



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

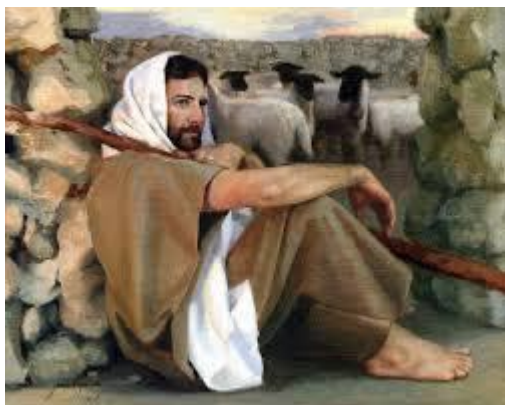
www.cathchap.org.uk unichap@rcaol.org.uk

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



21st April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter (year B)



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: 8am Mass at the [Missionaries of Charity](#) house, 55 Seel street – students are always welcome!

Tuesday: Morning prayer 8am, followed by breakfast; Mass 6pm *

Wednesday: 12.30pm Mass at Faith Express

Thursday: 5.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by £1 supper

Saturday: Mass 9.30am

Sunday: 5.15-5.30pm Confession

6pm Mass (Fourth Sunday of Easter; Vocations Sunday)

Tuesday Morning Prayer (8am) followed by breakfast resumes this week! All welcome.

House Prayer and Fellowship.

Tuesday evening from 7.00pm till 8.30pm ...in the student house (30 Catharine St. -next to church - ring the bell marked 'students'.)

an informal prayer meeting, based on scripture readings.

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

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

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



Thursday evening this week:

Adoration (5.30-6.00pm);

£1 supper. All welcome!

The postponed Interfaith Panel Discussion organised by the Islamic Society will now take place on Thursday May 2nd.

Today is designated '**Vocations Sunday**' – a day when we think and pray especially for vocations. What should this mean for us? Catholics often think that 'praying for vocations' means praying for more men and women to respond to the call to become priests or religious. And so indeed we should. But the Church teaches us that a 'vocation' comes from baptism – all people, who are baptised, have a vocation because we are all 'called' by the Lord to holiness, through some specific form of living out our discipleship (Lumen Gentium #39). Vocations include the call to the married life, and to the permanent diaconate, and even consecrated single living. People sometimes tell me 'yes Father, but what we really need is more priests and religious!' – correct, I say, but if we want more priests and religious, we need more married couples with a deeper sense of their own vocation to the married state. Parents are the 'first evangelisers of their children – a precious gift from the Creator' (Gaudium et Spes #50) and while vocations can be born less immediately dependent on the family, a stronger sense of the vocation of all the baptised will strengthen the whole Church is responding to the call to holiness.

On Thursday 16th May, Rev. Professor Peter McGrail will be joining us. Fr McGrail teaches theology at Hope University and has a particular expertise in the area of liturgy and Eucharist. He will be giving us a presentation on the subject of the Mass through the ages. I am delighted that he will be able to join us.

Saints are ready to help you!

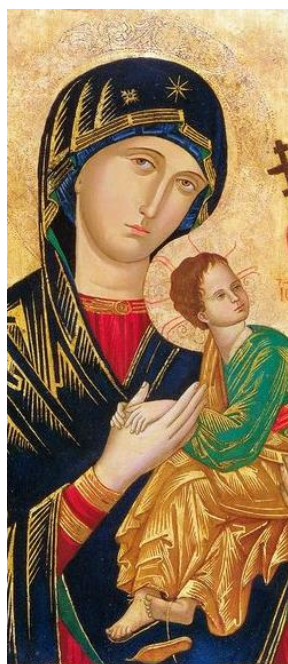
Aka exam season ahead

First of all – Happy Easter! Christ has risen! Alleluia! It's such a joy to celebrate Easter for 50 days! (And beyond of course 😊)

Now to the subject of this newsletter reflection. Exam season is encroaching (I'm sorry for reminding) but! There are Saints in Heaven ready to assist you through it all and I'm hoping what you'll find on this page will help you to be prepared spiritually for the season ahead a little bit. This communion with the Church Triumphant (saints in Heaven) is a wonderful gift to us which would not be possible without Jesus' death and resurrection (happy Easter again!). A couple of you shared some prayers on the group chat in the week which I will include here as well. If you have any other favourite Saints you ask for help or devotions which get you through tough time, share them with others over the cuppa after the Mass or on the WhatsApp.

The Memorare Prayer

The greatest Saint of all is Our Lady who gladly intercedes for us and leads us to her son Jesus. So why not to ask confidently for her help through the beautiful Memorare prayer?



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Image
Our Lady of Perpetual Help

St Joseph Cupertino

St Joseph Cupertino is my favourite when it comes to studying and exams. Have you heard of him? He was a 17th century mystic and he wasn't academically inclined.



When it came to his examination to become a priest, during one of the interviews he was asked a question about the one and only Bible passage he remembered wholeheartedly.

>>> O great St. Joseph of Cupertino who, by your prayers, obtained from God to be asked at your examination only the propositions which you know, pray that I, like you, may succeed in the examination which lies before me. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be loved. Amen.

St Thomas Aquinas

On the other hand, we have St Thomas Aquinas, the 13th century Dominican friar who was very intellectual and wrote many philosophical and theological works.

>>> Creator of all things, true source of light and wisdom, origin of all being,



graciously let a ray of your light penetrate the darkness of my understanding. Take from me the double darkness in which I have been born, an obscurity of sin and ignorance. Give me a keen

understanding, a retentive memory, and the ability to grasp things correctly and fundamentally. Grant me the talent of being exact in my explanations and the ability to express myself with thoroughness and charm. Point out the beginning, direct the progress, and help in the completion. I ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Emergency novena

Then there is also an 'emergency novena'. The principle is to pray a short prayer (varies based on a saint) at the beginning of each hour for 9 hours in a day. So instead of 9 days, you squeeze it into a day!

You can do this! Keeping you all in my prayers,
Hana