

## Sacred Heart and Saint Alban

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## Newsletter for week commencing 21 May 2023 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### World Communications Day Speaking With the Heart “The Truth in Love” (Eph 4: 15) *Touching even the most hardened hearts*

“In a world that ‘so inclined towards indifference and indignation’ at times even on the basis of disinformation which falsifies and exploits the truth, it is particularly important there is space for proclaiming the truth, even if at times it is uncomfortable.”

Pope Francis calls for words capable of doing good for others and of touching even the “most hardened of hearts.” He exhorts communicators, even in our dramatic global climate, to convey the “gentle strength of love.”

While the message is primarily geared toward those working in communications, Pope Francis highlight that everyone has the responsibility to communicate “with an open heart and arms.”

### A Call to Serve as Altar Servers at St Joseph’s

We invite our young people to embrace the call to serve as Altar Servers. No age is too old for this call. We appeal to all parents not only to encourage this initiative but to promote it by bringing their little ones to Mass. *God Bless. Fr. Raymond*

### Gospel Reflection - What is on Your Mind Today?

What is on your mind today? Perhaps you have to get the car through its MOT. Perhaps you have to do the shopping with not enough money in your purse. Perhaps you have to get some work done with not enough hours in your day. Perhaps you have to visit a family member who is ill, or help your child fix a failed friendship at school. There is so much to do. Continuing Jesus’ mission on earth problem doesn’t figure much in the pages of our diaries.

Today we are privy to Jesus’ prayer made on our behalf at the close of his ministry on earth. In this prayer, we are reminded that Jesus had finished the work that he had come to do. Jesus had made God’s name known, so that all could share in eternal life. However, for this to happen, we have to carry the baton and keep Jesus’ teaching alive in a world bursting with conflicting values.

The first disciples continued Jesus’ mission without planes, trains, without a postal service, without TV or radio and without the internet. Yet thanks to these early disciples we are all very familiar with the promise of eternal life, even though these words were spoken over two thousand years ago. It doesn’t matter how busy we are, life is so much easier for us than it was for those early disciples. We really don’t have much excuse. We have been entrusted with an important job, yet for most of us, it is something we don’t think about nearly enough. We are told not to let the world tie us down, but that’s most definitely easier said than done. In truth we are very much of this world.

On this Sunday we celebrate World Communication Day, and it feels a timely opportunity to consider the task we have been set. We have all the benefits of a twenty first century world at our fingertips, now we just need to capture some of the passion that drove those early disciples.

We all know at least one person who sets a shining example. Perhaps it’s here that we will find our motivation. Perhaps the people we most admire provide us with a model of who we ourselves would like to be. With a good example to emulate and our twenty first century means to spread God’s love, change is not beyond any of us.

‘Eternal Life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent....’

**Fr Richard Ebo** celebrates the **Silver Jubilee** of his **Ordination to the Priesthood** this year. He extends an invitation to the parishioners of Warrington West Parishes to a **Mass of Thanksgiving** on **Friday, 30 June at 6.00 pm** at St Anthony's Church, Scotland Road, Liverpool L5 5BD.

A reception will be held at the **Sandon**, Oakfield Road, Liverpool L4 0UH

Please sign the list at the back of Church.

**With You Always** - We offer our congratulations to all our children who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday. Please keep them in your prayers.

### **Confirmations 2023 Warrington & Widnes Deanery**

Bishop Tom will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 2.00 pm on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July at Saint Oswald's Church, Padgate.

***Please keep them and their families in your prayers.***

### **Archdiocesan Mass**

A reminder that there is a Mass on Sunday, 25 June at 5.00 pm at the Cathedral to celebrate the Centenary Pilgrimage to Lourdes. All are very welcome especially pilgrims past and present.

### **Lourdes Youth Coffee Morning**

This summer there are 34 young people from our local parishes travelling to Lourdes with the Archdiocesan pilgrimage. We welcome them to Sacred Heart this morning as they continue their preparation programme. Please join them in the parish centre after Mass for a coffee and slice of cake! We ask for a small donation to support them on their journey. Thank you!

The Sacred Heart Gardening Team will meet this coming Saturday at 9.30 am. Offers of help gratefully received.

### **Hymns to Our Lady**

So many people have been requesting hymns to Our Lady at mass during May and I am often asked why they are not sung regularly at Mass anymore. This is because hymns are chosen to complement the readings and the Mass itself. Hymns to Our Lady do not do this except, perhaps, on her feast days.

Here's your chance to come and **'Sing to Mary'** on Sunday, 28 May at 3.00 pm in Sacred Heart Church

This will be a 'hymn fest' so please let me know any hymns you would like to be included and I will do my best to include them.

All requests by Thursday, 25 May please [anne.preston@ntlworld.com](mailto:anne.preston@ntlworld.com) Text 07913006537

### **Ordination of Hugh Donleavy to the Order of Deacons on Friday, 26 May at 7.00 pm St Charles Borromeo, Aigburth, Liverpool**

If you would like to attend please contact St Alban's Parish Office [01925 630928] as soon as possible to book a place on the coach.

Parishioners from St Joseph's parish are very welcome to join us.

Please sign the list at the back of our churches. Thank you.

### **Celebrate Pentecost in Liverpool**

Please join us at 3.00 pm on Sunday, 28 May as we mark Pentecost.

The Pentecost event will start at Liverpool Cathedral and we will then walk up Hope Street to the Metropolitan Cathedral. Weather permitting there will be a service on the plaza outside the Metropolitan Cathedral and a party on the steps. The theme of the service is **'Many Nations'** and Bishop John Perumbalath, the new Bishop of Liverpool, will be preaching. Please visit [ctmr.org.uk](http://ctmr.org.uk) for further details.

### **Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s)**

**Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life**

**Dates: 26-28 May 2023 Location: Liverpool**

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

**Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.**

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

### **Care of Our Common Home - Protecting our Bees - Grow bee-friendly herbs**

Herbs are easy to grow, and some are a valuable source of food for our bees and other pollinating insects. They also have the benefit of adding fantastic flavour to our meals. Short of space? Try marjoram, thyme, chives, sage or creeping rosemary in a pot. If you have more space in a sunny border, try a rosemary shrub. [www.friendsoftheearth.uk/nature/gardening-bees](http://www.friendsoftheearth.uk/nature/gardening-bees)

Are you a good listener? Have you got a couple of hours each week to spare? At the Irenaeus Centre, 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo L22 1RD, as we get busier, we are looking for more volunteers to help. Do you think you could help? If so, contact Jenny on 0151 949 1199 or email [siobhan@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:siobhan@irenaeus.co.uk) Have you got any toiletries going spare? Shampoo, shower gel, female sanitary products, nappies etc. If so, we at the Irenaeus Centre are asking for donations in order to help people in need. If you have, contact the Irenaeus Centre 32 Great Georges Road, Waterloo L22 1RD or phone us on 0151 949 1199 or email [siobhan@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:siobhan@irenaeus.co.uk)

**Thanks Fr Chris Thomas**

Please note any items for inclusion in the newsletter from St Joseph's parishioners must be received by Thursday morning.

Also, please can you ensure that the brown Mass Offering envelopes are fully completed in block capital letters, the Mass Intention is clearly written, i.e., *Lately Dead, Anniversary* etc and ensure that the donor's name is clearly written and if a tax payer, your post code is written on the back of the envelope. Thank you.

Please make note of the Mass times and venues for the coming week.

### **For Your Diary The Sixteen's Concert at the Metropolitan Cathedral**

On 22 September at 7.30 pm the Metropolitan Cathedral will host *The Choral Pilgrimage 2023 A Watchful Gaze. Celebrating 400 years of the music of William Byrd.*

**Canon Christopher reflects ....** On the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter last Thursday, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Ascension. Some of the Holy Days of Obligation are transferred to a Sunday nearby but not in this case. I felt sad that many people did not acknowledge this important day when Jesus, having completed his life on earth, returned to heaven where he is at the right hand of the Father. As I said at Mass on Thursday Jesus could have asked the disciples: "Do you want the good news or the bad news?" The bad news was that he was leaving them which would no doubt make them feel sad and anxious since they felt so reliant on his presence with them. He went on to tell them the good news that he was going away to send the Holy Spirit who would help them to remember everything he had taught them. The Spirit came upon them at Pentecost (fifty days after Easter) and this we celebrate next weekend at what is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. During the next few days before then it is traditional to make a novena (a nine-day prayer) in preparation for that event, praying that the Spirit will guide us also in our endeavours to follow Jesus.

His final message to the disciples before his Ascension told them that they should go out to the whole world, proclaiming the Good News (the Gospel) and baptising in the name of the Trinity. This is why we call this Sunday 'Communications Day'. How could the disciples fulfil this commission with their limited access to the whole world, or even to the many people in their immediate vicinity? It is much more possible nowadays when our means of communication are so different and far-reaching. It is called mass-media. The apostles and disciples of today are encouraged to use every means at their disposal to broadcast the message which gets greater every passing year. We no longer seem to rely as much on the traditional ways of passing on the news but the digital age has totally transformed it and taken over our lives. We know there can be much unreliable news and we have to be careful what we read and accept. Jesus said "the truth will make us free" but we do not always read or hear the truth.

It is even more important then that the Church in the modern world must make use of these means of communication and in them speak with the voice of authority and truth. This is largely done through the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Each week we receive an email from there keeping us informed of news and events relating to the Church. Bishop John Arnold of the Diocese of Salford is the lead bishop for communications and he reminds us this week of the motto of the historic visit of Pope Benedict to this country when he beatified John Henry Newman in 2010 ... *'Heart speaks unto heart'*. Bishop John tells how fitting it is that Pope makes this the central theme of his message for this year's 57<sup>th</sup> World Communications Day which we are celebrating. Reference to this is made elsewhere in this newsletter and the full message from the Holy Father can be found on [www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd23-papal-message/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd23-papal-message/)

It is from the Bishops' Conference that we receive the various mementoes with prayers for important events e.g. the death of an important person. The special collection this weekend is in support of all this crucial work from the Conference of Bishops. You may find it useful and informative to visit the Bishops' Conference website: [cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk).

Let us ensure that we use the internet wisely and take care not to be deceived by untruths.

### Vacancies

We have a number of live vacancies for roles in the archdiocese including:

- Communications officer
- Communications assistant
- Lead Officer Primary School Improvement
- Primary Schools Operational Support Officer

More details can be found here: <https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers>

### Day of Prayer for Missing Children

[25 May] - There is nothing we all want to hear more, than a happy conclusion to a missing child case. But for many parents around the world the pain of uncertainty endures year in and year out. On this day we are all asked to pray for missing children and for their families. We pray for a happy conclusion, or where this is not possible, at least for closure and eventual peace.

### Saint Rita of Cascia [22 May]

In 1710 Saint Rita was first described as the 'advocate of impossible causes'. In fact, St Rita's life was a series of trials that she managed to overcome thanks to her trust and faith. In particular we remember how she turned her violent husband to God.

We remember her courage and patience and pray for her intervention when we face impossible and violent circumstances.

### Novena Prayer to the Holy Spirit

[as we prepare to celebrate Pentecost]

Come Holy Ghost, creator come from thy bright heavenly throne.

Come take possession of our souls and make them all thine own.

Thou who are called the Paraclete  
best gift of God above,  
The living spring, the living fire, sweet  
unction and true love.

Thou who art sevenfold in thy grace  
finger of God's right hand  
His promise teaching little ones  
to speak and understand.

### St Joseph's UCM Thursday, 25 May

Short meeting followed by a  
Talk by a speaker from  
St. Rocco's

### Saturday, 3 June

Annual Mass at the Cathedral.  
Mini Bus and cars will leave car  
park at 1.00 pm.

### BINGO

Apologies, the Bingo scheduled  
for Monday [22 May] **has had  
to be cancelled** as the hall is  
unavailable.

Next **Bingo** will take place on  
Monday, 5 June at 1.30pm.  
All are welcome.

**Mass Intentions for week commencing 21 May 2023**  
**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>Saint Alban</b>	<b>Saint Joseph</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 21 May	<b>11.00 am</b> People of the Parish	<b>9.30 am</b> Daniel Deus [31 <sup>st</sup> Birthday]	<b>8.30 am</b> - Antony Bell <b>4.00 pm</b> Brian & Martin Watson
<b>Monday</b> 22 May			<b>9.30 am</b> – Peter Ryan [Birthday Remembrance]
<b>Tuesday</b> 23 May		<b>9.30 am</b> Special Intention	
<b>Wednesday</b> 24 May			<b>2.00 pm</b> – Mass for the Sick & Housebound
<b>Thursday</b> 25 May		<b>9.30 am</b> Andrew & Helen Bannon	
<b>Friday</b> 26 May	<b>9.30 am</b> Les Mosley		<b>11.00 am Requiem Mass</b> Barrie Davies
<b>Saturday</b> 27 May	<b>5.15 pm</b> James & John Gerard and William Forshaw		
<b>Sunday</b> 28 May	<b>11.00 am</b> People of the Parish	<b>9.30 am</b> Thanksgiving [J & Family]	<b>8.30 am</b> Mary Guy [5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary] <b>4.00 pm</b> Michael Owen [RIP]

**Legion of Mary**

**Sacred Heart** : Tuesdays at 2.00 pm  
in the Sacristy at Sacred Heart.

**St Joseph's** : Tuesdays at 1.30 pm  
in the Loreto Room [behind the  
Church].

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
will take place as follows :

**Saint Joseph**  
Wednesdays : 5.45-6.15 pm

**Saint Alban**  
Saturday - 9.30-10.30 am

**Sacred Heart**  
Saturday : 4.30-5.00 pm

Why not follow us on Facebook and keep  
up-to-date on all the news @ **Parish of**  
**Sacred Heart and St Alban**  
**Warrington**

Why not take a moment to check in – you  
may find something that interests you.

Please visit St Joseph's website for all  
its news, Mass times, newsletter and  
much more!

[www.stjosephpenketh.co.uk](http://www.stjosephpenketh.co.uk)

Please ensure that your mobile  
phone is switched off whilst you are  
in Church. Thank you.

Please remember in your prayers those  
who have died recently :  
Margery Hewitt, Dolores Byrene,  
Sylverline Ezenwanne & Paul Ryder  
***May they rest in peace***

**Exposition of the Blessed**  
**Sacrament** takes place at St  
Joseph's on Mondays and Fridays  
[10.00 am until 12 noon]. All welcome

**Sanctuary Lamps**

The Sanctuary Lamps will burn this  
week for the following intentions :

**St Alban**  
First Holy Communicants

**Sacred Heart**  
Peace in Our World

**St Joseph**  
Brian Watson  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Remembrance

**St Joseph's Marian Candle**  
Fr Raymond's sister  
Sylverline Ezenwanne [RIP]

**Adoration on Tuesdays**

This week Adoration will take place at  
Saint Alban's between 7.00 & 8.00 pm  
All welcome

**FUNERALS**

Funeral Service on Friday,  
26 May at 11.20 am at Walton  
Lea Crematorium for  
Margery Hewitt

Requiem Mass at St Joseph's  
on Friday, 26 May at 11.00 am  
for Barrie Davies.  
Fr Joe Bibby will officiate  
***May they rest in peace.***

**St Joseph's Bonus Ball**  
No 17 :  
Winner – Betty Jones

**Highway to Heaven**  
This week the parishioners  
of St Joseph's will pray for  
the residents of **Well Lane**

**Bitesize** - You are not here  
merely to make a living. You are  
here to enable the world to live  
more amply, with greater vision,  
and with a finer spirit of hope  
and achievement. You are here  
to enrich the world. You  
impoverish yourself if you forget  
this errand.

*Woodrow Wilson*