

# Third Sunday of Easter



**D**id not  
our hearts burn within us  
as he talked to us on the road  
and explained  
the scriptures to us?

Luke

On our travels here and there do we notice the presence of Jesus by our sides? To live life at a deeper level means to recognise the voice of God speaking to us through all the ordinary events of our daily lives. It requires the eyes and ears of faith.

## Easter Season

Eastertide is a 50 day feast in which we attempt to deepen our understanding of the mystery of the Resurrection.

The first three Sundays of Eastertide give us the wonderful Gospel passages of the risen Jesus appearing to his disciples.

### The road to Emmaus

This Sunday the story of Jesus meeting the two disciples on the road to Emmaus is a haunting story of how the disciples only recognise this stranger in the breaking of bread.



The story of the Emmaus disciples is the story of every Christian eucharist. We meet Christ in the words of scripture that are expounded. We take bread and wine, bless God, break and pour the elements and then share them in communion. What took place on that far off Sunday evening at Emmaus is what happens every time Christians meet to celebrate the eucharist.

### Acts of the Apostles

Throughout Easter each year the first reading at Mass is always from the Acts of the Apostles which describe to us the life, vitality and missionary nature of the early church.

### 1st Letter of St Peter

In this cycle (Year A) during Easter, the second reading is taken from the first letter of St Peter. Peter is writing from Rome and Mark is with him. Peter would be martyred in Rome about AD64 or AD67.



The purpose of the letter is to help the reader's faith in a time of trial.

### FAITH IN FOCUS: WANT TO HEAR A STORY?

The Gospel passage today presents us with a complete turn around. It starts with two men walking along in complete misery. Everything they had hoped for over the past three years has gone up in smoke in the course of the last seven days. Yet by the end of the passage they are elated and are running into Jerusalem to tell the apostles their good news.

What happened to make things change so much? Someone listened to them. The world is full of people. And each person has their own story, their own set of events and circumstances that have shaped them into the person that they are. In fact, my story is my history. It's what makes me "me".

If someone can't be bothered to listen to my story, especially when I feel the need to tell it, then they can't be bothered to find out what makes me tick. But if they do bother to spend time getting to know my story, then they affirm and validate my experience and all that I am.

That's what Jesus did with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. He met them "where they were at" and he made sense of their story in the light of the scriptures. When they had thought about their lives in the light of the scripture and had broken bread with him, all seemed different.

Every single person in church on a Sunday morning has his or her story. They need to be allowed to tell it, to share it and to have people who will listen to it. If we are more than just a congregation, if we are the Body of Christ, then we have been given ears to listen and tongues to encourage. So as we gather to celebrate the eucharist each week we bring our own stories with us.

We bring them so that God might shed light on them through the words of scripture as he did on the road to Emmaus. And as we listen to God's word and share the body and blood of his Son the tangles of our complicated lives begin to take shape that makes more sense.

For, at the heart of it all, we each have a role in everyone else's story. And after the event of that first Easter all our stories are intertwined with God's.

Parish Priest: Fr John Southworth

Parish Office: 27 High Park St, Liverpool L8 8DX Phone: 0151 727 1463

www.mountcarmel-stpatrick.org.uk • Email: olmc@rcaolp.co.uk • stpatrick@rcaolp.co.uk

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## OLMC Church Repairs

The work on the essential repairs to the Church will start next Monday 8th May. A considerable amount of scaffolding will be erected, mainly outside the church but also inside as well. However, this will not affect either weekday or Sunday Masses and services, and funerals and weddings will go ahead as normal. However there is bound to be a certain amount of disruption but nothing we can't cope with!

The work is **due to last for 15 weeks** which will take us into August. The cost is in excess of £200,000.

This does not include the much needed decoration of the church which will be carried out after the repair work. The budget for this has been set at an additional £30,000.

So far we have had grants for the Archdiocese and English Heritage totalling £107,000 so there is a considerable shortfall. So, serious fund raising will have to be done! I propose to set up a fund raising committee who, I hope, will come up with some schemes. Any bright ideas welcomed!

## OLMC— This Sunday

### Baptism, Confirmation, First Eucharist

This Sunday we are pleased to welcome two new members into our Church. Lucy will be baptised, confirmed and receive communion at our 11.15 Mass. Her son, Cyrus will be baptised at the same time. We welcome them and their families and friends.

## With You Always

First Communion preparation continues this week:

- Holy Family School: Tuesday 3.30pm in school
- St Finbar's and Others: Wednesday 3.45 in St Patrick's Church
- St Patrick's School: Thursday 5.30pm in school.



In addition after each Sunday Mass, Saturday night and both Sunday morning Masses, please stay behind for a few minutes so that we can practice receiving Holy Communion.

## Pax Christi Event Saturday May 6th 10 a.m. - 4p.m.

A one day event **Exploring Active Non-Violence** with Pat Gaffney, General Secretary of Pax Christi *Venue: Cenacle Retreat House Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, Liverpool L15 6TW*  
Cost £10 - subsidies available. For information and booking : Jan Harper 07746919915 janharper1@yahoo.co.uk

**Nugent Care Volunteer Van Driver wanted** to support the Nugent Care charity shop. Commitment required: 2 hours per week, the main collection/delivery day is Thursday. For more information see poster on notice boards or phone Colin Pryor on 0151 261 2041 or [colin.pryor@nugentcare.org](mailto:colin.pryor@nugentcare.org)

## Priests' Training Fund - Next Week

The annual collection for the fund takes place on the 4th Sunday of Easter. The fund will be open from then until Pentecost Sunday.

John Southworth

## MASSES AND SERVICES

### In Church this week

- No Mass on Monday
- Funeral Service on Tuesday

### Sunday 30th April

#### THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER

Sat 5pm	Bridget Collins Joyce	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Thanksgiving Sacred Heart	OLMC

### Monday 1st May

NO MASS OLMC

### Tuesday 2nd May

3pm	<b>Funeral Service:</b> Francis Rowan	OLMC
7pm	Molly Merivale	OLMC

### Wednesday 3rd May

10am Catherine Murray St Patrick

### Thursday 4th May

10am Marian Oldham St Patrick

### Friday 5th May

10am Hayley Farley OLMC

### Sunday 6th May

#### FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER

Sat 5pm	Parishioners	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Karl Lee	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Kathleen Lennard	OLMC

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday at OLMC 4-4.30pm

### Thursday Evening Service 7pm

Short Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

## Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick

The bonus ball for Wednesday No 41

## Collections

Many thanks

### Mount Carmel

Sat Loose £145.33 Sun Loose £95.27

Envelopes £167.10

Total £407.70

**St Patrick** Envelopes £0 Loose £129.17 Total £129.17

## Please Pray For.... Those who have died: Francis Rowan, Maureen Hamblin

**The sick:** Joe McNicholas, Michael McNicholas, Billy Thompson, Freya Matheson, Pat & Brian Smedley, Bernadette Morgan, Rene Humphreys, Clifford Browne, Gary Hollinson, Jackie Heath-Anderson, Ted Cunningham, Anne Deuchar, Charlotte Rice, Irene Finneran, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Claire Kearney, Lyn Barton, Betty Devine, Tony Jones, Kathleen Devine, Joseph Baxendale, Ann Chapman, Nadia Kent, Susan Roberts, Alex Sielski, Lee Foster, Paula Lacey, Denise King, John Dunning, Tommy Huyton, Emily Rolands, Angela Kent, David Majoury, Donald Smith, Pius Laizer, Maria Jones, Mary O'Toole, Sally Wilkins, Michael Murphy, Margaret Chung, David Stevenson, Thomas & John Paul Conroy, Keith Holden, Kathleen Crownly, Joanne Fairbrother, Eileen Edwards, Erin Caulfield, Lisa Ginley, Lillian O'Connor, Owen Hall, Anne Brannigan, Thelma Mainwaring, Cheryl and Lenny Hart, Sheila Chapman, Elaine Gorry, Alexandra Reid, Winifred Williamson, Kathryn Reid, Wally Williams, Chrissy White, Nicholas Maher, John Hodson, Terry Macklin, Muriel Minshull, Peter Bengler, Maureen Ryan, Mary Ryan, Regna Lewis, David Shea, Steven Binks, Teresa Koo, Holly and Lucy Brown.