Alpha	St Robert Bellarmine Church 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 **18th July– 26th July 2020**	Omega

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

MASS OF THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Mass at St Robert Bellarmine's**	
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Mass at St Robert Bellarmine's**	
Monday	9.00 am	No Mass	
Tuesday	**9.00 am**	**No Mass**	
Wednesday	9.00 am	No Mass	St Mary Magdalen
Thursday	**9.00 am**	**Mass at St Robert Bellarmine's**	**St Bridget of Sweden**
Friday	9.00 am	No Mass	

THE FIRST MASS OF THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Mass at St Robert Bellarmine's**
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Mass at St Robert Bellarmine's**

Seeing yourself through the lens of the Gospel
Matthew 13:24-43

The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see that not everything is right.
Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others.
When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth?

Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g., learning through mistakes, stupid questions, or foolish risks?
The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven are reminders that seemingly insignificant things can have very positive results.
Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, or a word of encouragement?

John Byrne OSA



For more reflections and other resources, please follow this link to the Archdiocesan resources;
www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com

Cautious reopening of Church

We were delighted to reopen our doors for Mass on 14th July and welcome people back.

Please note, that there will be a maximum number of 50 people allowed in Church, face masks/coverings must be worn, and your hands must be sanitised on entering and leaving. Names and contact details will be taken as a precaution for 'Track and Trace' and your details held under GDPR guidelines and the Archdiocese privacy notice.

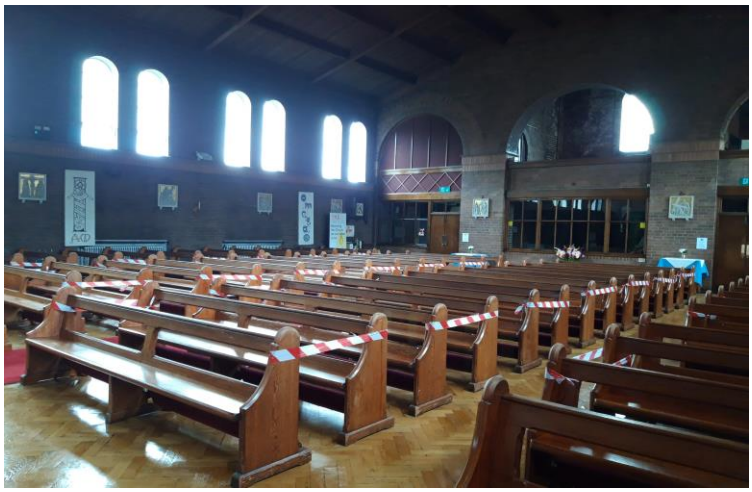
Mass this week will be on Saturday evening at 6.30pm, Sunday morning at 11.00am and Thursday morning at 9.00am

THERE IS NO MASS ON TUESDAY MORNING

The Church will be opened 30 minutes before Mass begins but should we reach 50 people, we will be unable to allow any more people to enter.

At the beginning of lockdown, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass was removed by the Bishops; this remains in place, and therefore, if you can attend Mass during the week we would ask that you please do so. Also, you do not have to attend Mass once our church is open especially if you are shielding or still do not feel comfortable about attending places with large numbers.

We don't want to have to turn people away – but should we reach our maximum of 50, we will have to.



We will continue to keep you updated via e-mail, newsletter and our Facebook page.

The Archdiocese have produced a leaflet which explains more about the changes which can be located by using this link http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/userfiles/files/Cautious%20reopening%20of%20our%20churches%20-%20what%20to%20expect%20(web).pdf

and also a video from Archbishop Malcolm which explains the new procedures that we will have to follow when Mass resumes. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nArwoMZvll&feature=youtu.be

If you have any questions or feel able to volunteer, please contact Christine in the first instance for more information, or speak to one of the volunteers at Mass.

SYNOD 2020

When we began the Synod 2020 journey with the words: "together on the road" and "becoming the Church God is calling us to be", we never imagined what God had instore for us. While the last few months have been unexpected they have taught us all that the road has many twists and turns, and the Synod journey continues with God calling us to listen in often new and exciting ways. Archbishop Malcolm has issued a video message and a revised Synod timetable has been published. The Synod weekend will now take place in June 2021. You can watch the message and find full details of the changes on the Synod 2020 website www.synod2020.co.uk

An extra period of reflection was added during the lockdown period and you still have a chance to reflect on this and submit a proposal. The Synod Office have produced a short film (this link will take you to a YouTube video) and a leaflet (this link takes you to the leaflet) to help guide your reflection. Please use them and encourage others to reflect too as we continue to discern the Church God is calling us to be.

This period of reflection will close on **1st SEPTEMBER**.

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. Please contact Christine for the bank account details if you still wish to do this.

The Archdiocese have set up two new online ways to enable you to make your donation. I have provided details for both methods at the end of this newsletter. Thank you to those who have donated in this way.

Please do not feed the roses. They are being fed by Tom our gardener

During this time while we 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

Reflecting on the 16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Once again the Archdiocese have put together a resource for this Sunday which you may find useful if you're unable to watch a Mass being live-streamed. Please use the following link to the Archdiocese resources
https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/sunday-reflections

The Catholic Pic

The July issue of the Catholic Pic is now available online and the website is updated during the week with news from around the Archdiocese. Take some time to visit it at www.catholicpic.co.uk

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'



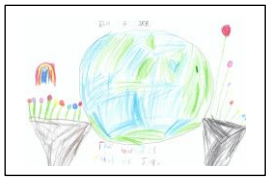
Don't forget to light your 'Candle of Hope' on Sunday evening at 7.00pm.

Download the poster at
www.cte.org.uk/prayersofhope

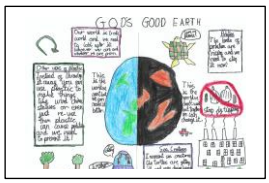
RE/Art Competition

Our 4 winners were chosen on Tuesday morning and after a lot of deliberation from our judges they were Joe (Reception), Ella (year 1), Elsie (year 4) and Daniel (year 6)









Thank You

Massive thank you's are due to many people who have been working very hard behind the scenes during lockdown to keep our Church and grounds looking beautiful and ready for opening.

A very big thank you to **Delia**, for arranging the flowers in Church each month and those special occasions such as VE Day and Easter. For polishing the floor in Church and for all the other hidden tasks she has been doing. It looks fantastic.

A big thank you also to **Tom** our gardener, who has kept our grounds looking beautiful, and for the many odd jobs he has been doing.

To the **Friday ladies**, who have helped with the weeding, cleaning church and cleaning the plaques from the memorial garden in readiness for their new home.

To our **volunteers** who from this week will be acting as stewards/cleaners as we are able to reopen our doors and slowly begin to welcome people back to Church.

To **Christine** for our Facebook and email updates.

To **you**, our **Parishioners**, for your prayers.

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

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

which will take you to a specific site for St Robert Bellarmine's church. 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

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* 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* to 70085.

Text *STROBERT* 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* to 70450.

Text *STROBERT* 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* to 70460.

Text *STROBERT* 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* to 70470.