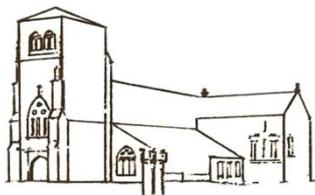


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



95a, Kingsley Road
Liverpool L8 2TY

Tel 0151 709 4434 & 07932 045 070

Email stbsliv@yahoo.co.uk

admin@stannestbernardliverpool.org.uk

Website www.stannestbernardliverpool.org.uk

St. Anne's, 7, Overbury St. L7 3HJ

 St Anne & St Bernard Liverpool

 @annebernAdmin

The Twentieth Sunday of the Year 19.08.18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier). Thought for this week – *“this is what Yahweh asks of you, only this, that you ask justly, that you love tenderly, that you walk humbly with your God”* (Prophecy of Micah)

Today's Scripture readings. Four weeks ago this series of Gospel readings began with Jesus feeding the five thousand. 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 today he goes much further. In very stark language he says *“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 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. 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 Christ in our midst, the bonds of unity with the risen Christ, with the saints in glory and with all believers. The Word of Life and the Bread of Life demand that we live as befits people fed by the Lord.

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, 5th. September, 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

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	John Lynch
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners
Tuesday	12.00 noon	Veronica Johnson
Wednesday	12.00	Andrew & Hilary
Thursday	12.00	Cheryl Doyle
Friday	12.00	Requiem Mass for Barry O'Neill
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Winifred & Edward Neary

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.

Funerals this week. Please pray for Barry O'Neill who has died and for his family.

Please keep our sick friends in your prayer - Luba Sajkalova, Peter Knowles, Jeanette Airey, 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 Barry O'Neill, Jane Maguire, Steven Walker, Darren Mann who have died recently.

Money Report . The collection last weekend was **£427.69**. Add on £624.80 from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,052.49**. Thank you all very much.

Care for our common world. Halogen light bulbs. From September these are to be taken off the market across Europe in an effort to make people switch to LED bulb. Why? Because halogen bulbs are very wasteful of energy, so this move will improve energy efficiency and cut carbon emissions.

The facts:

- The Energy Saving Trust estimates that the typical halogen bulb uses £11 of electricity while a replacement LED would use only £2 worth per year.
- Halogen bulbs usually fail after 2 years, whereas LEDs should last for 15-20 years.
- LED bulbs do cost more at around £8 each, but will lead to big savings over time. e.g.. replacing 10 halogen bulbs with LEDs would save a household about £112 per year in electricity bills.
- Some LED bulbs are labelled in lumens - the light with they emit -rather than watts. So an old 100 watt bulb would be replaced by a 1,500 lumen LED bulb. (Others have new labels with 13.5 W as equivalent to an old 100 watt bulb)
- Halogen light bulbs will be phased out, so you don't need to replace them all at once. So this is one more way in which we can help improve our environment.

You are invited to sign up for the **Alpha course**, the first of which begins, I hope, on Tuesday, 10th. September, from 6.00 -8.00 p.m. (The time. may change before then). This will be a rolling programme, a second starting when convenient for people. Programmes may well overlap. My concern is to involve as many people as possible, as soon as possible, without overdoing it.

The pattern of each meeting will be to start with a meal, during which people will be sharing their own thoughts together. Then there will be a talk for exactly half an hour, normally on screen, followed by group discussions on the given theme.

The first theme is always asking the challenging question– is there more to life than this? The second theme asks who is Jesus, the third asks why did he die. Then there are taken up the themes of faith, prayer, the Bible, how does God guide us. After six or seven weeks there is a full day away somewhere when the Holy Spirit becomes the focus of interest, and question arises how can I make the most of the rest of my life. Then asking how can I resist evil and asking about God's healing and the Church.

There are suggestions about how to follow up on the Alpha experience because that is what it is – an experience, and, please God, a life changer.

Of course it will only be a parish life changer if we actually take part. Then of course, those who have been on it will be inspirations to others to decide to take part. There will always be places for people who come without a faith back ground. The course was originally intended for them, but parishes have changed when parish members have taken part and with profound effects.

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.

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.

A new Deacon? Twenty years I asked St. Bernard's people for a Deacon. They suggested and produced Francis. And what an inspired choice you made! 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 we should approach to serve as a deacon.

The **Parish Rooms** have had installed electric blinds which will enable us to show films, documentaries, talks, even during the day. The windows being so high the blinds had to be electric. Suggestions are being made all the time about what films we should show, and surely the film on Syria, recently shown at FACT, is a must. Yours suggestions will be gratefully received. Jane has received a number of bookings for use of the rooms for parish matters. We probably have all the furniture we require now, having this week purchased some more small folding tables.

The work on the former **St. Bernard's Church** is going on apace. It is actually very exciting because to make eleven three story houses out the building is extra ordinary. The houses on the other side of the presbytery are looking quite splendid and I should be welcoming new neighbours soon. Meanwhile there is now an attractive looking fence surrounding our patch of land. Much concrete and other broken materials have been removed and the new base and path will be concreted on Monday. Then, hopefully, the soil and then the turf will follow. (not costing us anything).

The Big Concert. Associated with the Eucharistic Congress there will be a concert in St. Anne's church on the evening of Friday, 7th. September. It will be free. Do please come. It will be our opportunity to welcome visitors from all over the country. Cardinal Nicholls, once a priest in St. Anne's, has been invited. All the turns are very good. I have yet to hear something about refreshments – we may well need volunteers to cater for our guests' need for tea, coffee etc. More next week.

Throughout the three days of the Congress there will be events taking place all over the city. We distributed programmes of these events a few Sundays ago but we hope to have some more next Sunday.

"It might sound strange, but God wants to find me as much as, if not more than, I want to find God. Yes, God needs me as much as I need God. God is not the patriarch who stays home ... and expects his children to come to him ... beg for forgiveness, and promise to do better. To the contrary, he leaves the house, ignoring his dignity by running toward them, pays no heed to apologies and ... brings them to the table richly prepared for them. I am beginning to now see how radically the character of my spiritual journey will change when I no longer think of God as hiding out and making it as difficult as possible for me to find him, but, instead, as the One who is looking for me while I am doing the hiding".
(Henri Nouwen)

Pope Francis, a man of his word. The film has been on FACT this week. I was unable to see it but I hope to see it somewhere soon, Reviews and people who have seen it like it very much. There are some glaring omissions – e.g. there is no reference to him celebrating Mass even though the Eucharist is at the core of his life. But his approach to his life, his mission, his work are very good. The trailer can be seen on Youtube.

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought. Thanks Alice. You came up trumps again this week. That lamb was choice. I had it over two meals. TD gave his usual moan – you're getting better fed than I am. And why not? I ask. He should be celebrating our two years together. He had a visit this week from Fr. Chris from the Shrine, in town. Whatever the business was they soon started to talk about food! Fr. Chris knows which spices and herbs they use in India to take for various ailments like blood pressure, arthritis, diabetes - all these things which we young Jack Russells don't get. The next thing was Fr. Chris cooked a curry, not that it appealed to me, but it did to TD. Then they arranged to go to the Village Market to collect these various spices. I can see TD asking Fr. Chris to come to the parish rooms and speaking to all you good people about what to eat. We'll soon get the speaker spots filled up. Last Saturday was a let down. The concrete was broken up and shifted in the back yard but the varmints had gone. A relief to my housemates, but not to me.

