

Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Patrick

Priest: Fr Silviu Climent Parish Office: 27 High Park St, Liverpool L8 8DX T: 0151 727 1463 E: olmc@rcaolp.co.uk
Parish Administrator: Mrs Anne Hutchinson Office Hours 9am-12noon Monday to Friday
Pastoral Associate: Helen Jones T:07449633977 E: h.jones@rcaolp.co.uk www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk
Parish Centre: Ann-Marie (bookings) T: 0151 727 1695

www.mountcarmel-stpatrick.org.uk



15th March 2020

3rd Sunday of Lent

Sir, give me some of that water,
so that I may never get thirsty
and have to come here again
to draw water.

John 4:15

Sunday Reflection

In this lively dialogue Jesus almost seems to be teasing the Samaritan woman, deliberately leading her into misunderstanding about what he means by living water or about the conditions of worship. Nothing daunted, she gives as good as she gets, replying with a cheeky series of sarcastic questions, gradually edging nearer to the truth: an open-minded Jew – greater than our father Jacob – a prophet – and finally acknowledging him as the Messiah. With its serious message it is a lovely example of Jesus' willingness to engage with people as they are, and of his openness with women. On these last three Sundays of Lent before Palm Sunday in Cycle A, the Church lays before us the three great symbols of the baptisms which will be celebrated at Easter. This concerns not only those who will be baptised at the Easter Vigil, but all those who are invited to renew our baptismal promise and commitment at Easter. By so doing we enter afresh into the living and nourishing water of God's love which surpasses any food or drink (the teaching given to the Samaritan woman), into the light which enlightens the blind (the Cure of the Man Born Blind) and true life (the Raising of Lazarus). What does Jesus really mean by 'living water'? What is the real life that God gives us?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Masses

Early Mass: There will be no Friday Mass at 7am at OLMC for the next two weeks.

St Patrick's Feast Day.....Fr Ron Johnson has kindly agreed to celebrate mass for us on Tuesday at 12noon in St Patrick's church for our feast day.

All welcome.

MASSES AND SERVICES

Sunday 15th March

Sat 5pm	OLMC	Parishioners
Sun 9:45am	SP	Gerard McDonough
Sun 11:15am	OLMC	Mary & Jim Putt & Deceased O'Hare Family

Monday 16th March

10am	SP	No mass
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Tuesday 17th March St Patrick's Feast Day

12noon	SP	Parishioners
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Wednesday 18th March

10am	SP	No Mass
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Thursday 19th March

10am	SP	No Mass
7pm	OLMC	Stations of the Cross

Friday 20th March

7am	OLMC	No Mass
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Sunday 22nd March

Sat 5pm	OLMC	Andrew Lanigan
Sun 9:45am	SP	Fr Jonas Nwaiwu
Sun 11:15am	OLMC	Parishioners

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sat 4-4.30pm	On Request
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Collections

Many thanks

Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Loose	£207.41
St Patrick	Loose	£132.44
	Envelopes	£99.02

MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND EUCHARIST

Please find a substitute if you are not able to fulfil your ministry.

Readers please note we are now using the new Prayers of the Faithful books in both churches for our bidding prayers.

	Sunday 15th March			Sunday 22nd March		
	Sat 5pm	Sun 9:45am	Sun 11:15am	Sat 5pm	Sun 9:45am	Sun 11:15am
Reader (1)	E. Lyons	-	L. Lewis	C.Barrett	-	P. Collins
Reader (2)	C. Barrett	-	E. Alvarez	M. Bouche	-	S. Mendy
EMHC	M. Bouche	J. Dean (H)	G. Lyons	A. McCormack	J. Burquest	M. Farrell

Fr Silviu: As many of you know Fr Silviu travelled to Italy last week. At the time of writing he is expected back on Thursday. On arriving back he will be self isolating for 14days in accordance with government guidelines. We are grateful that the White Fathers have kindly agreed to supply for Sunday Mass for the coming weeks. We will monitor the situation and keep you informed as we have news. We continue to keep Fr Silviu and all those who are affected by this virus in your prayers.

Corona Virus Guidance: To minimise the spread of the Corona virus Archbishop Malcolm has issued some revised guidelines. A summary of them is provided here. Please do read them carefully and adhere to them as far as possible:

There is to be no sign of peace; communion will only be offered under one kind and **you are strongly encouraged to receive in the hand representing an act of loving charity to our community**; holy water stoops are to be emptied; hymnbooks and missals are not to be used – single use Mass sheets can be used but please dispose of them afterwards (i.e. do not leave them for others to use; Eucharistic ministers are to wash their hands before and after distributing communion and place the host on the hand without contact; the collection will be taken in a way to minimise contact – please follow guidance in each church; teas and coffees before/after Mass to be suspended; parishioners who are in the “at risk” categories are discouraged from attending large parish gatherings; anyone with cold or flu symptoms should refrain from attending liturgy or other public events and not attend the sacrament of reconciliation if symptomatic – even if it is an ordinary cold; Eucharistic Ministers should follow advice from care home staff; no visits to be made to those who are self-isolating.

Please do not be overly alarmed, these are measures designed to slow the spread and reach of the virus. Perhaps as we cross ourselves entering church (without holy water) we can remember those in the medical profession working so hard for us, keeping us safe and caring for us so generously.

Pastoral Associate Update: Our Lent Way of the Cross Pilgrimage last Saturday to many of our local churches was a time of grace as we connected with our past, present and future. Over 50 of us participated throughout the day with many accompanying the Cross for all 14 stations. Halfway round we stopped at St Patrick’s for a prayer at the memorial cross for those who had died during the typhoid epidemic which touched us deeply. The reverence and peace we experienced certainly will sustain us in the coming weeks of Lent. Thank you to all who prayed both with us and for us especially the **believing** witness of the Carmelite community with whom we celebrated morning Mass, marking the start of our pilgrimage. The warm welcome by our pastoral area priests and the sense of coming home to our mother church at the Cathedral gave us a feeling of deep **belonging**. By sharing our faith journey with one another we continue **becoming** the church that God is calling us to be. My sincere gratitude to all who helped in so many ways, our ever supportive clergy and, of course, to our Liverpool South pilgrims both young and not so young! *“May you appreciate the wonder that you are and the miracle of all creation”* Reverence from the ‘Twelve Gifts of Birth’ by Charlene Costanzo. God Bless, Helen.

Prayers requested for

Sick: Mary Rice, Frances Ryan, Stephen Porter Veronica Boyd, Betty Kent, Mary O’Toole, Michelle Baxendale, Tony McKean, Anne McCourt, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Freya Matheson, Bernard Duffy, Wally Williams, Marie Simpson, Tony Robinson, Erin Caulfield, Susie Bell, Carol Flannery, Mark O’Toole, Michael McNicholas.

RIP:

Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel : The bonus ball for Wednesday was no Winners won £30 each