

St. Joseph's Newsletter - 29th January 2023

Sanctuary Lamp

Pat Hartless

(28th Anniversary Remembrance)

Marian Candle

Staff and Patients at
Green Park Care Home

Lately Dead

David Gleeson, Vincent Sweeney, Henry Bailey, Maureen Burke, Edward Brown,

St. Joseph's Bonus Ball - No : 8 - Winner : Jeanette Roberts

Gospel Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Think Again!



Today we listen to Jesus' most famous sermon; a list of promises to the poor, the meek and the merciful that we now call 'The Beatitudes'. "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven," promises Jesus, "Blessed are the meek, blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness." Is Jesus telling us we can only be blessed if we make ourselves poor? Is he telling us to sit back meekly and let others walk all over us? Is Jesus

encouraging us to go out and actively invite persecution and insult?

It's difficult to embrace Jesus' values because we have been brought up to value everything that Jesus does not. From an early age we have been taught to work hard at school so that we will get a good job and earn lots of money. We are scolded for not speaking up for ourselves and applauded for pushing ourselves forward. Our culture is all about winning, prestige and material success.

The challenge we find in the Beatitudes is to work contrary to our human instincts in order to find true happiness and fulfilment. Our instincts are to amass wealth, earn fame, and bask in our perceived self-importance. It is often our cowardly instinct to turn a blind eye to injustice or to fail to stand up for what we believe because we are afraid of ridicule. It is the instinct of governments to engage in conflict in the pursuit of material gain and power.

In his sermon, Jesus was not suggesting we live in dire poverty or become human doormats for the sake of it. Rather Jesus is asking us to look again at our

values. We are asked to look at the things that we think will bring happiness. Jesus challenges us to think again.

Presentation of the Lord

February 2nd

Simeon had waited all his life to see Jesus. The Holy Spirit had promised him that he would live long enough. When Mary and Joseph presented the baby at the temple, Simeon said, "Now, Lord, you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples."

Seeing Jesus satisfied Simon's life. We are prompted to ask what would satisfy us in our lives. Are the goals we set worth a lifetime of wanting, as Simeon's was?

Candlemas - February 2nd



The Feast of Purification is called 'Candlemas' because traditionally this is the day on which the year's supply of candles for the church is blessed. By the fifth century we were lighting candles on this day to symbolize that Jesus Christ was the light, the truth and the way.

World Day for Consecrated Life

February 2nd

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. **Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life.**

St Blaise - February 3rd

St. Blaise's name is invoked for throat ailments. Blaise earned this reputation for saving a young boy from choking to death on a fish bone. The blessing of throats takes place on his Feast Day, February 3rd.

Care For Our Common Planet

Support the Woodland Trust UK Spring Raffle

Start the new year by playing the Woodland Trust's raffle and be in with the chance of winning some very generous prizes.

Every £2 ticket you buy directly helps the Trust plant more trees, save woods under threat and restore damaged woodland so the wildlife that depends on it has a future. Five tickets can plant four new trees.

The closing date is 3rd March 2023

For rules and eligibility and to play online visit

www.woodlandtrust.raffleentry.org.uk

Bitesize

We are each gifted in a unique and important way. It is our privilege and our adventure to discover our own special light.

Evelyn Dunbar

Highway to Heaven'

Introducing a new feature to our Newsletter called 'Highway to Heaven'. Each week we will publish a different street/road name from our local area and ask you to pray for the residents in that location. This week's location is:

BURTONWOOD ROAD.

St. Joseph's 'Over 60's Club' meets every Thursday in the Parish Centre from 1.30pm-3.30pm for a chat and game of Bingo. New members are always welcome.

Sr. Margaret's Farewell

Because the Parish Club is closed for preparations for this year's Panto, and as Sr. Margaret would prefer to make her farewells on a Saturday evening it has been decided to celebrate her years with us later in the spring - this will give us the opportunity to prepare a suitable send off and presentation. **There are some envelopes at the back of St. Joseph's for people who would like to make a donation towards Sr. Margaret's leaving present - please place them in the collection basket or post them through the Presbytery door. Thank you.**

Mass Intentions

Sunday 29th Jan	8.30am	Phil Meade
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	4.00pm	Leo Taylor
Monday 30 th Jan	9.30am	Dorothy Marsh
Tues 31 st Jan		
Weds 1 st Feb	6.30pm	Christine Fillingham (RIP)
Thurs 2 nd Feb		
Friday 3 rd Feb	9.30am	Allan Leigh (RIP)
Sat 4 th Feb		
Sunday 5 th Feb	8.30am 4.00pm	Antony Bell (4 th Anniversary) Bill Turner

Please visit the new St. Joseph's website for all the news, Mass times, newsletter and much more! www.stjosephpenketh.co.uk

Exposition at St. Joseph's 10am until 12 Noon every Monday and Friday.

Could you be a Deacon?

Archbishop Malcolm will be hosting another Diaconate Information Evening on **Wednesday 8th February, 7.30-9.00pm** in the Parish Centre at **St George's, Station Road, Maghull, L31 3DF**, with refreshments available from 7.00pm. The evening is open to anyone who would like to find out more about the diaconate, especially men who are wondering if they may be called to this ministry. Wives and supporting priests and deacons are also very welcome. For more information, email Fr Chris Fallon, c.fallon@rcaol.org.uk or Deacon Paul Rooney, p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk.

"YOUR PARISH SCOUT GROUP NEEDS YOU" - St. Joseph's Parish Scout Group is currently in need of Adult Helpers/Assistant Leaders to support the established leaders in the Beaver and Cub sections. It's a great time to join the group as we celebrate our **50th year** and, being the only remaining Catholic Church linked Scout

group in Cheshire, we are keen to keep our heritage alive for many years to come. If you are over 18 and are interested in supporting us, please call **Bob Lynch** on **07497 623585**. Cubs meet on a Monday, Beavers meet on a Thursday."

RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS MASS
with
BISHOP TOM NEYLON
14th February 2023

A wedding vow renewal ceremony is a wonderfully romantic way to reaffirm your love for one another in the eyes of God and in front of family and friends. Simply put, it's a special way to celebrate your marriage. It can also be a great way to mark a milestone such as a special anniversary in your relationship.

St. Joseph's Church will be marking its own special milestone and is celebrating its Centenary year with a dedicated Mass on probably the most romantic night of the year Valentine's Day! We would like to extend an invitation to parishioners from St. Joseph's, St. Alban's and Sacred Heart to join us on Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 7pm, when couples are invited to partake in our **"Renewal of Vows Mass"**. Forms to register your intention to attend will be placed at the back of each church next week. In the meantime, if you require any further information, please contact Christine at St. Joseph's on **01925 722105**.

So, save the date and invite your family and friends along to witness as you reaffirm those commitments that you made to each other on your wedding day. Following the Mass, you and your family and friends are most welcome to continue the celebrations by joining us in St. Joseph's Parish Club.

"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day" so for those who have lost loved ones this Mass will also recognise the commitments that you made to each other on your wedding day.

Some copies of the Archdiocese of Liverpool Directory 2023 are available to purchase at St. Joseph's Piety Shop priced £3.50.

ST. JOSEPH'S UCM

Welcome back meeting on Thursday 2nd February at 1pm in the Loreto Room. Please remember capitation and subs are due to be paid this month. Thank you.

BINGO

Monday 6th February at St. Joseph's Parish Centre. Doors open at 1pm for 1.30pm start. All are welcome.

Please remember in your Prayers:-

Oscar Thomas John Burton
Jessica Ava Chorley and
Mia Isabella Chorley

Who are being baptised on Sunday at St. Joseph's Church. May God Bless them and their families.