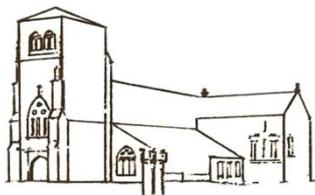


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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The Nineteenth Sunday of the Year 12.08.18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier). Thought for this week – *“To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.”* (Oscar Wilde)

The **Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady** into heaven falls on Wednesday. The vigil Mass will be at 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday. Then again Mass for the holy day will be at 12.00 noon on Wednesday.

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Darren Mann
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Special intention
Tuesday	12.00 noon	Requiem for George Rockford
	6.00 p.m.	(First Mass for the Holy Day) John Lynch
Wednesday	12.00	Parishioners
Thursday	12.00	Murphy family
Friday	<u>11.30</u> a.m.	Requiem Mass for Mary Bold
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Parishioners.

Funerals this week. On Tuesday at 12.00 noon there is a Requiem Mass for George Rockford, and on Friday at 11.00 a.m. a Requiem Mass for Mary Bold.

There is a funeral Service at Springwood crematorium in Tuesday at 3.30 p.m. for Geoffrey Higgins. We pray for their eternal rest and ask God to bless and comfort their families and friends.

Those parishioners who used to attend Mass at St. Bernard's will be saddened to hear of the death of **Bernadette Lavell**. Bernie and her husband, Vin, were known and loved by all. When their house was demolished they had to leave St. Bernard's and moved into Mount Carmel parish to which they became equally devoted. Vin went to God seven years ago. Bernie's Requiem will be at the church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel tomorrow, Monday, at 12.00 noon. Fr. John is away and so I will be celebrating the Mass. Please keep Bernie and all the family in your prayer.

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 Adoration.

The new edition of the **Catholic Pic** is available

Today's readings *I am the Bread of Life... the bread that I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world*".

The words of the psalm today are particularly beautiful with the invitation "*taste and see that the Lord is good*", an obvious reference for us to the holy Eucharist, but also to praise and glorify God in our prayer and through Scripture.

The crowd "murmured" at the words of Jesus, when he claimed to come from God, the same word "*murmur*" as is used in the Book of Exodus, which led to God sending manna from heaven. Jesus then challenges the crowd to see beyond his obviously human state but says they must be "*drawn*" by the Father to recognise that he comes from God, meaning they must be open to God and be ready to respond to his word. They must respond with faith.

This is where everything is leading. The challenge is really meant for us, for you and me, as we listen to the Word of God. To see beyond what is immediately obvious, the human Jesus, to all that God is revealing through him. Or to use the words of the psalm to "*taste*" of the Lord and "*to take refuge in him*"

Jesus is more than mere bread for our bodily hunger. He is more than the love needed to satisfy our emotional needs. He is more than the word that will satisfy our hunger for truth. He is bread/food/nourishment for life itself; the one who alone satisfies every yearning of our being. Jesus presented himself as the Bread from Heaven, understood by the Jews present in a spiritual sense of bringing life and sustenance to the people. But he goes much further. In very stark language Jesus say, as we will hear next week, "*my flesh is real food, my blood is real drink*", and goes on "*Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day*".

These words only make sense in the setting of the Lord's Supper, something immediately evident to John's own community, those for whom John is writing. That was on the eve of his own death which Christians interpret as the sacrifice by which Jesus saves the whole of humanity. It is in the bread and wine of the Eucharist that we eat and drink of the Body and Blood of the Lord, now glorified in the presence of God. Jesus says that in this food we will draw life from him. We will live in him and he will live in us. That life will enable us to live for ever with God

The *Eucharist*, the great *Thanksgiving*, is at the heart of the Church. Where the Word of God draws us together, arousing and deepening faith, so the Eucharist involves us in the great saving work of salvation, the cross and resurrection of Jesus, and celebrating the promise of eternal life. By using symbols of food and drink, we are united, sacramentally, with the saving work of Jesus. God is not in space and time, and the sacrament enables us to share intimately in the "eternal now" his death and resurrection. "*Where you there when they crucified my Lord*". We share, not just spiritually, but through the Holy Eucharist, wholly and sacramentally.

The Eucharist proclaims the saving presence of the risen Christ in our midst, that we are united with Jesus Christ, with the saints in glory and with all believers. The Word of Life and the Bread of Life demand and enable us to live as befits people fed by the Lord.

Money Report . The collection last weekend was **£421.31**. Add on £624.80 from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,046.11**. Thank you all very much.

Please keep our sick friends in your prayer - Luba Sajkalova, Peter Knowles, Jeanette Airey, Jane Maguire, Chloe Woo, Eileen Cullen, John Reynolds, 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 George Rockwood, Bernadette Lavell, Geoffrey Higgins, Mary Bold and Darren Mann who have died recently.

The next **parish assembly** will be on November 3rd.

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

The **Men's Group** will meet on Monday, 13th. August, at 7.30 p.m. in St Bernard's.

Justice & Peace. Next meeting is 20th. September

Messy Church - 8th. September . Theme is the Eucharist. To meet every 2nd. Saturday.

Holy Land Pilgrimage -21st-28th. February 2019. Forms are available in the sacristy.

There will be people from other parts of the country visiting our **Messy Church** on September 8th. when they come to the **Eucharistic Congress**. A good experience for them could see Messy Church develop elsewhere. To ensure this good experience we need helpers badly. Two of our main regular helpers will be away, leaving a massive void. In fairness to the other regulars, sadly too few, we need help. Please see Frances or see me.

Divorced/separated support from the Archdiocesan Marriage and Family Life Department, (Pastoral Formation). The course is for any person who is going through, or has gone through, a relationship breakdown. People can be at any stage in the process – they may have been recently separated or divorced for many years - the course is designed for anyone whose committed relationship has ended. For further details see the poster on the parish notice board or contact Maureen 07967753371 or Jacqui 07793825815

Care for our common world. A steady 60 mph for those driving to their summer destination can save as much as 20% in fuel costs as well as being good for the planet.

Tuesday 21st August 1.00 pm Walk with Richie the Ranger (these walks are excellent)
Paxton's Princes Park

A delightful tour that discovers our oldest Victorian Park. Designed by the great Joseph Paxton, we learn of his influence, the intriguing history of the park and we discover beautiful features, flora and fauna. Also visit the houses and villas surrounding the park. (Easy walking). Meet at the Sunburst Gates Princes Road £2.00 per person

There are still places available on the Saturday at the main event in the Echo Arena for the **Eucharistic Congress**. Go online. The archdiocesan website should help. The parish will pay. Deacon Francis is inviting young people to their own special event.

Alpha Course. This is not just an added extra. I see it as essential if we are to grow in faith and grow as a parish community. You are asked to say which day of the week and what time of the day suits you best. The course will last for eleven successive weeks. Each session will last two hours, perhaps slightly over. It will include a meal, a talk and group discussions. There could be several each week at different times.

Parish Room Bookings. Please remember that all bookings must be notified to our Administrator, Jane. Please use the email address at the head of the newsletter admin@stannestbernardliverpool.org.uk. The website should soon be able to display bookings and availability. Regular use of the Rooms is currently claimed by the prayer group and the SVP. Shortly the Cuppa and Chat mornings (or afternoons) will re-start. The Alpha course is planned for at least one occasion each week, maybe more. People are requesting regular group meetings for discussions on a variety of topics, to be decided by the group. There may be reading groups. We have invited one special speaker, Jimmy McGovern, who will be coming in the Autumn. Listening to a good speaker could become a regular event – there are no shortage of them in the city. Regular Scripture classes have been requested. These could be supplemented by expert speakers on a variety of religious, political, social or moral issues.

There has been a request from the Archbishop, through Fr. Chris Fallon, the organiser of the School for Deacons, to use the Rooms in February, to provide an opportunity to interested families, from all over the Archdiocese, to hear about the diaconate.

I hope there will be members of our parish who will consider going forward to become Deacons. The course takes four years, by which time, our Deacon Francis is likely to be grateful for some help in the ministry. Please think this over. Please tell Francis or me of anyone you think I should approach to serve as a deacon.

Fr. Ferdinand Van Camben has had a very full and enjoyable week, working in our parish, meeting many people, preparing to move into St. Vincent's on 10th. September, for his full time mission. His three colleagues will be coming to Liverpool a week or so before then. I think Fr. Ferdinand has a great deal to share with them, most notably how wonderful and hospitable he has found Liverpool people. Fr. Ferdinand will be celebrating the 10.30 Mass today.

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought). I am waiting, full of excitement. Any time now some people will be coming to break up the concrete by our back door. The rat run is underneath. I will be there. No more said. What a day out I had last Monday. West Kirby and a run to Hilbre Islands. I say "run" not walk. TD walked. I ran and ran and ran. I socialised very well with all the other dogs so TD was pleased with me. The view was wonderful. He spoke of seeing the seals. I could see very little because of the long grass. My interest lay elsewhere. He walked three miles. I ran in every direction. I couldn't clock up my mileage. People smiled at my little legs as they ran helter skelter, But they all tired, I can run for ever. Mind you. I did sleep in the car and slept well the next day. TD feels guilty that I don't get a run like that more frequently. I like him to feel like that – he tends to spoil me out of guilt. I am not worried about his motivation. I just like my tasty bits. TD and I came together two years ago this month. He is to text Barry to say – thanks for giving me Little Mick. I'm happy, too. Thanks, Barry.

