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 **3rd February 2024 – 11th February 2024**	Omega

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

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Saturday 3 February	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Margaret Flynn (Lately Dead)**
Sunday 4 February	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Alice and James O'Meara (Anniversary Remembrance)
Tuesday 6 February	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Patricia Thompson (Remembrance)
Friday 9 February	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Paul Jones and Pam McHugh (Birthday Remembrance)

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

Saturday 10 February	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Sadeep and Myron (Thanksgiving)**
Sunday 11 February	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	John and Violet Kelly (Anniversary 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: Monsignor George Mooney

Anniversaries: Alice O'Meara, James O'Meara, Violet Kelly, John Kelly

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

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
Mark 1: 29-39

This passage tells three stories to illustrate the various dimensions of the life and ministry of Jesus. There is food for thought in each of them.

1. The first story (vv. 29-32) is one of healing. You might reflect on times when you were sick in body, mind or spirit and someone was a 'Jesus person' to you, someone who took you by the hand and lifted you up'. Remember them with gratitude. Have there been times also when you did this for others?

2. The second story (vv. 32-34) adds another dimension. People are freed from demons. Have you had the experience of being freed from demons that imprisoned you: fear, anxiety, guilt, low self-esteem, addictions, bitterness etc.? What was it like for you to get that freedom? Who were the 'Jesus people' who helped to free you?

3. The third story (vv. 35-39) has a number of different elements we can consider;

1. Jesus goes off to a desert place to pray. After a hectic day he felt the need for quiet to ground himself once more. In the busyness of life how do you keep in touch with what is going on inside yourself? How do you keep in touch with God? Where do you find your 'deserted place'? What difference does it make for you when you do succeed in taking time out?

Jesus shows himself as a person seeking to break new ground. The disciples want him to continue ministry where he is. He wants to move on. What has been your experience of breaking new ground, moving beyond your comfort zone, or trying something you had not tried before? When has this had a life-giving effect for you?

John Byrne OSA

Bishop's Visitation:

During the months of February and March Bishop Tom Neylon will be visiting the parishes in our Deanery.

He will be visiting the parishes of St Elizabeth's and St Robert Bellarmines the weekend of 16/17 March.

We look forward to welcoming him.

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL DIRECTORY 2024

The 2024 Archdiocesan Directory is available to buy at the back of both churches. Cost is £4.00

VOTIVE LIGHTS

Over the last few weeks, the votive lights have been getting lit and left on the trays underneath the shelves.

For Health and Safety reasons there will now only be enough votives at each stand to fill the shelves.

Any votives left lit on the tray beneath the shelves will be blown out and lit later in the week.

Catholic Pic

The February 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_february_2024

CONFIRMATION 2024

Any young person currently in year 8 is welcome to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.
Registration will open on 15 January and close on 15 March.

To register they should visit www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk and click 'Register for Confirmation' at the top right-hand side of the page.

St Teresa of Calcutta Deanery.

In establishing our two Families of Parishes we are proposing to set up a Caritas Group. (Caritas is the internationally used name for the churches charitable outreach).

To explore how we do this a meeting (for an hour) has been arranged for Thursday 22nd Feb at Holy Rosary at 7:00pm. So, if you have a passion for social justice, for local issues, for food banks, for cost of living issues, for SVP, CAFOD, environmental issues, justice and peace, live simply, social outreach, then come along and help to shape what we could do in our Deanery and in our Families of Parishes.

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

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.