



CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY TO THE LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITIES

The University Church of St Philip Neri Church ~ "The Oratory Church"

30 Catharine Street L8 7NL Tel: 0151-709 3858

Chaplain: Fr Neil Ritchie

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 [Liverpool CathChap Facebook Page](#)  [liverpoolcathsoc](#)



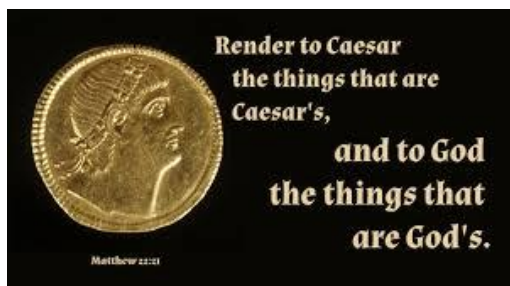
22nd October 2023

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Email addresses: unichap@rcaol.org.uk is a general address. If you want to contact Fr Neil privately, use:

n.ritchie@rcaol.org.uk. To contact Hana, use

h.koubkova@rcaol.org.uk



Events for Students and University Members:

Masses & Services This Week:

Monday: 8.15am Mass at the MC Convent (55 Seel St)

Tuesday: 8am Morning Prayer / breakfast
6.00pm Mass*

Wednesday: 12.30 Mass at Faith Express

Thursday Mass Adoration 5.30pm, followed by "£1 supper"

*events in the chaplaincy; Blackburne Place entrance

Sunday: Mass 6pm

House Prayer and Fellowship.

The residents of the student house at the chaplaincy (Sam, Alisha and Kaden) are opening their house on **Tuesday evening**, and every fortnight thereafter, from **7.00pm till 8.30pm** for an **informal prayer meeting**, based on scripture readings.

There will be prayer, discussion and refreshments. Its open to university members (UoL, LJMU or LIPA).

Come to the front door at 30 Catharine St. (next to church) and ring the bell marked 'students'.

Thursday evening, as usual, Adoration is at 5.30pm. We decided this week that we would watch an episode of 'The Chosen' each week, after Adoration, followed by the £1 Supper. The exception will be Thursday's when we have a visiting speaker join us. The Chosen is a dramatized series based on the Gospels, which proved very popular here last year – as it has throughout the world.

If you are coming regularly to the chaplaincy, please ask Fr Neil or Hana for the **digital door code**.

Vegetarian, Vegan or special diets: for events with catering, we are happy to provide suitable alternatives if you let us know in advance you are coming, and tell us what you can or can't have!

Readers & Servers: Thanks to all of you who have volunteered to read at Mass and to serve. This will really enhance our liturgy. There are WhatsApp groups on the CathSoc hub for each.

If you are **musical, play a musical instrument, or would just be happy to sing**, we'd also love to hear from you!

Dates for your diary!

Term 1 : Chaplaincy & CathSoc Events:

Tuesday 24th October: 7 – 8.30pm House Prayer & Fellowship (in the chaplaincy student house)

Wednesday 1st November: 6pm Mass for the Solemnity of All Saints

7pm-9pm: Staff & Postgraduate Group

Thursday 2nd November: 10.15-11.15am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, as part of the 'Jesus Youth' Pilgrimage; 6pm: 'Mary's Meals' representatives join us for the shared meal

Tuesday 7th November: 7 – 8.30pm House Prayer & Fellowship

Wednesday 15th November: 6-8pm Staff & Postgraduate Group

Thursday 16th November: 5.30-6.30pm 'Praise and Worship' with music before the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 18th November: Trip to Chester, meeting up with students from Bangor University CathSoc & Chaplain

Tuesday 21st November: 7 – 8.30pm House Prayer & Fellowship

Saturday 25th November: Rosary walk to Sefton Park

Wednesday 29th November: 6-8pm Staff & Postgraduate Group

Monday 4th December: 6pm Mass in Church; 7pm

Christmas Meal @ the Blackburne Arms, followed by Party in the Chaplaincy till midnight

Saturday 9th December: 9.30am Mass; 10am-12noon: Gardening

Tuesday 12th December: 6pm: Misa Española for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, followed by fiesta food!

Wednesday 13th December: 6-8pm Staff & Postgraduate Group



Weekly Collection & other donations, you can pay online at
philipnerihouse.sumupstore.com
Thank you so much for your contributions

Please note: all chaplaincy events are open to university members who are 18 yrs of age or older. If you are under 17 at the moment, please make yourself known to Fr Neil or to Hana.

Be Still....

Chaplaincy Assistant Hana offers us the following reflection...

You are here. In this moment. In this place. In this phase of your life. Is it where you expected to be? Or has your life taken turns you would never imagine – both wonderful and challenging? Every now and then I find it absolutely mind-blowing. It leaves me feeling deeply grateful and in awe. In awe how God arranges opportunities for us.

I had one of these 'mind-blowing realisations' a couple of weeks ago. A good friend of mine invited me to come with her to Franciscan (CFR) Discipleship Day in Bradford only a few days before the event. In an instance I knew in my heart that I was drawn to go so I said yes. On the day the weather was lovely, trains were running smoothly and, overall, I enjoyed the journey. Because I arrived a little early, I could spend some quiet time in the church which felt very precious. And from then on I started to be aware of the gifts [the moments] that day was made of. Rosary, Holy Mass, beautiful music, lunch time full of amazing fellowship, talk, Adoration, confession and more lovely time with others. The underlying awe was how incredible it was for us, people of different walks of life, coming from different parts of the world, to be in one place in the North of England and to share the joy of faith together, allowing God to pour out His graces upon each one of us in ways we needed in that moment, that day, that phase of life.

What I also realised was how easy it is to miss these graces. So often we are distracted with the busyness of life, sometimes mindlessly filling up schedules or simply by endless scrolling on the phone. In such inner disposition it is hard to notice the gentle voice of the Lord. Based on this experience, there are two

key things which I need to take on board even more intentionally and I would like to invite you to join me in that too.

Firstly, to make sure to regularly pause and be present in the moment. It would be in day to day life, when we are with our friends and families, or have encounters with new people but also to be present with the Lord in prayer. God has revealed himself as 'I Am Who I Am' (Exodus 3:14) and we live in times where we can literally spend time in Jesus' physical presence – in Eucharistic Adoration. There could be much written about Adoration but in this reflection, I would like to simply invite you into the time of stillness. Whether you go regularly or have never been there is an opportunity of 30-minute Adoration in the chaplaincy on Thursdays at 5.30pm (followed by The Chosen/guest talks and supper if you would like to stay afterwards).

Then, secondly, we can listen to God. In the stillness it is much easier to know when to say 'yes' and when to say 'no' to things, where to go and where we are not called to step in. In other words, it is a space for us to grow in discernment. Discernment is a big word and again much could be said however in this context I would like to point out the fruit of it - us being able to mark the road we have travelled on, seeing how God has worked in our lives, recognising the gift of others, us being a gift to others, seeing the impossible and incredible, standing in awe, being open to receive God's graces, keeping our eyes on Jesus so when we make decisions we know who we walk with and are able to respond to God-arranged opportunities.

So, let's walk, be still and know. (Psalm 46:10)