



Liverpool Archdiocese

Sefton Coast South Deanery Bulletin

'Becoming the Church God is calling us to be'

For information, see your DSC representative or Parish Priest

February 2025 (2)

Our families of parishes

North family
 St Helen, Crosby
 St Joseph, Crosby
 St Mary, Little Crosby
 St Willam of York, Thornton


Central family
 St Oscar Romero, Seaforth & Waterloo
 St Peter and St Paul, Crosby
 The Irenaeus Centre, Waterloo

South family
 St Francis De Sales, Walton
 St Monica, Bootle
 St James, Bootle

Family of Parishes: A Spotlight

<p>North family</p> <p>The North family held a sell-out Ceilidh in Autumn 2024 as a social opportunity to bring members of each parish together.</p> <p>Members from each parish have begun meeting regularly, and are exploring the possibility of a local pilgrimage later this year.</p>	<p>Central family</p> <p>The Central family are currently in the final stages of planning a retreat day for members of their parishes who are ministers of the Word and/or the table.</p> <p>Invites to this retreat will be shared in the coming weeks in each parish church.</p>	<p>South family</p> <p>The South family have organised a pilgrimage for 60 people to Lourdes, taking place in October 2025.</p> <p>Plans are in place for a social fundraising night in the summer, and the development of a Catholic men's group. It is hoped that Holy Thursday mass will be celebrated as a family again.</p>
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Our deanery's patron



Blessed Laurence Johnson

Lawrence Richardson was born in Great Crosby, and is an English martyr.

Born Lawrence Johnson, he was ordained priest at Douai in March 1577, and afterwards, taking the name of Richardson, left for the English Mission, in late July that year.

In 1581, Blessed Lawrence Johnson was arrested in London on his way to France and imprisoned in Newgate, charged with complicity in the pretended "Rheims and Rome plot". This pretend plot was designed to incriminate Catholic priests and laypeople, and fatally resulted in 20 Catholic men, many priests, being tortured, tried, and executed. Blessed Lawrence Johnson was executed at Tyburn in 1582.

His feast day is May 30. He was beatified in 1886.

Blessed Lawrence Johnson,
pray for us.

Deanery Synodal Council (DSC): An Update

Representatives from each parish continue to come together with clergy every other month to share what is happening in each family of parishes, to discuss the deanery's next steps in terms of collaboration, and to respond to Archdiocesan needs. Establishing contact across Family of Parishes and the deanery continues to be our priority.


Archdiocese Synodal Council (ASC), November 2024.

Our deanery was well-represented at the ASC. The ASC is where representatives from all deanery areas come together once a year with the Archbishop to discuss the work and context of the Church at a local level. Points are later considered by the Archbishop and his council, and Archdiocesan priorities confirmed for the following year. The priorities for 2025 can be found printed overleaf.

Synodal Tradition - Liverpool's next Archbishop

Members from the DSC attended a meeting to participate in discussions about what qualities and approach would be necessary of the next Archbishop of Liverpool.

A report was written following this meeting, and has been sent to Rome and to the Papal Nuncio in London.




A Church that deepens our faith and relationship with God

Deanery Retreat Programme

At the start of Advent, we held a retreat at St Edmund's church in St Oscar Romero's parish, titled 'Preparing for Advent'. The day was well attended by approximately 30 people from across our parishes. We thank Fr Richard Sloan and Sr Mary Rose for leading the day, and to Fr Dominic and parishioners for their hospitality.

For those who have not attended a retreat before, it is an opportunity to spend time with others in prayerful discussion and silence, away from the usual distractions of life.

A Lenten 'Spiritual MOT' retreat is planned to take place in St Monica's parish, Bootle, on Saturday 12th April 2025. We warmly invite all people to attend, especially those who have not been on retreat before. Details will be shared closer to the time.



A Church that welcomes and encourages all to build our Christian community

Teams for the future: Encountering the Road together

The DSC are planning to hold a series of gatherings during the season of Lent for parishioners who are currently involved in similar ministries/parish works to come together, and for those who may be willing to get involved in the future. The aim is to bring like-minded people together to explore the work they do, how we could better support each other, and what opportunities we can explore as we look to the future. Further details will be shared in parishes at Sunday masses W/C 1st March 2025.




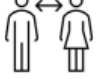




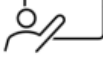
A word of wisdom: You will know your vocation by the joy that it brings you. You will know when it is right. (Dorothy Day)

Deanery Mass times (as at February 2025)

Church	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
North family							
St Helen's, Crosby			10am			12:00pm	10am
St Joseph's, Crosby					10am	6:30pm (vigil)	11:15am
St Mary's, Little Crosby				10am			11:15am
St Willam of York's, Thornton					10am		9:30am
Central family							
Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Seaforth (St. Oscar Romero Parish)	9:30am		9:30am			4pm (vigil)	11:30am
St Edmund of Canterbury, Waterloo (St. Oscar Romero Parish)				7:00pm	11:00am	5:30pm (vigil)	9:45am
St Peter and St Paul's, Crosby	9:30am	7:00pm			9:30am	5:45pm (vigil)	10:30am
The Ireneus Centre (formerly St. Thomas', St George's Road, Waterloo)			12pm				
South family							
St Francis De Sales, Walton		12pm			12pm	6pm (vigil)	11:00am
St Monica's, Bootle	12pm		12pm (online)	12pm		4:30pm (vigil)	9:30am
St James', Bootle	10am	10am	10am	10am	10am	6:30pm (vigil)	10:30am

Please see individual parish newsletter, as mass times may be subject to change.

Main Points from Liverpool Archdiocesan Synodal Council, November 2024

	<p>Accompaniment There were many questions about the term accompaniment used in the first development area in the Pastoral Plan. What does this term actually mean and what does it look like in the reality of our communities?</p>
	<p>Communication A clear desire for all channels of communication to be reviewed: those between both Synodal Councils and Family of Parishes; those coming from and to central Archdiocesan departments (including website, social media etc.) and transparency in all parts of Archdiocesan life (including finance).</p>
	<p>Youth/Young Adults This was seen by many as an urgent issue for the future of our Archdiocese. Everyone was encouraged to know that the recruitment of a Youth Coordinator is currently in process to support the church of the future.</p>
	<p>Engagement There were concerns about how the laity and clergy can be engaged fully, particularly those who may have not heard the message, or those who are not yet willing to engage with the process for whatever reason.</p>
	<p>Clergy Support There was a sense of responsibility to ensure our priests are supported through accompaniment and training, during what may be a huge period of change. Priests need access to individualised holistic health and wellbeing as they support and facilitate our journey to become a Synodal church.</p>
	<p>Strategic action What are the concrete steps necessary to enable action, particularly in relation to our resources at local parish level. There is a thirst for this to be a synodal process with a clear set of criteria in decision making.</p>
	<p>Clarification There was a desire to have the remits of the Archdiocesan Synodal Council, Deanery Synodal Council and Families of Parishes clarified and their relationship with one another further defined.</p>
	<p>Synodality at local level As our synodal church develops (through the councils etc.) there is a need to ensure that working synodally is strengthened at a local level within our parishes and Family of Parishes.</p>
	<p>Formation and Training Many asked for formation and training to be developed: formation to convert hearts and minds so that we are a vibrant church fit for our future mission; and training so that those involved in leadership, catechesis and ministry truly live out, with confidence, their vocation as a baptised member of the church.</p>