discussed the 2 suggested steps – to build relationships and to look at how we communicate across the Family and to begin to think of a project each Family could undertake to do in the coming 12 months.

We decided that communication would be the main topic of our next meeting in April.

A report was given of the Caritas group meeting and the requested audit. The next Caritas meeting will be announced soon.

A discussion took place about the Deanery Holy Hours and the Bishops' visitation. A comment was made about people being reluctant to come out at night. For those parishes where the visitation had taken place there was a general feeling of how attentive Bishop Tom had been and how warmly he engaged with parishioners.

WELCOME BISHOP TOM

This weekend we extend a very warm welcome to Bishop Tom Neylon as he visits the parishes of St Elizabeth of Hungary and St Robert Bellarmine.

LENTEN ALMS

One of the Lenten acts is almsgiving and you will find a donation box at St Robert's near the Sacristy door, and a donation basket at the back of St Elizabeth's.

All money donated will be sent to the children of Gaza and the Holy Land as requested by Archbishop Malcolm.

Catholic Pic

The March issue of the Catholic Pic is now available at the back of church.

You can view it online at;
https://issuu.com/catholic_pic/docs/catholic_pic_march_2024

Marriage Preparation:

The 3 Deaneries of Sefton have been invited to pilot a new Diocesan marriage preparation course and we would like some volunteers to be trained from each parish. Can you help? The training will be on 13th April from 10.30am - 2.00pm at St Monica's Parish Club.

Please speak to Christine if interested in attending.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father of goodness and love,
Hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need.
Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence.
Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness,
make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits.
May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.
We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed.
Amen

PARISH MINISTRY

Have you thought about becoming a Eucharistic Minister or a Reader. We need more, especially at St Elizabeth's. Eucharistic Minister training will be held at Irenaeus on Saturday 27th April.
Please speak to Christine for more information

EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets for St Robert's Easter Raffle are on sale at the back of Church.

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.

During this time while some are unable to receive the Eucharist at Mass, you may like to use a prayer of spiritual communion.

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
And unite myself wholly to You.
I love you, my Jesus:
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES AND MASS OFFERINGS

Many thanks to all those who have been passing their Offertory envelopes to Church, and to those who have set up a standing order or donated online.

The Archdiocese have set up two online ways to enable you to make your donation. I have provided details for both methods on this page. Thank you to those who donate in this way.

Online and Text Giving

Online Giving – Please choose the correct Parish.

The Archdiocesan online giving website can be used for both one-off and regular monthly donations.
To make donations directly to St Robert's, follow the link;

https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-robert-bellarmine-litherland

To donate directly to St Elizabeth's follow the link
https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-elizabeth-litherland

Donations may be made by standing order, as a one-off donation, or as a regular weekly donation. Please don't forget to tick the gift aid box if you are a UK taxpayer as this will boost your donation by 25% at no extra cost to yourself.

Text Giving – Please text the correct Parish

Text giving is also available, and the details below are ready to use for accepting both one-off and regular donations. Four text giving campaigns have been created for each parish. The details of each campaign are given below.

Text ***STROBERT or STELIZABETH*** to 70085 to donate £2. Texts cost £2 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £2 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text ***STROBERTNOINFO or STELIZABETHNOINFO*** to 70085.

Text ***STROBERT or STELIZABETH*** to 70450 to donate £3. Texts cost £3 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £3 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text ***STROBERTNOINFO or STELIZABETHNOINFO*** to 70450.

Text ***STROBERT or STELIZABETH*** to 70460 to donate £5. Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £5 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text ***STROBERTNOINFO or STELIZABETHNOINFO*** to 70460.

Text ***STROBERT or STELIZABETH*** to 70470 to donate £10. Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text ***STROBERTNOINFO or STELIZABETHNOINFO*** to 70470.