Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

John is one who directs people to Jesus as the one who had a life-giving message for them. Who have been the people in your life whose example or advice pointed you in the direction of a fuller life? Who has helped you to appreciate the importance of Jesus and his message?

A Thought

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist is inviting us to *look* at Jesus. He calls Jesus the '*lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.'* We say these words often at mass and today we are invited to meditate on them more closely. What does it mean? In Jesus' time, two lambs were sacrificed in the Temple in Jerusalem each day. It was a ritual that invoked purity. Jesus will preach a love that is radical for many, in a world that was, and still is, broken. John refers to Jesus as the *lamb* as he knows that if one loves in such a way, they will suffer at the hands of unjust systems and institutions.

When we look at the 'sins' of our world today – broken relationships, crisis, can we also see those who, like Jesus, 'take away' the sins of the world? Christ's love was not passive, he actively challenged systems that were oppressive and which prevented people from living life to the full. Whether it be the climate crisis or any number of issues we face, *'look'* where Jesus walks and is actively working to ease this suffering. When we hear these words at mass, let us be reminded of all those who sacrifice much to ease the sufferings of others. This is Christ, the *'lamb of God'* active in our world today.

'The descent into the waters of our spirit, is a journey into the presence of divinity… all human beings are children of God but not all live in the awareness that there is 'that of God' within them' *W L WALLACE.*

Funeral Services

There will be a **Requiem Mass** for **Teresa Larkin RIP** on Wednesday 22nd January at 1.00pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church

There will be a **Requiem Mass** for **Michael Keelan RIP** on Friday 24th January at 12.15pm at St Elizabeth's Church

There will be a **Funeral Service** for **Ella Shirley RIP** on Monday 27th January at 12.15pm at St Robert Bellarmine's Church

There will be a **Mass of the Angels** for **Baby Isaac Theo Taylor RIP** on Monday 3rd February at 10.15am at St Robert Bellarmine's Church

May They Rest in peace

Synod 2020

The third Synod Theme is
'How we Pray Together'
In this theme we will explore how we can help people to engage more profoundly with and understand how they fully and actively participate in the celebration of the Eucharist in our Parishes?

Reflection forms and leaflets will be available shortly but please take time to explore the information at the Synod Prayer Station.

You can submit Proposals on this third Theme by handing them to our Synod members at Church, placing them in the Synod box at the display table, at the Parish meeting to be held in February or via the Synod website: www.synod2020.co.uk

Offertory Collection

£413.61

CAFOD

£20.00

Many thanks for your kindness and generosity

Exposition and Holy Hour takes place at St Elizabeth's Church on Friday evenings from 6.00pm to 7.00pm.
All are welcome.

300 Club
Membership subscriptions are now due for 2019.
New members are welcome to join.
Please speak to Christine for details

Why we need more Deacons
There is an evening for men who may be wondering if they are called to serve as Deacons on Wednesday 5th February in Wrightington.
Please see the poster at the back of Church.

ROSES

Could you please check your Rose Memorial Label is still attached to your rose, and if it is missing please let Delia know.

As all the roses are now planted, pruning, feeding and spraying will be done in the spring under the supervision of Tom O'Connor, our gardener.

If you have any questions, or for more information, please speak to Delia

Any donations of tea, coffee, soup or biscuits would be gratefully received by The Whitechapel Centre.
Please leave your gift at the back of Church.
Thank you

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 January 2020 – 26th January 2020**	Omega

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

THE FIRST MASS OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Parishioners Intentions**	
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Violet Edith Morrison-Wells (Anniversary Remembrance)**	
Monday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Tuesday	**9.00 am**	**Neil Livingstone (Anniversary Remembrance)**	**St Agnes**
Wednesday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	St Vincent
Thursday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Friday	**9.00 am**	**Duncan Morrison (Anniversary Remembrance)**	**St Francis de Sales**

THE FIRST MASS OF THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Hector Milburn (Remembrance)**
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Parishioners Intentions**

Confessions – St Elizabeth's – Saturdays -11.30 – 12 noon and on request

Please pray for the following who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.
Please remember the sick and those who care for them.

Lately Dead: Mike Keelan, Teresa Larkin, Ella Shirley, Isaac Theo Taylor, Patricia Price, Gerald Culligan Snr

Anniversaries: Mary Angela Brown, Elizabeth Clarke, Anthony Clarke, Violet Edith Morrison-Wells. Neil Livingstone, Duncan Morrison

Sick; James Roche, Daniel Harden, Robbie Pennington, Bill Sainsbury, Amanda Fessey, Christopher Brown, Joyce Sainsbury, Jonathan Noble, James Johnson, Philip Shepherd Eleanor McCaffrey, Sheila Thompson, Jacqueline Johnstone, Peter West, Julie Machell, Katie Rushton, Sandra Dryhurst, Thomas Smith, Dorothy Corris, Eddie Swarbrick, Ann Mardell, Colin Faulke, Richard Potts, Poppy Jessop, Mary (Traynor) Hemmings, Ann & Joe Johnson, Chris Parkes, Gerard Burke, Cayle Royce, David Morgan, Tom Niblock, Jose Howard, Michael Hanton, Hilda Prince, Roisin Dooley, Baby Lucy Hand, Ethan Hand, Ann Bretherton, Thomas Bainbridge, Mary Wild, Karl McGee, Arthur Snellgrove, Seanie Jones, Ann Bailey, Susan Neary, Jimmy Doyle, Mary Simpson, Doug Faulke, John Rimmer, Phil Jones.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

6.30pm – J Rehm, S Jolley, M Murphy
Reader – J Jones

11am – D Faulke, P Faulke, M Wildman
Reader – A Higgins/I Humphreys