



In the three year cycle of Gospels, Year C is designated the year of the Gospel of St. Luke. Written between the years 80-85 AD, the Gospel of Luke must be read with the Acts of the Apostles. Together they constitute one set, written in two volumes and dedicated to Luke's patron, Theophilus.

First Holy Communion Preparation 2022

The preparation will begin in March and is open to children in Year 3 or older. Children attending Our Lady of Lourdes School will have their lesson during the school day. Children at other schools on Saturday mornings at 10am from March 5th.

Let's Learn Español

Thursdays in the Meeting Rooms at Our Lady of Lourdes Church 11am - 1pm. Free starter lesson 27th January, then each Thursday until 10th March. Cost £30 for six weeks, including the first free session and a complete resources booklet.

Please contact Tanya for more information: 07834 563 424 / tanichi2@btinternet.com



Thanks to those who use Easy fundraising when they shop online. You have raised £705.51 for the funds. To sign up please

follow: [Birkdale Catholics Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)

Sacrament of Confirmation 2022

Are you in year 8 (or above) and would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation? Please register on line by going to:

liverpoolcalled.co.uk

Click 'Register for Confirmation' at the top right-hand side of the page. You will also find information about the preparation offered.

Registration will close on Monday 21st March.

To follow daily Mass from St Joseph's church go to www.churchservices.tv/birkdale

Offertory

Last Weekend £1,725.81

Food Vouchers this week
£ 105.00

You have raised £50,437.66
and are helping 67 families
with 127 children.

Thank you for your generosity!

Need help from the SVP?

Please leave a message or text
07716143603.

Saturday Silent Meditation

Saturdays 10am in St Joseph's.

Thursday Art Class continues
via Zoom. Contact Marie
Simmons 550466.

French conversation classes on
Fridays in the meeting rooms at
Our Lady of Lourdes from
10.30am to 12 Noon. For
further information contact
Sophie Payne:
sophie.payne@yahoo.com

Church Cleaning

St Teresa Saturday 10am.
Our Lady of Lourdes Thurs 9am
St Joseph, Fridays after Mass.
Many hands make light work!

**The Music Group at St
Teresa** practices before Mass
on Sunday mornings 10.30am.

Children's Liturgy

Sunday mornings at
St Joseph 9.30am and
St Teresa at 11am



Parish Priest: Fr Atli Jónsson

Office 9am - 2pm Monday; Wednesday - Friday

40 York Road, Southport PR8 2AY, Tel 01704 568313 birkdalecatholics@rcaol.org.uk

Deacon: Rev Bill Ball, Tel 567788. Parish webpage www.birkdalecatholics.com

Facebook: Birkdale Catholics Diocese www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

Other Catholic churches in Southport:

St John Stone & Sacred Heart Tel. 577722 * St Marie & St Patrick Tel. 531229 * Holy Family Tel. 532613

MASS THIS SUNDAY

Sunday Preface I and Eucharistic Prayer II

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the prophet Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people, said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 18 (19)

R. Your words are spirit Lord, and they are life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **R.**

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! **R.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

12:12-30

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body?

If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it was not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything?

Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you', nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.'

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray, and in sanctifying them grant that they may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving the grace by which you bring us to new life, we may always glory in your gift. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Saturday Vigil at Our Lady of Lourdes 6.00pm
Anthony Mackey

Third Sunday Ordinary Time 23rd January
St Joseph 8.30am Joan Bilsborough A
St Joseph 9.30am Christopher Taylor A
St Teresa 11am Parishioners

Mon 10am *St Frances de Sales*
Tony Smith
Tues 10am *Conversion of St Paul*
Henry Kennedy Skipton A
Wed 10am *St Timothy and St Titus*
Healing for Agnes, Int of Tomas
Saving a marriage
Thurs 10am Pat Abrams A
Fri 10am *St Thomas Aquinas*
Thomas Lewis A

Saturday Vigil at Our Lady of Lourdes 6.00pm
Michael O'Connor

Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time 30th January
St Joseph 8.30am Huguette Calixti A
St Joseph 9.30am Parishioners
St Teresa 11am Laurence Durack A

Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including
'and became man', all bow.*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Funerals

Donald James Heap, Funeral Service on Friday 4th
February at 2pm, St Joseph
Clive Wilson, Wednesday 9th February at
12 Noon, Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes
Catherine Irene Ward, Thursday 10th February at
12 Noon, Requiem Mass at St Joseph



PETER FINDS HIS FAITH TO BE MUCH STRONGER IN THE WINTER

Something to think and pray about

How will the pandemic change the Church? Has it accelerated secularisation?

The Church's remit is not opposed to secular society, although that is what some sectors of the Church would like. We should open our doors and find ways to dialogue with the secular world. I believe that, more than a spike in religiosity, what is happening with the pandemic is that our experience of God is going deeper. Out of that, the meaning of community and communion could undergo a revival. We're moving away from a vision of the Church that could be called clerical, in which the visibility of churches or symbols like priests are paramount, towards one in which various forms of lived experience prevail. This should lead to a lessening of clericalism, which is an attempt to control and manipulate religion. This is where the pandemic is having a positive effect because it's making us ask questions that many of us were not asking before it.

Walking with Ignatius: Artur Sosa, Superior General of the Society of Jesus *in conversation with Dario Menor*, p.59.

From Ireneaus

Dementia Awareness Session (on Zoom) 7pm 8th February 2022 Have you ever wanted to know more about Dementia • how it affects people? • how we can relate to someone with dementia? This session will be approximately 45 minutes, led by Sr. Moira We will explore issues of Dementia and how you can help someone to live well with Dementia?

'AGAPE MASS' WITH THE EMMAUS FAMILY OF PRAYER 3rd February 2022 At 'The Ireneaus Centre' Great Georges Rd, Liverpool L22 1RD. All welcome!

Jesus Christ, the Universe and Ourselves—a pattern of relationships. Reflections on St Paul's letter to the Colossians on Zoom. Thursdays 20th & 27th January and 3rd and 10th February 10.30am—12 Noon.

For zoom links for any of the above contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

Job Vacancy

Liverpool Archdiocese has an exciting opportunity in its new Pastoral Development Department for a Pastoral Development Administrator who will: This is a permanent, full-time appointment with a salary of £21,000 per annum.

Closing date 5pm on 30 January 2022.

Further information and application pack see: <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/>

Choral Vespers in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday, 23rd January @ 3pm at the Metropolitan Cathedral

It will be a service of Choral Vespers with the Choirs of Liverpool and Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedrals.

You are warmly invited!



Praying with the Pope in January

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family. www.thepopevideo.org

We Pray for the Sick

Baby Max, Baby Leighton Callan Sankey, Tyler (7 yrs), Joseph Harnick (5 yrs), Nella (6 yrs), Ryan Ward, Karen Manley, Sheila Smith, Pat Mills, Pauline McNulty, Jonathan Morley, Edna Smith, Olive Walshe, David Leatherland, Elizabeth Loudon, Pam Wheeler, Dave Formby, Barbara Tomlinson, John Smith, Valerie Bennett, Nola Nelson, Jemima Jenkins, Zoe Waters, Kathryn Harding, Michael Hegarty, Marian Ball, Muriel Appleton, Claire Kenyon, Michael Brady, Margaret Chisnall, Pat Little, Pat Stoneman, Mike Barber, Ciara Lea, Richard Hughes, Mary Stanton, Sylvia Flynn, Minna Moffatt, Lindsey Rodgers, Kathleen Jenkinson, William Dobson, Margherita Grilli, Marion Maher, Deacon Bill Ball

The Lately Dead

Thomas Cullen, Frederick Kelly, Michael O'Connor, Anthony Mackey, Gerry Mackey, Donald James Heap, Irene Ward, Jane Taylor

Anniversaries

Joan Bilsborough, Christopher Taylor, Pat Abrams, Henry Kennedy Skipton, Thomas Lewis, Huguette Calixti, Laurence Durack

We pray for

Our parish and schools.
The emergency services and healthcare workers.
The sick and the housebound.
All affected by the coronavirus.
All who work to make the vaccines available.
For a fair sharing of the vaccines!
All worried about their health, jobs and finances.
The poorest in our society & around the world, who suffer the most because of the coronavirus.
The families preparing for baptism.
All at St Teresa's School

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St Joseph 9.30am Fridays
Our Lady of Lourdes 5.30pm Saturdays
Other times upon request.
Face to face possible if preferred.

Catholic Chaplaincy Southport Hospital and Queenscourt Hospice

Please contact Maria Parker: **07467 374830** (during normal office hours).
In an emergency ask the ward staff to contact the priest on-call.