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 232709 **17th December 2022 – 25th December 2022**	Omega

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

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Saturday 17 December	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Mary Barber (Lately Dead)**
Sunday 18 December	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Billy White (Remembrance)
Tuesday 20 December	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Paula Redfern (Remembrance)
Friday 23 December	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Ann and Dave Mardell

CHRISTMAS EVE – FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS

Saturday 24 December	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**People of the Parish**
Saturday 24 December	(St Robert's)	7.00 pm	Eileen and Eugene Callaghan (Christmas Remembrance)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday 25 December	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**9.30 am**	**Private Intention**
Sunday 25 December	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Jody Pennington (Anniversary 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.

Please note, 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: Paula Martine Prosser, John Cherry, John Patrick Foster

Anniversaries: Jody Pennington

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, Ann Archer, Gary Ford, Paula Woods, Kathleen Colleran, Rose Westhead, John Rimmer, Jo Collins.

(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.)

Donations for Ukraine

Thank you for your continued support.
During Advent, the 'Intentions Tree' will be at the back of church for your special intentions. Please add your intention to one of the tags and tie it to the tree Donations will be sent to the Archdiocesan Ukraine appeal.

Financial donations now stand at over £145,000.00.

If you would still like to donate, please visit

https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/donate/fund/ly8hvxhp

or contact the Parish Office, or hand in your donation in an envelope marked Ukraine.

PARISH MINISTRY

Is there a ministry in which you could help?

Reader, Eucharistic Minister, Music, Welcomer, the list is endless

Please pass your details into the parish office, or complete the form at the back of church which indicates which church and Mass you would like to volunteer for.

Catholic Pic

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

You can view it at;

https://issuu.com/catholic_pic/docs/catholic_pic_december_2022

FUNERALS THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late **Paula Martine Prosser RIP** will take place on Monday 19th December at 12:30pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

The Funeral Service for the late **John Patrick Foster RIP** will take place on Friday 23rd December at 9:30am at St Robert Bellarmine's Church

May They Rest In Peace

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Our Christmas Mass times will be as follows:

St Elizabeth's
Christmas Eve 5.00 pm
Christmas Day 9.30 am

St Robert Bellarmine's
Christmas Eve 7.00 pm
Carols from 6.30pm
Christmas Day 11.00 am

Seeing Yourself Through the Lens of The Gospel
Matthew 1:18-24

The text speaks of how 'God with us' was revealed to the world in the person of Jesus 2000 years ago. I suggest that we move on from there to consider how we become aware of 'God with us' now in our daily lives.

1. It took some time for Joseph to accept the fact that, in Mary, there truly was Emmanuel – God with us. God is with us now, but at times we struggle to perceive God's presence. Where have you unexpectedly discovered the presence of 'God with you'? Recall those experiences and give thanks.

2. Joseph was confused and uncertain about what he should do. It took time, and outside help, for him to discern what his next step should be. Perhaps you have also had difficulties along the way to some decisions or commitments. Recall that journey and the moments when it became clear to you what was being asked of you. Give thanks for the angels who helped you along the way.

Mary bore Jesus within her, unseen to all, and unacknowledged by most. In Joseph she found one who believed in the treasure that she bore. We can be bearers of Jesus to others, and they to us. When have you been that kind of a bearer of Jesus to another? Who has been that to you?

John Byrne OSA

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.

WARM & COSY

Parish Centres across the Archdiocese are taking part in the 'Warm & Cosy' initiative, where the Centres will be open for anyone to drop in for a warm, free tea, coffee and biscuits.
In our area, the following clubs are open from 1.00pm until 3.00pm or 3.30pm
St Elizabeth's on Mondays, St Benet's on Tuesdays, St Monica's on Wednesdays, St Robert's on Thursdays and Our Lady of Walsingham on Thursdays. Holy Rosary will be open on Fridays from 12.00noon until 2.00pm with a warm lunch at 12.30pm

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 new online ways to enable you to make your donation. I have provided details for both methods on this page. Thank you to those who continue to 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.