



# 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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**4<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**



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If you want to contact Fr Neil privately, use:

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[h.koubkova@rcaol.org.uk](mailto: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: Morning prayer 8am, followed by breakfast; Mass 6pm \***

**Wednesday: 12.30** Mass at Faith Express

**Thursday:** Praise & Worship with Adoration  
5.30pm\* followed by £1 supper

\*events in the chaplaincy; Blackburne Place entrance

**Sunday:** Confession: 5.15 – 5.35pm; Mass 6pm

## House Prayer & Fellowship

Tuesday 7pm in the Student House (30 Catharine St:  
ring the bell marked 'students')

**Reflection & prayer on the Word of God**

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Praise and Worship: next Thursday in the  
Chaplaincy at 5.30pm. With worship  
songs and silence. There will be extended  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.  
Followed by £1 supper.

## Rites of Entrance into the Catechumenate and Election

As many of you know, Yasmin, Rosie and Maria have  
been preparing for entry into the Church through the  
Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and  
Eucharist) since last term, and now their preparation  
enters a new phase. Chloe has been preparing  
alongside them for Confirmation. Next Sunday, at

Mass here, our 3 baptism candidates will enter the  
catechumenate at a simple rite during Mass. On  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February, they along with other candidates  
from around the Archdiocese, will be Enrolled at a  
service at the Cathedral, led by Archbishop McMahon,  
at 2.45pm. This service will be open to any of you who  
wish to attend to support them as I am sure many of  
you will. It is hoped to celebrate their Sacraments of  
Initiation here in May (Chole is due to be confirmed in  
April).

## *How to have a Mass offered for your Intentions.*

*To have Mass offered on a particular occasion or for a  
particular person or cause, please let me know (by email  
or WhatsApp, or in person – preferably write down the  
intention), and make the prescribed offering, which, here is  
£5. (This goes to the Chaplaincy account, not to me  
personally) You can make the offering in cash, or at the  
SumUp store.*



Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> is **Pancake Tuesday**  
(the day before Ash Wednesday)  
We'll be making pancakes at the  
Chaplaincy! A £2 donation will be  
asked which will go to Mary's  
Meals

## **Retreat Weekend – February 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> at Wistaston Hall, Crewe, with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia**

Just 3 weeks away!! If any of you still want to go (we still have  
some spaces), you can collect application forms from Fr Neil or  
Hana. Return them with your payment (£40) and we will put your  
name on the list. Places are limited, so don't delay!

Two rooms have now been made available in  
the Student House for next year, so if you are  
interested, do speak to Fr Neil or Hana!

**Weekly Collection & other  
donations, you can pay online at**  
[philipnerihouse.sumupstore.com](http://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 18 at  
the moment, please make yourself known to Fr Neil or to Hana

----- **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!

# Praise the Lord!

*I've got a question.. Do you praise the Lord? As in your own words thanking Him for all the things He has done in your life and in others'? Proclaiming His goodness? And if you do... Can you feel the joy? And the gratitude in your heart? Does it raise you up so that a desire springs up within you to share the joy with others and to give witness to His faithfulness? And when it does.. Does it make you want to sing? And perhaps dance?*

*Alright.. I guess this was more than just one question :D But it did start with one in my head! Anyway, over the last week when I was thinking and praying what to write about, I noticed the theme of my week was the desire to praise the Lord. And to keep my eyes on Him alone and be reminded of His love and mercy and all the wonderful things He has done for me but also all the things He's been doing from the time beginning... including, and especially, Him picking up the Cross, dying for our sins and rising up from the dead so we can have a hope of Heaven in the midst of our broken world. (CCC\* 1817-1821)*

*As I love music and as it is a way of expression for me, the praise and thanksgiving come out in that way. And in dancing. I think my dancing doesn't match the level of David yet (2 Samuel 6: 14-15) but I must say there is a great freedom in it which I certainly did not experience before! If you have never done it and it might seem a bit odd, I'd like you to imagine when something very exciting happens.. Let's say you're wholeheartedly an LFC fan and they win the league (I'm not a football person but this will do the job).. What is the reaction we can see? People are jumping and dancing, shouting in joy, sing aloud and celebrate together! Now the same principle (in much holier way) applies when we rejoice in the Lord. And that we have something to celebrate – the victory over sin and death! (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)*

*So, before I finish with the Psalm below, I would like to encourage you to praise the Lord. If singing and dancing seems too much at the moment, then in your prayer time recall in your mind what you are grateful for and tell God exactly that, thank Him for it. Or you can find lovely psalms of thanksgiving and pray those if that is easier to begin with. But, if you feel like taking up the challenge to sing and dance like David, go for it! There are plenty of praise songs and hymns online. Or make up your own unique song 😊 This being said, on Thursday we will have a full hour of Eucharistic Adoration accompanied by worship (contemplative) music in the chaplaincy's back chapel and after the Lord is reposed back into the Tabernacle, we might sing some joyful songs too! Hope to see you there.*

*Have a very blessed week,*

*Hana*

