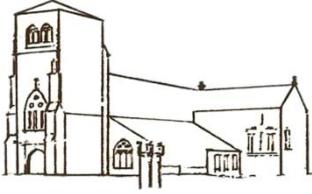


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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Tenth Sunday of the Year

10.06.18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier). Thought for this week –
-be kind to unkind people. They need it most. (Kushandwizdom)

It is not easy to find a common link in the **Scripture readings** for this Sunday, but they do show us both the separation brought about by sin, and the merciful love and power of our beautiful God, who forgives, redeems and brings us to eternal glory.

The writer of the book of the Book of Genesis has a very simple but undoubtedly true reason for explaining the pain, enmity, and drudgery of human existence. It is sin, the sin of pride which makes God irrelevant, and divides and alienates people from one another. It is expressed in the very powerful image of our first ancestors snatching the fruit of the tree of wisdom and knowledge, seeking self sufficiency, claiming equality with God. Genesis states the obvious – we are at odds with God. But it also promises redemption.

St. Paul tells us where that redemption comes from. For those who believe in him, Jesus's rising from the dead becomes the way to eternal life, with him restoring the relationship of humankind with God. Paul exposes our weakness and describes Jesus as the second Adam, who confronting our weakness, overturns the effects of the sin of mankind, destroying the consequences of the first Adam's sin.

The Psalm is the plea for mercy of a sinner who knows God's forgiveness is there.

The Gospel passage is very interesting in showing the great difficulty people have to understand Jesus. Local people are embarrassed and think he is going far above his station – he must be mad. The religious power people refuse to see God in him (not surprising if his family don't see it) and suggest darker forces are at work. This results in a sharp rebuke from Jesus – to be blind to the workings of God is to blaspheme against the Holy Spirit.

Then there is the final question – who are my mother and brothers and sisters? Key to the message of Jesus is the priority of God in all things. To seek first the kingdom of God demands a readiness to leave behind everything one holds humanly dear. What he demands of others, for the sake of "the kingdom of God", he demands of himself. The Good News he preaches makes no distinctions between peoples of any kinds or of any relationships – "*Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother, my sister and my mother*". His own family has to get the message too.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which we celebrate every weekend -
on Saturday, 4.15-5.15 p.m., and on Sunday, 9.15-10.15 a.m.
There are **confessions** every Saturday and Sunday during the Exposition..

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	John Lynch
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners
Tuesday	12.00 noon	Sr. Kathleen Breen
Wednesday	12.00	Patrick Cosgrove
Thursday	12.00	Myles Dempsey
Friday	12.00	Grace Kelly
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Eddie Barrett

Please keep our sick friends in your prayer - Myles Dempsey, John Nash, Philip Wrench, Kelly Wilson, Steve Casey, Pat Brown, Pat Dalton, Adam Dean, Stephen Woo, Nancy Goss, Saadat, Ken Otu, Flo Coffey, Sister Win, Ann McMahan, Bernie Connolly, Andy Murphy, and the many who have asked for our prayer this week. We pray for people in pain – many among our congregation. We would like to know of anyone at all who is housebound. We also take Holy Communion to the Marmaduke Street Care Home (Lotus Care), Arundel Park Nursing Home, Greenheys Lodge, Redford House (Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust) on Upper Parliament Street, to the Granby Hub, and to the Liverpool Women's Hospital. If you seek prayer for your sick family and friends please let us know. We can take Holy Communion to them and celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick.
Please pray for Julie Ellis who has died.

The next **Parish Assembly** will be on 14th.July.

The **Prayer Group** meets in **St. Anne's House** on Friday at 7.30 p.m.

The **Men's Group** will meet this Monday, 11th.June at 7.30 p.m. in St Bernard's.

The next **Justice & Peace** group is Thursday, 21st. June in St. Bernard's

Money Report . The collection last weekend was **£464.58**. Add on £624.80 from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,089.38..** Thank you all very much.

Holy Land Pilgrimage -21st-28th. February 2019. Forms are available in the sacristy. 20th. June is a sort of a deadline. Rooms are booked until then but some could be available afterwards. It is just there is no guarantee.

Syrian family appeal: a further £280.00 was donated this week to add to the £759.37 from a fortnight ago, making our total £1,039.37 . In addition St Charles's collection was £782.88, making a total so far of £1822.25. We are so very grateful for this support as we try to reach a minimum of £9000.00 to meet the Home Office requirement. An anonymous donation from outside the parish of £6,000.00 has brought us near our target, and we hope to put in a formal Sponsorship application in the autumn. Thank you.

St. Oswald's and St. Sebastian's (with ecumenical links) have a similar though separate project. You are invited to contribute to their fundraising effort and have an enjoyable evening by supporting a Pub Quiz in the Unitarian Church, 57 Ullet Road, on Saturday, 23rd. June at 7.30 p.m. Tickets £5 on the door. Drinks and cheese by donation.

The Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Annual Assembly: Saturday, 23 June, 10.00a.m. - 4.00p.m. at LACE, Sefton Park. The theme this year is *Blessed are the Peacemakers*. The speakers include Jane Kennedy, the Police & Crime Commissioner, talking about her time as a minister in Northern Ireland after the Good Friday agreement; Frank Cottrell Boyce, the screenwriter, talking about drama and resolving personal conflict; and Fr Nicholas Postlethwaite will introduce Kemi and Natasha Ryan who have worked with gangs In Liverpool 8. **All are welcome.** The event is free, and a hot meal is provided (donation invited). This event deserves all the support we can give it.

Care for our common home. When the children ask for ice creams they are often given the choice between cones and cartons. Where possible order a cone. The cartons are lined with plastic and are difficult to recycle.

Please take your copy (free) of June's Catholic Pic;

Our plan for the share the Journey Project : as a parish we will take our walk together in Sefton Park on **Sunday 1st July after Mass.** We will have three possible options- a 2.4 mile walk around the park, a 1 mile walk around the lake and the stream and a half mile walk for anyone who would prefer a shorter version. We all keep a record of our journey and then we add them together to give a St. Anne's total. We will meet up together after the walk for a picnic in the park. So if 100 of us take part and 40 of us walk 2 miles, a further 30 walk 1 mile and the remaining 30 walk half a mile, it will add up to 125 miles!! (40 x 2, plus 30 x 1, plus 30 x 0.5)

Once we have a parish total, we enter the miles onto the CAFOD totaliser, so they can add it to those of other churches.

We can of course undertake additional walks and keep a note of our own totals, then enter them onto the CAFOD website.

Today, after 10.30 a.m. Mass, there will be a special celebration in the **Parish Rooms** when we can thank those people who inspired, planned and constructed the new rooms. Members of our Social and Community group are baking cakes and preparing the hospitality. We hope that many of you will come in after Mass and share in the occasion.

Peter's Pulpit. I had always felt very distant from Medjugorje until quite recently. Then, when the call came for a chaplain I knew I had to go. I had a wonderful week. It took a couple of days for me to acclimatise, not just to the heat, 35 degrees, but to feel what it was all about. Two constant messages keep coming to me from Medjugorje - the constant call for peace – world peace, which must start with my own inner peace, and reaching out to Jesus, particularly his presence in the Eucharist, both at Mass and in adoration. I have been astounded at the peace I have felt within myself ever since I returned. I gather this is not unusual. What stays with me are the stories I heard from so many people of the favours they receive every time they come. Many have been coming yearly for over twenty years. How their lives have been turned round, impossible situations reversed – and yes, the peace they had never previously had. All of them total strangers to me. Medjugorje is known as the confessional of the world. I heard confessions for hours at a time, four hours the longest session. People from all five continents. I have much to work out, with God's help. I feel shamed by my former cynicism. God's plans are invariably better than ones I think he should have. You will be hearing more, I think..

Demolition. Work progressed well while I was away. The top layer of the old hall has gone and the back yard is full of rubble. The delicate time is approaching to deal with the area where the hall and house are connected. The contract says they must leave the house complete and fully restored. The church has been fully stripped and the brickies will be in soon. The separating walls will be breeze blocks which should help deaden the sound from neighbouring systems.

Our thanks to Ewan and **Asylum Link**. They have cleared out a section of the courtyard and laid down tiny slate pieces, very much in keeping with what we have around that part of the church. It is all working out very well. Thanks, lads.

A lovely homily from Pope Francis. How does God show his love? With great things? No, he becomes small with gestures of tenderness, goodness' God shows his love, not with great speeches, but with simple, tender acts of charity, Pope Francis said.

"When Jesus wants to teach us how a Christian should be, he tells us very little," but he shows people by feeding the hungry and welcoming the stranger.

Celebrating Mass in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae June 8, the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Pope spoke about the boundless love of Christ, "which surpasses knowledge." It is not easy to understand, he said, but God expresses his infinite love in small, tender ways.

In the day's first reading, the prophet Hosea says the Lord loved his people like a child, taking them into his arms, drawing them in, "close, like a dad" would, the pope said.

"How does God show his love? With great things? No, he becomes small with gestures of tenderness, goodness," he said. God stoops low and gets close.

In Jesus, God then became flesh, lowering himself even unto death which helps teach Christians the right path they should take.

"What does (Jesus) say? He doesn't say, 'I think God is like this. I have understood God's love.' No, no. I made God's love small," that is, he expressed God's love concretely on a small scale by feeding someone who was hungry, giving the thirsty something to drink, visiting a prisoner or someone who is ill.

"The works of mercy are precisely the path of love that Jesus teaches us in continuity with this great love of God".

Therefore, there is no need for grand speeches about love, he said, but there is a need for men and women "who know how to do these little things for Jesus, for the Father."

Works of mercy continues that love, which is made small so it can "reach us and we carry it forward," Pope Francis said.

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought) . TD's not left me much room for today's column. His loss. I was happy enough to see him back. I greeted him – then used the opportunity to slip through the front door for a good sniff. Then I came back and greeted him again. I think he was pleased to see me. We haven't been separated for a week before now. It was long. Uncle Bob cared for me very well. TD commented on how well I was looking, I was until I got these sneezing fits. You'd have laughed at TD yesterday.



I told him there were rats in the compost bin. He saw two. He lost his rag and tried to get them with a spade but they were too clever for him. They just laughed at his antics. I'd have loved to have videoed him. What a pity I couldn't get to them. I won't be at peace until that hall comes down and we can get rid of them once and for all. Milly seems to be off the radar at the moment. Though mind you I am too busy to think of her. I help TD a lot. I really cheer up the sad people who come to the house. Huggable me.