

PARISH OF SAINT OSCAR ROMERO

SEAFORTH AND WATERLOO

Worshipping in Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Edmund of Canterbury churches

Serving the Catholic Community formerly served by the Parishes of Our Lady Star of the Sea,
St Thomas of Canterbury and St Edmund of Canterbury

Liverpool Archdiocesan Trustees Inc. Registered Charity No. 232709

Parish Priest: Rev. Dominic Curran: 1 Crescent Road, Seaforth Village, Liverpool, L21 4LJ

Office Phone: 0151 928 2338

Parish e-mail: olss@rcaol.org.uk

Easter Sunday (Year B)

2021 Easter Message from

The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP Archbishop of Liverpool

The events of the first Easter morning began quietly, in stark contrast to the violence and baying crowds which accompanied the crucifixion on Good Friday. Mary Magdalen went to the tomb early in the morning on the first day of the week – while it was still dark – while it was quiet with no people around and none of the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem, the busy city. Things began to change when she saw that the stone had been rolled away, she ran to Simon Peter and the disciple John saying, ‘they have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have laid him’. The disciples ran to the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, they believed.

Mary though was not joyful, she did not have hope, she stood outside the empty tomb weeping asking where the body of Jesus had been taken. Yet as she recognised the risen Jesus her life was transformed moving from darkness to light, from sorrow to joy and from despair to hope.

For over a year now we have been living under the darkness of the pandemic, just as the light of the Risen Christ is always with us so we have seen light in that darkness through the bravery, generosity and kindness of others. The light offered to us by the heroes of our NHS, carers, and all who have worked to keep our country going.

Easter is always a time of reawakening and this year as a country we are approaching our own reawakening. Our villages, towns and cities have been quiet, but they are slowly and cautiously coming back to life. We are seeing hope through the vaccine, developed through the gifts of science, giving us hope for a better and safer future.

There have been times of grief, loss, doubt and despair during the dark days, and we hold in prayer all who have suffered. We bring those times to our celebration of the resurrection which begins in darkness in our churches with the lighting of the Easter Candle symbolising the risen Christ. A life-giving light overcoming the darkness, bringing healing to a broken world.

Just as the lives of Mary Magdalen and the disciples were transformed on the first Easter morning so too our lives may be transformed as we embrace the light of the Risen Lord who sheds his peace on all humanity.

May God bless us all on this glorious Easter Day.

Parish Year of Romero

This year, between 23rd March 2021 and 24th March 2022, we are having a parish '**Year of Romero**'. This will hopefully enable us, as a new Parish, to grow together to a deeper understanding of Saint Oscar Romero. He is a relatable, inspirational Saint who the more I read about, the more I realise we have to learn from, and be inspired by.

We will have a **Zoom gathering** to discuss what we may plan as a parish for the upcoming year, culminating in a novena to Romero and a joint celebration for the Vigil of Saint Oscar Romero's Feast next year. While no date is good for everyone, my thought is that it will be good to meet after the next government announcement to give us (hopefully) a clearer picture of the immediate rules on what we can do. The Open Zoom meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th April at 7:00pm:

<https://zoom.us/j/99720610270?pwd=UDlBNmhGWURvM1hSYkFYNmkrL3hrUT09>

Meeting ID: 997 2061 0270, Passcode: Romero

If you are unable to come and want to be involved, please e-mail the parish (with the subject header: "Year of Romero Group") and we will ensure you're informed of any decisions that are made. God Bless Fr. Dominic

Fr. Dominic's Desk

As I write this before Easter, aware that it will be read after our Easter celebrations, it is strange as the quote that comes to me this day is:

By putting us face-to-face with the most basic questions and assumptions about life and God, grief raises the likelihood that for a brief moment there may be an opening in us. Having lost the one we loved, we become aware of all we have been given. In the stripping process of grief we look past our roles, let go of our former certainties and demands to life, and see what is true: love is looking back at us through everything. But we must go deep enough into the grief to see that for ourselves.

This I feel is the process so many, and I know I, have gone through this year. Today, Holy Saturday, is the first anniversary of my Mum's death, three day's before she was to have a significant birthday. On Tuesday I will celebrate a simple public Mass on my Mum's birthday, as today no Masses are allowed till we celebrate that Joy of Easter, the grace of the Resurrection that is pure gift, that we can never earn but only realise, is given to us freely and be grateful for.

Grief is a blessing, an unwanted blessing, but a blessing that gifts us when we remain open to the Divine Love, that always brings new life. So, we gain the new eyes of Easter to see 'love looking back at us through everything'. As such we will, because of the generosity of our stewards, be increasing the number of Masses people can attend in person, as and when we are able. Please be assured of my prayers for all of you and please hold me in your too. Wishing you every blessing of Easter and the sure and certain hope of Resurrection in each of your lives.

Easter Sunday (Year B)

Resp. Psalm: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed: let

Acclamation: us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

Baptisms: *(Latest Government update)*

From Step 3 - **no earlier than 17 May**

- most significant life cycle events ***can resume***, limited to no more than 30 people. This will include events such as weddings, wakes, private ***baptisms***

Step 4 - **no earlier than 21 June**

- At Step 4, the government aims to remove all limits on life cycle events and other gatherings. This will be subject to the outcome of the scientific Events Research Programme, which will include a series of pilots using enhanced testing approaches and other measures to run events of larger sizes.

Funerals coming up: Attendance at church funerals is strictly limited

to 30 people, we list here the Funerals coming up so we can pray for the family and friends of the deceased and join them in praying for their loved ones, **if you have not received a personal invite from the family to be one of the 30 please do not attend** as the rules on any gathering apply outside church for people's proximity:

- Tues 6 Apr 14:00: Funeral Service at Saint Edmunds: **Margaret Snow**
- Wed 7 Apr 12:15: Requiem Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea: **James Murphy**
- Fri 9 Apr 12:00: Funeral Service at Our Lady Star of the Sea: **Isabella McCreath**
- Friday 16 April 11:00: Requiem Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea: **Robert Guy**

ALTAR WINE/BREADS: *(A donation given in memory of a loved one (suggested £10))*

April: Joe Rowe, **May:** Lisa Connor,

Called: Sacrament of Confirmation:

In Autumn 2021 the Archbishop is hoping to begin confirming young people in Year 8 and above in our Archdiocese.

If you/your child would like to register for preparation for the sacrament please go to liverpoolcalled.co.uk and complete the registration form (which can be found at the top right of the website) and your local Confirmation co-ordinator will contact you to inform you of the next stages of the preparation process.

Thought by Saint Oscar Romero:

The Church I preach is not an abstract Church somewhere in the clouds; she is a Church that journeys with her feet upon the earth, even when she bewails her sins and seeks to be converted and do better. *(Easter Sunday, 1979)*

MASS & LITURGY TIMES

Easter Sunday (Year B)

Easter Sunday (Sunday 4 April 2021)

9:45 am **St. Edmunds** Bill and Maureen Roberts

11:30 am **OLSS church** Terry Clinton (LD)

Monday of the Easter Octave. (Monday 5 April 2021)

10:00 am *Live Streamed only from*
St. Edmunds Mary O'Boyle

Tuesday of the Easter Octave. (Tuesday 6 April 2021)

7:00 pm **OLSS church** Pauline Curran (Ani)

Wednesday of the Easter Octave. (Wednesday 7 April 2021)

8:30 am *Live-Streamed only from*
Our Lady Star of the Sea Jose Alisson

Thursday of the Easter Octave. (Thursday 8 April 2021)

7:00pm **St. Edmunds** Margaret Broomhead

Friday of the Easter Octave. (Friday 9 April 2021)

8:30 am *Live-Streamed only from*
Our Lady Star of the Sea Denise Cook

2nd Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Vigil Mass for 2nd Sunday of Easter (Saturday 10 April 2021)

4:00 pm **OLSS Church** Veronica Blrd

5:30 pm **St. Edmunds** Flo Smith

2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday 11 April 2021)

9:45 am **St. Edmunds** People of the Parish

11:30am **OLSS Church** Vincent and Mary Ward (Golden Wedding)

ENROLLED IN PARISH MASS ASSOCIATION: Shannon and Richard Lyons

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Sick: All the sick of the parishes, their relatives, friends and all those caring for them.

Especially: Billy White, Peter Cushing, Ann Hogg, Margaret Kerbey, Mary Dillon, Sharon Gilmour, Lyn Summerfield

Lately Dead: Margaret Murphy, Richard McGuinness, James Murphy, Pat McDonald, Margaret Snow, Isabella McCreath, Albert Bellis, Robert Guy, Pat Clensey, Margaret Getenby, Marion Hutt

Anniversary: Aileen Jones, Pauline Curran, Margaret Smith, Joe & Margaret Sinnott, Mary and John Hughes, Magdalen Ferris
