



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

# Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> May 2021

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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## Mass Times

Sunday	10.00
Monday	07:30
Tuesday	07:30
Wednesday	09.00
Thursday	07:30
Friday	09.00
Saturday (vigil)	18.00

## Homily Notes

“Remain in my love” says Jesus. The word ‘remain’

occurs several times in today’s Gospel. Last Sunday Jesus said: “I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.”

‘Remain’ indicates something which endures. It implies faithfulness. It is not enough to love Jesus one day a week; this love must be ever present and last the whole of our lives. It is not so much a question of our loving Jesus, but of letting him love us. “Remain in my love”, he says. We are to be conscious that Jesus loves us always, and to such an extent that he has given his life for us. This impels us to respond to his love with our own faithful love.

We can take inspiration from the Christians of the East for whom we are praying in a special way today. They go back in history to the first communities of those who embraced the faith in Jesus Christ, in the land where Jesus lived and in the surrounding countries. They have had a difficult history, for these lands came to be dominated by the Muslims. So it is in the midst of Islam that they survived and are still surviving. Despite suffering discrimination, and sometimes persecution, they have remained faithful to Jesus.

At the beginning of March Pope Francis journeyed to Iraq, particularly to visit the Christians there, not only Catholics, but all Christians, in order to comfort and strengthen them. Indeed, Pope Francis went to Iraq to bring a message of peace to all its citizens, Christians, Muslims and people of all religions, because all have suffered from war and from fanaticism. He exhorted them to live in harmony with one another as true brothers and sisters.

As we pray in a special way today for the Christians of the East, let us be inspired by their courage, their endurance and their faithful witness to the Gospel.

*Michael*



## Mass Intentions

Sat 08: Joyce Dunne  
Sun 09: Sarah Benjamin & Mon  
Mon 10: Parishioners  
Tue 11: Hillsborough  
Wed 12: Sr. Eileen Morrissey (sick)  
Thu 13: Ellen Fay  
Fri 14: Pauline Allen RIP  
Sat 15: Maria Osbaldeston RIP  
Sun 16: Tony Edwards & Germaine

## Covid thoughts

We return to “Covid Thoughts”, after a few weeks giving way to other priorities. We seem to be approaching the moment when we will be allowed to return to church with fewer restrictions. We can only say, “Thanks be to God”.

For more than a year now, we have all been, in some way, “non-practising Catholics”. The obligation to participate in the Eucharist every single Sunday was lifted and many of us went for months without Mass or Communion. Some “attended Mass” by digital means, others simply prayed at home, and others, unable to do either, let Sunday drift by like any other day.

Obliged or not, it is good for us all that we make time at the weekend to give our attention to God, through the community of believers who gather for worship and fellowship. These three aspects are important to our discipleship: we gather with our fellow disciples, getting to know each and supporting each other, so as to build the community; we worship through listening and sharing the Word of God, who is The Lord, and receiving his Body and Blood in the bread and wine He left us; and we return home and to our daily lives where we can witness to the Kingdom of God through our good relationships and works.

Without this gathering of the community, there can be no Church, no Family of God. We have all felt the strains on our families when we have not been able to meet during the pandemic: so also, for the Family of God.

To be Christian, to be Catholic, we need that Family life, that community gathering. It is there we garner the strength, the grace, to build God’s Kingdom of love for all and for creation. It is there too that our own faith finds sustenance for growth and consolidation, even if in doubt and confusion.

Let us be happy, then, to return to church and to contribute to the community, obligation or none.

*Terry*

# Parish Notice Board

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

FOR YEAR 8s AND ABOVE.

If you wish to prepare your Confirmation this year, please contact **Fr. Ferdinand**. He will arrange the rest!

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 6pm  
in church

## NEWS FROM CAFOD

Michelle Oakford, Head of Supporter Relations, wrote to thank everyone in the parish for the £320 raised by **Family Fast Day**. This money will help support their work in Ethiopia. *You can see the letter on the website and Face Book.*

*Today is the Day  
Of Prayer for  
Eastern Christians.*

We pray especially for those of the Middle East, continually suffering the most awful persecution. We pray that they find peace and security in their own homelands and be allowed to practise their religion in peace.



## Offerings on 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Envelopes £84.00

Plate £94.12

Priests' Training Fund £30.00

*Many thanks*

## Lottery Results

For Draw on 2<sup>nd</sup> May

01 06 08 10 11 14

*The prize is £550 if won this week*

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Friday 11.00 – 13.00

## FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Mass at 07.30

## Letter from SVP Primary School

Dear Parishioners,

On Friday, our Year 6 children took part in a celebration assembly for the 'International Day of Prayer' which enables Christians from the East and West to come together in communion through prayer. This joint celebration, organised by **FACE** (Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East) linked four schools together: St Paul's Primary Birmingham, St Paul's School for Girls Secondary, our school and Immaculate Conception School in Beirut, Lebanon. The school in Beirut was extensively damaged in the blast last year in which one of their staff lost her life, so this day of International Prayer is very important to them.

It was a wonderful experience for all our children, and we were delighted that both Cardinal Michael and Father Ferdinand could join us. Cardinal Michael opened with a warm and uplifting welcome message, our Year 6 children created a lovely video to share - which introduced our School and our City. The Head boy and Head girl led a welcome from the children and finally, the children sang beautifully the hymn 'As I kneel before you'.

We are hoping to further develop this relationship in the coming months, with Pen Pals from our Year 5 children.

Please take some time on Sunday to keep the Immaculate Conception School in your prayers as they try to rebuild both their School and City in these very trying times.

Thank you.

*Mrs Salters*



## Pastoral Associate Update:

Dodging the showers and hail has provided a good reminder how interconnected we are with the natural world as outdoor activities have been somewhat dampened this week. May 16 – 25 sees us celebrating **Laudato Si** and global events can be accessed at [laudatosiweek.org](http://laudatosiweek.org). Links are online on Pastoral Area website. Do register for **“Echoes of Isaiah”** if you wish to delve into scripture – we’re reflecting on **“You are called”** this Monday 7-8pm.

**Synod** continues – again please do join us as we reflect together – your insights and ideas will help members. Full details and registration for the zoom link.

[www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk)

Thank you to all those who have helped with **the Stations of the Resurrection** - we will have involved well over 100 from parishes and schools in the Liverpool South area once it's completed. You can join us to pray the 16 stations live on **Sunday 16 May at 6:30pm**. Register on the website for the link.

*“Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change”*. Pope Francis, **Laudato Si** (#202).

[www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk)

*God Bless,*

*Helen*

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May

**World Communications Sunday**

*Retiring Collection on Saturday and*

*Sunday to support the Church's*

*Communication Efforts.*

*Please help.*

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

**Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick:** Sarah ALLEN, Tommy & Kitty BAXTER, Catherine BOWLES, Dawn BRANAGAN, Josie CALVEY, Vera CARTLEDGE, , Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Ryan EDWARDS, Tony EDWARDS, Jean ENNIS, Rita FLATLEY, Joan FORD, Darren KELLY, Sonny MACKLIN, Molly M<sup>o</sup>EVOY, Kathleen M<sup>o</sup>GOVERN, Mary MELODY, Alan MERRILL, Alfie MONTGOMERY, May MURRAY, Teresa NALL, Sarah PAUL, Mary RICE, Mike RICHARDS, Ava RUDZINSKI, Kelly SHEPHERD, Elizabeth STABRAWA

**Also, for the intentions of:** Anne & Joan BAXTER, Sean CONWEELY, Jimmy FLATLEY, Germaine, Beverly HARPER, Joan HART, Theresa HASTIE, Madeleine M<sup>o</sup>CANN & Family, Anthony M<sup>o</sup>CARTY, Kristine STABRAWA, Teresa SWIFT, David THOMAS, Terri VALIANT,

**And for those who have died:** John McGOVERN (1year anniversary)