



5th Sunday of **Easter**



Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Patrick
Newsletter

By this love you have
for one another,
everyone will know
that you are my disciples.
John 13:35

Jesus tells us in today's Gospel to 'Love one another as I have loved you.' The love that Jesus showed went to extraordinary lengths, even to the point of death. A Christian's life ought to reflect this same love. Most of us will not be called on to prove our love by dying, but the distance we are prepared to go is the measure of how much we love like Christ.

Acts of the Apostles

The Easter season is unique in that throughout the 50 days on both Sundays and weekdays in that the first reading is always from the Acts of the Apostles. This book gives us a picture of a vibrant church bursting with the driving force of God's Spirit.



Synod Prayer

Father, we thank you
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
We thank you for the gift of the Church,
through which you show us
that you are always with us
and are always at work in our lives.
As we journey together to Synod 2020
help us become the Church
That you are calling us to be.
May your Holy Spirit
be powerfully at work among us.
Strengthen each of us and guide Francis,
our Pope and Malcolm, our Archbishop.
Help us to respond
to the challenges of our times in new ways
to bring your love
to all our sisters and brothers.
We make this prayer
through Jesus Christ Our Lord
AMEN

FAITH IN FOCUS: SOMETHING COMPLETELY NEW

Often the closer we are to something, the less clearly we see it. We might go on holiday to a beautiful island paradise only to find that the locals take the sunshine, the palm trees and the gentle pace for granted. It's not uncommon for Parisian or Roman taxi drivers to consider the Arc de Triomphe or the Colosseum as mere traffic islands to be negotiated with difficulty at rush hour. We tend not to appreciate the wonders around us when we see them every day.

The same can be true for Christians who live cheek by jowl with their faith. We can end up downsizing the importance of what we believe because we package it into sound-bites such as "God is love" or "Love your neighbour as yourself". And if our faith and religion is reduced to maxims then it has to compete with all other political, commercial and recreational claims on our time and talent.

And thus it becomes relativised.

So Christianity is in danger of being seen as just one way of spending our spare time, along with party politics, sport, caravanning, bird-watching or knitting. And we get sucked into thinking that tolerance demands of us that we make no greater claim for our faith than we do about our hobbies and our interests. After all, it would be indecent to make a lot of noise about our faith, wouldn't it? Especially if faith is a private thing.

But Christians don't think like that. We don't consider our belief in Jesus Christ to be a take-it-or-leave-it affair. It's not merely like being a member of a wine club or a social networking group. For Christians, faith in Jesus is massive; it is the single most important factor in our lives because it determines who we are and how we behave. To be a Christian is not simply a "nice" thing; it's totally consuming because it informs every aspect of our living and breathing.

In today's scripture God says, "Now I am making the whole of creation new". The resurrection of Jesus changes everything. The old order is wiped away, death and evil have lost their power to keep us held captive, and we are offered a radically new and eternal life that has already begun now and that will come to fulfilment the other side of the grave. There is nothing "same-old" about our Christian faith. It's something that can transform the whole of creation.

Priests' Training Fund The collection for the Priest's Training Fund will be taken this weekend in OLMC (St Patrick's had theirs last weekend) If people wish to make a donation the fund will be open until the feast of Pentecost.

Foreign Coins/notes.... Please check any coins that you put in the collection. We have had a quite a number of foreign coins recently and it severely confuses our counting machine!

With You Always: Thanks to everyone who helped to prepare our children, and everyone involved in getting the church ready for last Saturday's and previous weeks First Holy Communion celebrations.



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome to God's family and our parish community Mason Mealey & Kristina Dancova. Please remember them and their family in your prayers.



Miracle at Lourdes: The Story of John (Jack) Traynor

The South Liverpool Circle of the Catenian Association would like to invite you, to a presentation by Film Producers Shona Brown and Alex Taylor (Great Great Grandson of Jack Traynor) about the film they are making about Jack and his cure at Lourdes.

25th May 2019 12.30pm at The Catholic Chaplaincy to Liverpool Universities, St Philip Neri Church, 30 Catherine Street, L8 7NL.

If you would like to attend or for more information please email PhilipGray@liv.ac.uk.

Pastoral Associate Update: We are blessed with the diversity of formation events in Liverpool South. The Bill Huebsch day at LACE last weekend was truly inspirational – Bill, a very gifted speaker, gave us a grounded, pastoral tool to 'accompany' people on their faith journey, inviting them to return to a relationship with God – hopefully more on that later. The talks at St Charles, Aigburth in preparation for the Synod are proving to be very popular. The next one is on Tuesday 21 May at 7pm – *Going out to the Peripheries* by Mary Ebbasi. Thank you to the parishioners at St Clare's & St Hugh's for their welcome last weekend especially allowing me to sing with the music group! I hope to catch up with the Nigerian Chaplaincy sisters in the next weeks who are a great witness in this parish community. I am meeting some more of our inspirational FCJs this week who are offering their **Exploring the Gospel** Sessions at St Hugh's Centre, Wavertree on Wednesdays 4.30-6.00 p.m. This weekend I'll be at St Wilfrid's for their May Procession. I'll be popping into St Patrick's during the week. Synod Listening activities are starting in earnest now. Please do keep all the Synod members in your prayers. God Bless, Helen.

MASSES AND SERVICES

In Church this week

• **Requiem** on Friday

Sunday 19th May

5th Sunday of Easter

Sat 5pm	Irene Milson	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Mary, Christine & Baby McKenna	OLMC

Monday 20th May

9am	John Simpson	OLMC
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Tuesday 21st May

7pm	Ronnie McCarthy	OLMC
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Wednesday 22nd May

10am	Norah Lloyd	St Patrick
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Thursday 23rd May

10am	Sean Cassidy	St Patrick
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Friday 24th May

1.45pm	Requiem: Stephen Flannery	St Patrick
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Sunday 25th May

6th Sunday of Easter

Sat 5pm	Pearl Coker	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Parishioners	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Edward Peter Kirwan	OLMC

Evening Service

Short Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
6.30pm Thursday	OLMC

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4-4.30pm	OLMC
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Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick

The bonus ball for Wednesday was no23
Winners won £30 each

Collections

Many Thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Loose £228.91
St Patrick Loose £104.76
Total Envelopes £126.06

Please Pray For.... Those who have died Stephen Flannery & Margaret Brown.

The sick: Michael McNicholas, Jayne O'Toole, Michelle Baxendale, Tommy Fletcher, Bernadette McGee, Michael Foley, Maureen Rossario, Joe Schofield, Doris Kelly, Edie Turner, Daniel Crawford, Caroline Flannery, Bernadette Fennell, Edna Tate, Jimmy Tierney, Betty Flannery, Tony Robinson, Carol Pickford, Betty Billingsley, Tommy Duffy, Audrey McKenna, Ian McCafferty, Betty Christian, Bernard Duffy, Helen Melarange, Jack Davies, Joan Higgins, Billy Thompson, Freya Matheson, Rene Humphreys, Clifford Browne, Gary Hollinson, Ted Cunningham, Anne Deuchar, Charlotte Rice, Irene Finneran, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Claire Kearney, Lyn Barton, Betty Devine, Kathleen Devine, Joseph Baxendale, Ann Chapman, Nadia Kent, Susan Roberts, Alex Sielski, Lee Foster, John Dunning, 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, Muriel Minshull, Mary Ryan, Regna Lewis, David Shea, Steven Binks.