

## PEACE THOUGHTS

Recent events in the Middle East, as well as other places in the world, reinforce the urgent need for a lasting world peace.

While many world leaders and influential commentators focus on retaliation and vengeance, we turn to Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace to pray:

*Great God, who has told us, 'Vengeance is mine,' save us from ourselves, from the vengeance in our hearts and the acid in our souls.*

*Save us from our desire to hurt, as we have been hurt, to punish, as we have been punished, to terrorise, as we have been terrorised.*

*Give us the strength it takes to listen rather than to judge, to trust rather than to fear, to try again and again to make peace, even when peace eludes us.*

*We ask, O God, for the grace to be our best selves, for the vision to be builders of the human community rather than its destroyers, and for the humility, as a people, to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.*

*We ask for the heart it takes to care for the peoples of Afghanistan and Iraq, of Palestine and Israel, of Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, as well as for ourselves. Give us the depth of soul, O God, to constrain our might, to resist the temptations of power, to refuse to attack the attackable, to understand that vengeance begets violence, and to bring peace - not war - wherever we go. For you, O God, have been patient, merciful, and gracious to us; so may we be patient, merciful and gracious towards others, whom you also love.*

*This we ask through Jesus, the one without vengeance in his heart. Amen.*

Sr. Joan Chittister OSB

## TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

### AL JAZEERA NEWS!

Thought-provoking and challenging coverage of world news!

### MONDAY 8.00pm BBC1: SUDDEN CHILD DEATHS

A report looking at research into unexplained child deaths in the UK.

### MONDAY 9.00pm BBC2: PUTIN VERSUS THE WEST: AT WAR

How has the Ukraine/Russia war affected the global community?

### TUESDAY 10.00pm BBC4: ANOTHER BODY: MY AI PORN NIGHTMARE

Following the theft of their facial images from social media, which were then digitally super-imposed into porn videos and with the police unwilling to help, a group of courageous women take the investigation into their own hands and reveal shocking and deep-rooted misogyny.

Registered Charity **232709**



## **THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART**

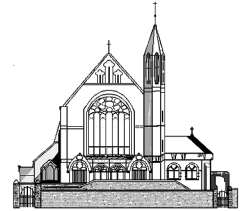
**Fr. James Nugent Pastoral Area**

St Michael's Church, Horne St, L6 5EH

Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN

Tel: 0151 263 6578

Confessions: Saturday 12noon St Michael's



**3rd/4th February '24 5th Sunday Yr. B Page 135**

## **MASS TIMES**

**Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart**

**Tuesday 9.30am St Michael**

**Thursday 7.00pm St Michael**

**Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart**

**Sunday 10.30am St Michael**

## **GOSPEL THOUGHTS**

**Mark 1:29-39**

'I'm fed up, I'm going for a walk.' Sometimes our life feels heavy and without any point. More seriously, we might be coping with some 'darkness', illness or disagreement.

Today's readings are about Jesus, God as one of us, arriving in public life bringing health and a purpose.



Job, in the first reading, is fed up with his life. Paul in the second reading is clear and purposeful, full of energy and confidence. Jesus and his new found friends had just been teaching in the synagogue.

Jesus, new to public life, brought freshness and excitement to the regulars and health and vitality to Peter's family. Crowds came round in the evening; healing and welfare were on offer. Jesus is discovering that he had a purpose, vocation and set out with commitment the next day.

**REMEMBERED**  
**...during Mass**

Gladys Gannon, Peter Nicholson, Raymond Evans  
Helen Seddon, Patricia Ogg, Marion Walsh  
and all our family and friends who have gone before us.

**PASTORAL PLAN - DEANERY NEWS**

The Deanery Synodal Council has been working on the concept of 'Families of Parishes'. Discussions are happening to discover any links that already exist between neighbouring communities. Things are developing!

**FOOD AT THE PARISH DOOR**

We are getting low, but the demand is constant.  
Your response has been very generous.  
Ring pull cans with a whole meal.  
Pasta, noodles and tinned tomatoes too.  
Thank you for your generous response.

**'AND WE'RE OFF!'**

There is a series of four Thursday morning sessions  
**10.30am-12noon (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th February)**  
taking a look at Mark's Gospel at the Irenaeus Centre,  
32 Great Georges Rd. in Waterloo L22 1RD.  
For more information, contact [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk)

**Don't be alone with debt!**

Citizens Advice Bureau 0300 330 1196  
Kensington Fields Community Centre 0151 708 9107  
**BIG HELP Boaler Street 0808 275 9931**  
**Join a Credit Union!**

**CALLING ALL YEAR 8 PUPILS**

If you are in Year 8 and want to be confirmed, you will need to register your interest (before 15<sup>th</sup> March) on the archdiocesan website: [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk)  
where you will find information about the programme and what happens next.

If you know of a young Catholic who does not attend a Catholic high school, please share this info. with them.

**CATHOLIC PIC FEBRUARY EDITION NOW AVAILABLE AS**  
**YOU LEAVE CHURCH**

**FEBRUARY 2024**

**Baptism Preparation 2nd Session**

Monday, 5th Feb 7.30pm at St. Michael's

**Pax Christi**

Thurs 8th Feb 2.00pm Horne Street

**SVP (keeping company with others)**

Wednesday 14th 7.30pm

**Faith in Action Group**

Wednesday 21st Feb 5.30pm St. Michael's

**Liturgy Group Meeting**

Monday 26th Feb 7.30pm St. Michael's

**WYA**

Session with Children Tues 27th Feb Irish Centre.

**Disarming the Heart**

**A Liturgy of Repentance for the Nuclear Age**

Nuclear weapons are one of the most urgent challenges to life on our planet.

Join Pax Christi this Ash Wednesday Feb 14th as we walk together for peace and pledge to work for a more peaceful world.

Liturgy and distribution of ashes

Meet 1.15pm at St Lukes, Berry Street (bombed church)

**PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND**

Please remember those experiencing unspeakable suffering because of war and conflict especially our brothers and sisters in Gaza/Israel, Sudan and Ukraine by visiting Our Lady's altar.

**On Tuesdays, 9.00am - 12.00pm. in St. Michael's Church.**

Please drop in to church for a short while to pray for those who are suffering because of war and light a candle for peace.

**St Vincent's Parish** - Some of our parishioners joined together in a powerful and moving Vigil of Prayer for Peace.

**'JESUS IN THE RUBBLE'**

is a prayer focus that mirrors this year's crib scene in the Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, emphasising the reality that if Jesus were born today, it would likely be amidst the horror and devastation of war.

Please light a candle and pray for peace!