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 **6th January 2024 – 14th January 2024**	Omega

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (YEAR B)

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Saturday 6 January	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Mike Keelan (Anniversary Remembrance)**
Sunday 7 January	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Rene Carey (Lately Dead)
Tuesday 9 January	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Founders, Benefactors and Donors
Friday 12 January	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Ann Tiernan (Remembrance)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

Saturday 13 January	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**(Anniversary Remembrance)**
Sunday 14 January	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Norm Higdon (Birthday 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: Teresa O'Brien, Gary Dunne

Anniversaries: Mike Keelan

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

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
Matthew 2:1-12

The word 'Epiphany' means a showing forth, a setting in the light. Today we celebrate the good news that God showed forth his Son to all the nations, Jews and pagans alike. It is the pagan visitors from an unnamed city of the east who reveal to us how to respond to God's showing forth of his Son, God's gift of his Son.

Jesus was born into a Jewish world and these visitors from the east were strangers in that world; they were outsiders. It often takes strangers, outsiders, to show us how to respond to God's gift of his Son, how to appreciate the great riches of our faith, the presence of Christ in the Eucharist and in the other sacraments, the life-giving message of the scriptures, in particular, the Gospels. In recent years there has been a huge increase in the number of people coming to live with us from abroad. They often bring an enthusiasm and appreciation for the treasures of the faith, that we perhaps, have lost somewhat. They have enriched the Church by their readiness to share their gifts and energies with the Church here in their adopted homeland.

The magi represent all those, of whatever creed or persuasion who seek to follow the light, the light of truth. The magi are the ancestors of all of us who seek the truth. At our baptism the light of Christ shone upon us and remains with us to enlighten every darkness and to lead us to our eternal home.

Fr Martin Hogan

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL DIRECTORY 2024

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

PARISH SAFEGUARDING, WHAT IS IT?

Firstly, it is everybody's responsibility! Safeguarding relates to the action taken to promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults, and to protect them from harm.

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/department/safeguarding

COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning after the 11.00am mass at St Robert's will start again next Sunday (14 January)
All are welcome.

Catholic Pic

The December 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_december_2023

DEANERY NEWS

Following the recent consultation in our parishes by the Deanery Synodal Council we can confirm that the proposed families of parishes has been acknowledged as the right way forward. St Elizabeth's and St Robert's will be in a family with English Martyrs, Our Lady of Walsingham and St Benet's.

St Teresa of Calcutta has been chosen as our Deanery Patron.

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

THE WHITECHAPEL CENTRE

We are collecting tea, coffee and biscuits for the Whitechapel Centre again this year. If you are able, please leave your donations at the back of church.



St Robert Bellarmine
and
St Elizabeth of Hungary
Pray for Us



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.