

PEACE THOUGHTS

As we commemorate Racial Justice Sunday, we also remember Nelson Mandela's resilience and total commitment to racial justice. May his words inspire us today to work for racial justice and harmony for all.

'What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived, it is what difference we have made to the lives of others.'

'Peace is not just the absence of conflict; peace is the creation of an environment where all can flourish, regardless of race, colour, creed, religion, gender, class, caste, or any other social markers of difference. Religion, ethnicity, language, social and cultural practices are elements which enrich human civilization, adding to the wealth of our diversity.

Why should these be allowed to become a cause of division and violence?

We demean our common humanity by allowing that to happen.'

'It is in our hands, to make a better world for all who live in it...in any way we can.'

Nelson Mandela Quotes

After 27 years in prison for his activism against the white apartheid government of South Africa, Nelson Mandela was finally freed on 11th February 1990, at the age of 71. A wasted life, you might say? Hardly! Every day that Nelson Mandela sat in a government jail cell, the world outside of that cell was fired by his conviction and his courage. Unable to do anything himself because he was in prison, Mandela began an entire movement that could not be stopped. He turned frozen hearts into burning heat!

WHAT FIRES ARE WE LIGHTING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION?

From 'A Monastery Almanac', by Sr. Joan Chittister

TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

SUNDAY 9.00PM BBC1: LORD OF THE FLIES

Based on William Golding's novel about school boys stranded on a desert island, this four-part drama powerfully demonstrates how, without the restraints of society's rules, human beings can sink into moral decay. A timely observation for our times!

MONDAY 8.00PM BBC1: KNIFE CRIME: WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR BOYS

Investigates how two boys slipped through a system that was meant to keep children safe and follows their mothers' relentless search for answers.

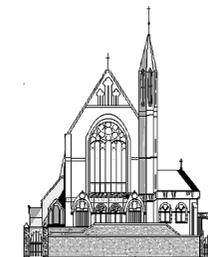
THURSDAY 10.00pm C4: NOT WELCOME: BATTLE TO STOP THE BOATS

Examines the ongoing politically charged tensions surrounding migrant boat crossings into the UK, following people who risk everything to cross the English Channel and those who are just as determined to stop them.

Registered Charity **232709**



**THE PARISH OF
ST MICHAEL
AND SACRED HEART**
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7th/8th Feb Racial Justice Sunday 5th Sunday Year A p.133

MASS TIMES

Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael's

Wednesday 2.15 pm Sacred Heart

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael's

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael's

GOSPEL THOUGHTS Matthew 5: 13-16

In the dark we can bump into furniture and hurt ourselves. Worse still, we might collide with each other and hurt one another. This is what happens when the darkness of anger and misunderstanding comes between us. At such times, we often retreat into selfish moods. Such darkness can be chased away by the 'light' of a compliment or a hug.

More important situations need serious skills to be 'sprinkled' like salt on a meal. The darkness we often create between one another needs patience, listening and forgiveness. If this 'salt' loses its flavour the darkness remains.

Jesus teaches those who listen how to escape the selfishness of hurt pride and the "My Way". After his example, we can consider what the other person/people need. Knowing Jesus' way, we are meant to go about doing good.

We must try to know and listen to Jesus every day. We who know Him, are responsible for bringing His light and salt to every situation.



REMEMBERED...during Mass

Anthony Perry, Vincent Muldoon, Jose Mathew.
Kathlene Conway, Martin George,
Please keep these families in your prayers.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

This weekend, we commemorate Racial Justice Sunday to reflect on the importance of racial justice, to give thanks for the gifts and beauty of human diversity, and to recommit to end racism and acts of discrimination.

ACTION FOR PALESTINE

LEAFLETING: Barclays Bank, Lord Street, Monday 9th February, 1.30pm, highlighting the bank's role in financing Israeli apartheid and inviting customers to move their accounts.

FILM SCREENING - THE VOICE OF HIND RAJAB

Oscar-nominated film to honour Hind Rajab, a 5 year old Gazan child who was killed by the Israeli army and helped bring global attention to Gaza's children. 339 bullets were fired at the car she was in and the ambulance crew who came to her aid, were also killed. 10th, 11th & 12th February, 7.50pm, at the Plaza Cinema, Crosby Road North, L22 OLD. Entrance £5. 90. Rated 15.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MASS

Sunday 8th February 2026, 11.00am at the RC Cathedral.
It will include the renewal of marriage vows and a special blessing for those celebrating significant anniversaries. Refreshments afterwards.
If you are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary, please register online for a certificate, which you can collect on the day at: [HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/E/UE6AMHRQ6W?ORIGIN=LPRLINK](https://forms.office.com/E/UE6AMHRQ6W?ORIGIN=LPRLINK)
For more info. contact Moses at: m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

ANNUAL WALK OF REPENTANCE - DISARM OUR HEARTS

Nuclear weapons are one of the most urgent challenges to life on our planet. Join Pax Christi, CND and peacemakers, on Ash Wednesday, 18th February, to celebrate a liturgy of repentance for the sin of nuclear weapons.
Meet 1.30 pm at St Luke's Church on Berry Street, then walk via Bold Street, Church Street and Lord Street to the Law Courts in Derby Square, pausing along the way to share and reflect on the need for peace and justice in our world. We hope to see you there!

NEXT PAX CHRISTI MEETING

Thursday, 12th February, 2 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, L1 3BT.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Liturgy Group - Monday 9th February 7.00pm St Michael's
WYA Session 3 - Tuesday 10th February 5.30pm Irish Centre
Pax Christi Meeting - Thursday 12th February 2.00 pm
at Friends Meeting House

SVP

The SVP is an important part of parish outreach.
The collection is the first weekend of each month.
You are very generous. Thank you.

COMPANIONS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Safeguarding regulations insist that Eucharistic Ministers do not visit people alone. We are therefore asking for people who are not Eucharistic Ministers but who have some time to give to this work each month to consider this role. Accompanying our Eucharistic Ministers will be a way of serving those in our community who are unable to attend church but wish to receive the sacrament. Please let Fr. Fitz know if you can be part of this.

DEANERY SYNODAL PROCESS

Any parishioners interested in representing the deanery at Synodal Meetings and learn more about decision making. Please speak to Fr Fitz or Ann O'Connell who can tell you more about the role.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Any young person (Year 8 and above) who wishes to be confirmed in 2026, should complete the registration form with their parent/guardian at: www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk/confirmation. You will be contacted after 13th February when registration closes (probably after Easter), with news about meetings in our area. Any queries, please see Fr. Fitz.

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The young adult group meetings resume at the Pauline Book Centre, Church Street, L1 3AY, 6.30-8.00pm, for more faith-based talks on: Tuesday, 17th February, with Fr. Ron Johnson
All, aged 18-35, are welcome to attend.