



The Parish of St Mary & St Catherine



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Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA(Hons) MA

Fifth Sunday of the Year



Saturday 8th February: Vigil Mass for Sunday.	SC 5pm	Patsy Newton CONFESSIONS after Mass
5th Sunday. Year C. 9th February	SM 8.30am	Ray Watkinson
	SM 10.30am	The Bolton Family
Mon 10th Feb Jan: St Scholastica	SM 9.30am	Jean Shaw
Tues 11th Feb: Our Lady of Lourdes	SC 9.30am	For the sick and the dying
Wed 12th Feb: Feria	SM 9.30am	Pro Populo - people of the parish
Thurs 13th Feb: Feria	SC 7pm	NOVENA & BENEDICTION
Friday 14th Feb: St Valentine	SM 7pm	For lapsed Catholics & their families CONFESSIONS after Mass
Saturday 15th February: Vigil Mass for Sunday.	SC 5pm	Ken & Pat Newton CONFESSIONS after Mass
6th Sunday. Year C. 16th February	SM 8.30am	Alan Turner, RIP
<i>Fr Simon's Installation with Archbishop Malcolm</i>	SM 10.30am	Mary Jean Murray, LD

THANK YOU for your offerings to the parish each week.

SVP Collection last week: Thank you for £132.19.

St Catherine's church 100 Club: Ken Duncan (51).

Fr Simon's blog is at **offerimus tibi domine** (where you will also find the Mass times each week)

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: St Catherine's, Elaine Carr. St Mary's, Marie Tootell.

NEW MISSALS: MASS CAN BE FOLLOWED ON PAGE 983.

Unchanging parts of the Mass in the pink pages. Prayers before Mass, Pg 510. Prayers after Mass, Pg 673.

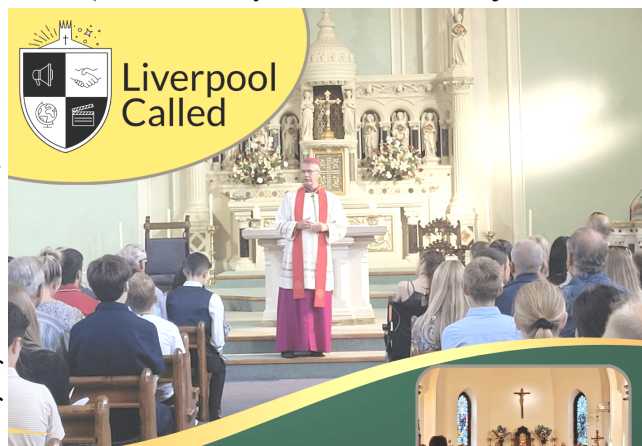
CONFIRMATION 2025 (ANIMATE)

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION IS RUN THROUGH ANIMATE (the diocesan youth service in conjunction with our Catholic schools). YOU CAN STILL JOIN THESE ONLINE SESSIONS EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT AT A CATHOLIC SCHOOL. If your child is in Year 8 and would like to receive the sacrament of confirmation, please register at liverpoolcalled.co.uk. Registration is open from Monday 13 January to Monday 17 March 2025.

Join the Animate team and special guests live for the Sacrament of Confirmation Online Preparation Sessions on 1 May and 15 May from 16.30-18.00 on the Animate Youth YouTube channel. No log in required. This session will offer a reminder of some of the work done in schools on Gifts of the Spirit, Saints, Rite of Confirmation. You will also hear how Confirmation has affected different people in the Archdiocese. This is to run alongside your Local Parish/Deanery preparation.

SO ALL CANDIDATES MUST CONTACT FR SIMON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Animate will also be offering a special session on Monday 31 March (16.30-18.00) for those who attend non-Catholic schools or schools outside the Archdiocese on YouTube. Please register as normal at liverpoolcalled.co.uk; you will be contacted after Monday 17 March with login details. Please save the date!



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2025

If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

Registration is open:

13th January 2025-17th March 2025



Register at:
Liverpoolcalled.co.uk

HOLY WATER: is now available in our beautiful new dispenser in the Baptistry. There are bottles there for you to use (50p each) Please note: for external use only. As Catholics, we are invited to embrace this sacred gift, using it to cleanse our souls, protect ourselves from evil, and renew our baptismal grace. Holy water is not a superstitious practice but a sacramental that points us toward the profound truths of our faith. For use at home in blessing ourselves with it, our homes or workplaces, and especially those who are sick.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: As the newly formed parish of St Mary & St Catherine, under Canon Law the former Parish Pastoral Council is reformed as a new entity. Thank you to all those who have come forward.



Our first meeting will be held THIS Wednesday 12th February at 7pm in St Mary's Social Centre.

The Council exists to work with and support the Parish Priest in all aspects of the running of the Parish in order that the Parish Priest may more effectively minister to the spiritual needs of the Parish.

In other words, it is not a talking shop but a way of actively getting things done in the parish - we prepare for hard work!

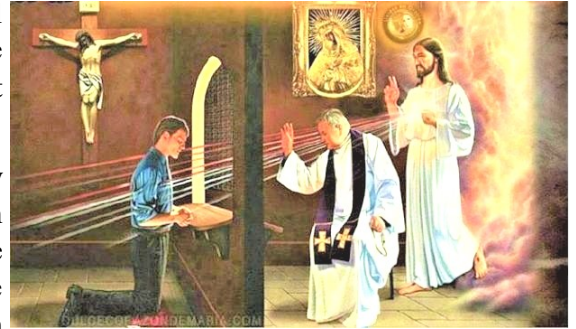
We ask Our Blessed Lady to help and protect us.

Fr. Simon

READERS: for those who did not receive the new protocol instruction sheet, they are available in the sacristy, so as streamline and unify our proclamation of the Word more effectively. Thank you.

The Ship of the Church. In the Gospel, as today, there are many instances of Jesus & the Apostles in a boat. The founder of Western theology Tertullian referred to the Church as a ship, a vessel of salvation: *“That little ship did present a figure of the Church, in that she is disquieted ‘in the sea,’ that is, in the world ‘by the waves,’ that is, by persecutions and temptations; the Lord, through patience, sleeping as it were, until, roused in their last extremities by the prayers of the saints, He checks the world, and restores tranquility to His own.”*

ST MARY’S FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: Thank you to the parents & children for the renewed commitment to attend Mass each Sunday. The children’s presence at Mass greatly enhances our Sunday experience and is much commented on by other parishioners. Don’t forget to sign “Golden Book” at the back of church for the children to make a record of their prayers and attendance at Mass for each Sunday until their First Communion as a gift for Jesus. Attendance at Mass & the preparation sessions are a pre-requisite of being able to make First Communions.



FIRST CONFESSIONS: These are now taking place over 4 Saturday mornings in church, so the children can experience the Sacrament in it’s normal place, to hopefully encourage them to come again in the ordinary course of their spiritual lives. There are 4 slots on each of the mornings for you to sign up for, the times allotted will also give enough space for parents and siblings to come to Confession as well, to set the best example for the children. As it is said in the Sacrament of Baptism, *“Parents are the first and best teachers of their children.”*

Please use the sheet at the back of church to choose your time between 10 and 11am on these four Saturdays:

8th February; 15th February. You will also find there some little booklets to assist you in preparing the children, which will also be available on the day they come to Confession.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK. Many of us will know of

TO MARY, OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CONSOLER OF THE AFFLICTED

O Immaculate Mary,
DEAR MOTHER, CONSOLER,
I take refuge in your most lovable Heart
with all the trust of which I am capable.
You shall be the dearest object of my
love and my veneration. From you,
the Dispenser of heavenly treasures,
I shall always seek Peace in my
troubles, Light in my doubts, Defense
in my dangers, Help in my needs. Be
therefore, my Refuge, my Strength,
my Consolation O Mary Consoler.
At the hour of my death,
graciously receive the last
beats of my heart, and
obtain for me a place
in that heavenly country,
where as one, all hearts
shall praise forever the
Sacred Heart of Jesus,
with your most sweet
Immaculate Heart,
O Mary, my Mother,
Consoler of the Afflicted,
pray for us, who have
recourse to you.

Amen.



people who are sick or unwell, in body, mind or spirit - and perhaps we fall into one of those categories ourselves. On Tuesday we have an opportunity to remind us to care for their souls as well as their bodies by praying for them on this most fitting day. Faith and prayer can be a great consolation when we are suffering and a source of strength.

Offering up your sufferings is a practice long established in the Church, that allows individuals to unite their pain and struggles with the suffering of Christ and to offer it as a prayer for the good of others. It expresses solidarity with Christ’s sacrifice and a way to participate in His redemptive work. The idea is that, though you cannot escape the suffering, you can offer it for a higher purpose, such as for someone’s conversion, healing, or well-being, or alleviating any suffering in the world.

How to Offer Up Suffering? When you experience pain, you can consciously choose to unite your suffering with the suffering of Jesus Christ. This is typically done by making a small prayer or intention. You don’t need to share the personal struggles of the person you’re praying for. Instead, you can simply ask God to apply the offering of your pain to help that person in whatever way God sees fit.

For example, you could pray something like: *“Lord, I offer up the pain of this migraine for [this person], asking You to bring them comfort, healing, or strength in their struggle.*

May my suffering unite with Your suffering to bring grace into their life.”

Or you might say: *“Jesus, I unite my pain with Yours, offering it for the souls in purgatory, for the poor, or the Church.”* The key is the intention and the willingness to embrace the suffering with faith and trust in God’s purpose.



INSALLATION MASS WITH ARCHBISHOP MALCOLM:

NEXT Sunday 16th February at the 10.30am Mass.

Archbishop Malcolm will celebrate Mass to formally install Fr Simon as the Parish Priest of our newly re-formed parish. Obviously, it would be good for as many parishioners as possible to attend the Mass that weekend, even if you usually attend at the 8.30am Mass at St Mary's or at St Catherine's church, as it is an event for the whole parish.

There will be refreshments served afterwards in the Social Centre - using the main hall rather than the smaller room usually in use for this.

The Installation takes the form of the priest renewing his profession of the Faith and assenting to the duties the Archbishop questions him about.

Canon Law puts it this way:

Canon 218 - § 1. The pastor is obliged to see to it that the word of God in its entirety is announced to those living in the parish; for this reason he is to see to it that the lay Christian faithful are instructed in the truths of the faith, especially through the homily which is to be given on Sundays and holy days of obligation and through the catechetical formation which he is to give; he is to foster works by which the spirit of the gospel, including issues involving social justice, is promoted; he is to take special care for the Catholic education of children and of young adults; he is to make every effort with the aid of the Christian faithful, to bring the gospel message also to those who have ceased practicing their religion or who do not profess the True Faith.

§2. The pastor is to see to it that the Most Holy Eucharist is the centre of the parish assembly of the faithful; he is to work to see to it that the Christian faithful are nourished through a devout celebration of the sacraments and especially that they frequently approach the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and the sacrament of penance; he is likewise to endeavor that they are brought to the practice of family prayer as well as to a knowing and active participation in the sacred liturgy, which the pastor must supervise in his parish under the authority of the diocesan bishop, being vigilant lest any abuses creep in.



Your Prayers are asked for all the sick, including: Rita Swarbrick, Rosena Stacey, Vivienne Lee, Tom Miller, Paul Casey, Linda Melling, Tilly Gee, Kathleen Ward, Clare Butler, Maureen MacDonald, Louie Baines, Maureen O'Brien, Margaret McNiff, Elle Miller, Mark Duncan, Bill Sutton, Barbara Fow, Mary Ann Monaghan, Bernard Lawson, Mick Marshall, Carol Parkinson, Eric Nielson, Margaret Lawler, Catherine Thompson.

We pray for those who are housebound & for those who love & care for them.

O Mary conceived without sin - Pray for us who have recourse to thee.

For God's justice and peace to triumph!

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God cast down into hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

Let us pray for the people of Ukraine to their great patron St Michael for peace & justice. This statue stands in Independence Square in Kyiv. Not from ancient times but erected in 2002. He has been the Patron of Kyiv since 1108.

