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 Fax 0151 933 7941 Registered Charity No 1199714 **23rd September 2023 – 1st October 2023**	Omega

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

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Saturday 23 September	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Special Intention – Smith**
Sunday 24 September	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Patricia Cherry (Remembrance)
Tuesday 26 September	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Peggy Curran (Remembrance)
Friday 29 September	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Thomas Callaghan (Remembrance)

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

Saturday 30 September	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Patricia Kelly (Birthday Remembrance)**
Sunday 1 Octoer	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Norah Higgins and May Halsall (Remembrance)

Our Parishes now have a joint newsletter.
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: Irene Dempster, Emma Malvern

Anniversaries:

Please remember the sick and those who care for them.
Joan Smith, Hazel Dempster, Rachel Capener, Ken Williams, Alan Mercer, Doug Faulke, 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.

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 20:1-16

1. 'I was there first'. Envy easily comes to the surface when faced with the good fortune of others, especially when compared to what seems less favourable treatment of ourselves. Can you recall that feeling in yourself and what it did to you? Can you also recall times when you were content with your lot, even though it seemed others had greater gifts, better opportunities, etc.
2. A parent or teacher who gives a lot of time to a difficult child does not love the others less, but if we are one of those other children we may not see that. Recall a 'Jesus person' in your life who helped you to overcome feelings of envy and helped you appreciate that the apparently more favourable treatment of another did not mean a lessening of love for you.
3. This leads us to the core message of this parable, namely, that God's love is a free gift, and not earned. Recall moments when you were particularly conscious of the gifts that God has given you by counting all the blessings that you have, no matter how small.
4. 'It is too late now' are words sometimes uttered to justify doing nothing about a situation. This parable tells us that where love is involved, it is never too late. Can you recall times when you got a positive response after taking action when you thought it was 'too late'.

John Byrne OSA

FAMILIES OF PARISHES

Last weekend you will have received a leaflet about the proposed Families of Parishes. This is still available at the back of church.
We ask you to please look carefully at it.
Spend some time reading it and reflecting on it.
You are then invited to attend a parish meeting at either Parish to share your thoughts with our Deanery Synodal Council representatives, Alison and Christine.

Our meetings will be at St Elizabeth's on Saturday 23 September after the 5.00pm mass or at St Robert Bellarmine's on Tuesday 3 October at 7.00pm.

If you are unable to attend either meeting, please let us have your thoughts either in writing, by speaking to Alison or Christine after mass before 9 October or by emailing strobert@rcaol.org.uk

ST MONICA'S CENTENARY

There is to be a Centenary Mass to celebrate the 100 years of the opening of St Monica's first church in October 1923. Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate Mass at St. Monica's - 7.00.pm. on Friday, 6th October 2023, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. All are invited and welcome to join them for this great parish celebration.

Catholic Pic

The September 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_september_2023

FAMILY OF PARISHES ROADSHOW

The Pastoral Plan makes clear the way forward for the church in our archdiocese. It says this: "Developing the models of pastoral collaboration that we already have we will create families of parishes." In the future, we will work as Families of Parishes.

To explore what this means, there are three roadshows planned. These are open meetings for anyone and everyone to come. They will take place on;

Saturday 4 November from 10.00am – 12 noon at St Margaret Clitherow Centre (formerly LACE),

Tuesday 7 November 7.00pm – 9.00pm at St Anne's Pastoral Centre Ormskirk **and**

Wednesday 8 November 7.00pm – 9.00pm at St Julie's Eccleston, St Helens.

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.



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.