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 **11th September 2021 – 19th September 2021**	Omega

TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

St Elizabeth's	**Saturday 11 September**	**5.00 pm**	**Pauline Graham (Remembrance)**
St Robert Bellarmine's	**Sunday 12 September**	**11.00 am**	**Philip Carey (Remembrance) and Pat Cherry (Remembrance)**

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

St Elizabeth's	**Saturday 18 September**	**5.00 pm**	**Norah and Con Harty (Remembrance)**
St Robert Bellarmine's	**Sunday 19 September**	**11.00 am**	**Barry Clarke (Birthday 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 pray for the following who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Lately Dead: Josephine Griffiths

Anniversaries: Esther O'Shea

Please remember the sick and those who care for them. Rachel Capener

(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.)

Something to Think About

In the second reading today from St James we read, 'What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works?' And in our Gospel reading we hear: 'The way you think is not God's way but man's…'. These are challenging texts which remind us to reflect on what path we are walking as followers of Jesus. Jesus' path was radically different to what people of his time expected of a Messiah. It was a path that would lead to much sacrifice. Being a Christian today means following Jesus' example, being counter-cultural and making sacrifices for a greater good.

Today is also the second Sunday in the Season of Creation, a time we are called to explore our relationship with nature, God's creation. Pope Francis reminds us in Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home that 'We are not God' (LS, 67). He challenges us to re-examine our vocation to care for creation. In the past we misinterpreted God's words in Genesis to mean that we could have dominion over all of creation, own it and plunder it for our own use. Pope Francis invites us instead to explore our role as carers of creation and reminds us that the very first commandment we were ever given was to be protectors of this beautiful world. Yet, we know the earth cries out to us and that we are living through the sixth mass extinction of life on this earth due to human activity. Ecosystems are collapsing; biodiversity is in crisis. Laudato Si' is a hope-filled document, reminding us that we can set out on a new path, that we are capable of turning things around. One key action each of us can take this Season of Creation is to plant a native tree. Each parish, diocese, family, school, university can engage in this symbolic action to help Restore Our Common Home. This week, gather two or three people and explore what can be done, mindful that our Gospel today urges us to walk God's ways not man's.

Jane Mellett

FUNERALS THIS WEEK

The funeral service for the late **Josephine Griffiths RIP** will take place on Wednesday 15th September at 1.00pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

May She Rest in Peace

FEAST OF ST ROBERT BELLARMINE

Friday 17th September is the Feast Day of St Robert Bellarmine and the children from Year 5 of St Robert Bellarmine's school will be making their First Holy Communion.

Please remember them, and the Parish community in your prayers.

CHURCH CLEANING

Could you spare between 45 minutes to an hour each week to help clean St Robert Bellarmine's Church. Please speak to Christine or contact the Office.
THANK YOU

Seeing Yourself Through the Lens of the Gospel Mark 8:27-35

1. 'Who do you say that I am?' Imagine Jesus putting this question to you. How would you answer it? How would you answer it, not in words taken from a catechism or textbook, but from your own experience of the significance of Jesus in your life? What does Jesus mean to you? What does his gospel message mean to you?
2. Jesus went on to teach his disciples that following him would be hard at times. There would be a price to pay. Perhaps you also have found that imitating the love and compassion of Jesus is not an easy road? Nor does it come easy to have the constant trust in God that Jesus had. Yet Jesus tells us that this is the way to life. Would you agree?
3. There is a natural human tendency to shy away from what is painful or difficult. Yet if that is our standard pattern of behaviour, we will not get far in reaching our potential. We will never find who we are capable of being. When have you found it worthwhile to face difficulties, persevere, 'carry your cross' for a while to achieve some goal that was important to you?

John Byrne OSA

Easing of Restrictions

1. Face coverings will remain mandatory for all those coming to a church service.
2. Social distancing will not be mandatory in our churches.
3. Hand sanitising will remain necessary as people arrive.
4. Holy Communion (in the hand) will be restored to its traditional place. Holy Communion will not be reintroduced under both kinds yet.
5. Singing can be restored, with Hymn books.
6. The collection basket will remain at the back of church.
7. The sign of peace can be restored, but without any touching.

Offertory Envelopes 2021-2022

The new boxes of offertory envelopes are now available in both churches.

If you are a taxpayer, could you 'gift aid' your donation to the Parish? All it takes is one simple form, no financial details are needed and your information remains secure under the Archdiocese Privacy Notice.
Please speak to Christine, about your envelopes and/or gift aid.
Thank you

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

The Catholic Pic

The August issue of the Catholic Pic is available online using the following link.

www.issuu.com/merseymirror/docs/catholIc_pic_august_2021

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.

A prayer to use during these troubled times.

God Our Father,
each person is precious to You.
You are the Giver of life.
Have mercy on us and protect us at this time,
as the coronavirus threatens health and life.
You are an ever-present Helper in time of trouble.
Watch over those who are suffering,
give strength to those who are aiding the sick
and give courage to all in this time of anxiety.
We ask this of you in the name of your Son.
Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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.

Please remember in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially those from St Robert Bellarmine's and St Elizabeth's parishes.

May they rest in peace.

For those who may have lost a friend or relative during this time and are unable to attend a service, please use the resources here issued by the Archdiocese to help you remember them.

https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/pastoral-care-outreach

'A service for those unable to attend a funeral'.