



# ST ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SCARISBRICK

*A Mission of the Douai Abbey Parishes Trust*

*(Registered Charity № 1063237)*

*Within the Archdiocese of Liverpool*

*Parish Priest:*

*Fr Hugh Somerville Knapman OSB*

**21 JULY 2024**

**SUNDAY 16 (B) *per annum***

Saturday, 20/7 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Priests' Retirement</i>	Mass – 5.30pm <i>Confessions 5.00pm</i>	† Sharon Halsall
Sunday, 21/7 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Priests' Retirement</i>	Mass – 9.30am <i>Confirmations &amp; First Holy Communions</i>	People of the Parish
Friday 26/7	Funeral Mass – 11am	† John Forshaw
<i>Until 9 August</i>	<i>Sunday Masses only</i>	<i>Fr Hugh away</i>
Sunday 28/7	Mass – 9.30am	† Bob Gregory
Sunday 4/8	Mass – 9.30am	People of the Parish
Friday 9/8	Mass – 9.30am	† Fr Boniface Moran
Saturday 10/8	Mass – 5.30pm <i>Confessions 5.00pm</i>	† John Forshaw
Sunday, 11/8	Mass – 9.30am	† Joe & Peggy Vose

## From the Pastor's Desk



SOMETIMES LIFE SEEMS to glide along gently enough. At other times it seems to be a dizzying succession of one thing after another with little time to breathe or think. This regular alternation at the very least prevents life getting boring. However, I wonder how many in the world would really rather have a lot more *boring* in their lives. In times of heightened activity we have duties to be done, and done they must be, not least because others usually depend on them being done. However, in the quieter, 'boring,' times

there is a distinct duty incumbent on us that perhaps many of us forget a little too often.

Days of calm give us space to be about the things that are shunted aside by fevered activity. One of these is nurturing our relationships. As we get older, these will perhaps become fewer, but if so, they become even more important, if that were possible. We do not need to think too hard for examples of marriages that have decayed because one or both spouses have become too engrossed in work and the material demands of family life, to the point that they forget the very family for which they are working in the first place. Likewise, not a few monks and priests can be so invested in the activities of their ministry and the temporal duties of keeping a monastery or parish going that their sense of the God whom they have been called to serve in the first place, and the community in which and through which that service is exercised.

This is why the concept of holiday—*holyday*—is so important. Not the activity side of holidays, which too often becomes the overriding focus; I mean the relationship side, which healthy leisure allows us to restore and revive. Holiday should be less about what we do, and more about with whom we are doing. Sunday has been for so many centuries a holiday/holyday, on which people have space to nurture their relationship with God, in Whom we live, and move, and have all our being. In recent centuries at least, the heart of this has been the family Sunday meal, which sanctifies the sabbath together with the Eucharistic banquet of the Sunday Mass. God–family–friends–brethren: these are more integral to our identity and wellbeing than mere—however necessary—work. This summer, cherish these relationships, and feed them with—above all—your full presence.

This Sunday we welcome 15 children into a deeper relationship with God and God's people. We must convey to them the centrality of the divine and the human relationships in our lives, and we do that best in our living more than by our words. It is harder than it looks, of course, but it is more essential than we often admit. Make these holidays count.

*Fr Hugh*

## **The ill, infirm, and others needing prayer**

Terry Turner, Sue Carver, Tess & Eric Mills, Jean Olverson, Paddy Mott, Joe Ackers, Kath Wilson, Andrew, Robert, Sue, a parishioner in distress, *and all in need of grace.*

## **Recently dead — *May he rest in peace.***

John Forshaw (*funeral at 11am on Friday, 26 July*), Fr Boniface Moran OSB

## **July anniversaries (within the last 10 years) — *May they rest in peace.***

James Murray, Cecilia Porter, Robert Gregory, John Corcoran, James Tomlin, Ethel Mitchell, David Tinsley

## **Thanks**

Many thanks indeed for those came last Wednesday to help clean and prepare the church for this Sunday's celebration.

## **Confirmations & First Holy Communions**

Please pray for the 15 children who will advancing their relationship with the Lord in His Church this Sunday, at the hand of Abbot Paul who is joining us from Douai. Mrs Preston and the St Mary's staff have been devoting much time to preparing them for this day, along with some of our parishioners. If our prayers have been answered the weather should permit us to have refreshments in the presbytery garden after Mass. After the final hymn at the end of Mass, Fr Abbot will return to the sanctuary to allow for a group photo with all the confirmandi. If you are new here—welcome!—parishioners will direct you to the presbytery garden, which is very close by.

## **Priests' Retirement Fund**

The annual collection for the priests' retirement fund is this weekend. The Church has a responsibility to maintain in appropriate dignity those who have served the Church for only a relative pittance in weekly stipends. 75% of this collection at Scarisbrick goes to support Douai monks in their retirement. A good example Fr Boniface, who was living in excellent care until in he passed away this weekend.

## **Cathedral Concert—The Sixteen**

The world-renowned choir *The Sixteen* will be singing at the cathedral on Friday 20 September from 7.30pm. Tickets start from only £8.50, with the full price being only £17. You can book at <https://thesixteen.com/book-online/68601/>

## **Little Church recess**

Little Church is now in summer recess and will resume on 8 September.

## **Funeral—John Forshaw**

John Forshaw's funeral will be in church at 11am on Friday, 26 July. As Fr Hugh will be away, Fr Joseph will be taking the funeral. Thank you to those who have been helping him prepare for what will be his first Mass in the church.

## **The next few weeks**

Fr Hugh will be away from Monday 22 July. There will be only Sunday Masses until 9 August, which Mgr John Burchard will kindly be offering. Fr Hugh's last public Mass will be on Sunday 11 August. Fr Godric and Fr Joseph will take on the care of St Elizabeth's from the weekend of 17/18 August.

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**Sunday Collection:** 13/14 July: £304.07, including £95 Gift Aided  
(6/7 July: £409.70, including £205.50 Gift Aided)

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## ***Need to get in touch?***

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