Alpha	Parishes of St Robert Bellarmine and St Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Office: 52 Orrell Road Bootle L20 6DZ **Parish Priest: Fr Barry McAllister** Tel 0151 922 1352 or 0151 922 3820 Fax 0151 933 7941 Registered Charity No 232709 **3rd December 2022 – 11th December 2022**	Omega

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

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Saturday 3 December	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Carl Jones (Remembrance)**
Sunday 4 December	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Emmanuel (Sonny) Wainwright (30th Anniversary Remembrance)
Tuesday 6 December	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Debbie Kenna (Sick)
Friday 9 December	(St Robert's)	9.00 am	Frances Hutton (Remembrance)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

Saturday 10 December	**(St Elizabeth's)**	**5.00 pm**	**Carl Jones (Remembrance)**
Sunday 11 December	(St Robert's)	11.00 am	Lucy Chegwin (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: Veronica Hawley, Thomas John Webb, Patrick Creggy.

Anniversaries: Emmanuel (Sonny) Wainwright, Lucy Chegwin, Eileen Callaghan, Margaret Mary Shaw

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. 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.

The online version will be available shortly.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Our Christmas Mass times will be as follows:

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

St Robert Bellarmine's
Christmas Eve 7.00 pm and Christmas Day 11.00 am

FUNERALS THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late **Veronica Hawley RIP** will take place on Monday 5th December at 11:00am at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

The Funeral Service for the late **Thomas John Webb RIP** will take place on Thursday 8th December at 2:00pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

The Funeral Service for the late **Patrick Creggy RIP** will take place on Friday 9th December at 12:30pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

May They Rest In Peace

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Please keep the Year 4 children of our two schools in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in the coming weeks.

Seeing Yourself Through the Lens of The Gospel
Matthew 3:1-12

1. John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus. Who have been the people who have borne witness to us of the good news of the gospel that God loves us – a friend, a parent, a teacher etc.? To whom have we borne that witness?

2.John appears in the story as one who had the courage to be himself in the face of opposition. He was also a person who knew his own value, did not make exaggerated claims and was content with his mission. Can you recall times when you have been content to be yourself, without pretending to be more than you are? What was it like to have that freedom, even in the face of criticism from others?

John was 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness' – announcing confidently to those in the wilderness that they must not despair because God's grace may come to them at any moment. Have you had the experience of being in the wilderness, feeling lost? From whom did you hear a voice that gave you hope? Have you been able to give hope to other people when they were in the wilderness?

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.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Raffle tickets for St Robert's Christmas Raffle are on sale 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.