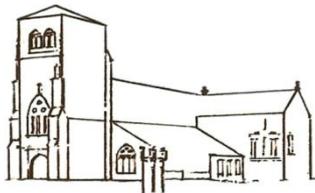


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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The Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year 16.09.18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier). Thought for this week
If you decide to speak ask yourself - is it true, is it necessary, is it kind?



Today's Scripture readings. There is a great richness in today's readings. There is the challenge to all who follow Jesus – "*who do you say that I am?*" Peter's act of faith "*you are the Christ*" is immediately followed by the prophecy of Jesus about his approaching death,

Peter protests when Jesus said he would have to suffer. Jesus' response is instant – "*get behind me Satan*". Notice that Jesus sees that the others are listening which is why he speaks so harshly to Peter. It is bad enough Peter getting it wrong but he doesn't want the others to get it wrong too. It is to reinforce his message that there can be no faith, no discipleship, no gospel and no resurrection without the awfulness of the crucifixion. Jesus goes on to say that if anyone wishes to be his disciple he/she must carry their cross. Then he presents the challenge – if anyone wants life then they must be ready to lose the life they have. Strong stuff. Not what they or we want to hear. But we must listen.

Of all the texts in Scripture scholars are certain that the words of Jesus "*Get behind me Satan*" must be original. It is inconceivable that the early Church would invent a phrase like this about Peter. It has all to do with the presumption of the disciples that Jesus was a political messiah. Jesus on the other hand considered any attempt to divert him from his true mission which would inevitably involve suffering, as the work of the Devil. For Jesus the cross was the sign of God's ownership, God's seal. This demands the total self surrender to God.

Mark links together Peter's profession of faith and Jesus' demand about carrying the cross. He is concerned that the Christians of his community see Jesus only as a wonder worker/miracle man. The Christian is one who professes that the man on the cross is "*indeed the Son of God*" – we confess that Jesus became the crucified messiah and that to follow him we must bear the cross ourselves.

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.

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Joan Tottol
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners
Tuesday	12.00 noon	Jeanette Airey
Wednesday	12.00	Sr. Mary of the Incarnation
Thursday	12.00	Mary Higgins
Friday	12.00	Joseph Lavery
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	John Reynolds' family

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

The next Co-Ordination group is on Thursday, 20th. September at 5.00p.m.

The **Prayer Group** - 7.30 p.m. Fridays in the Parish Rooms. You are welcome.

The **Men's Group** will meet on Monday, 24th. September, at 7.30 p.m. in St Bernard's.

Justice & Peace. Next meeting is 20th. September

Messy Church – 13th. October. To meet every 2nd. Saturday

Please keep our sick friends in your prayer - Jeanette Airey, Rose Coady, Frank Hall, Ann Marie Ashley, Luba Sajkalova, , Chloe Woo, John Reynolds, Steve Casey, Pat Brown, Pat Dalton, Adam Dean, Stephen Woo, Nancy Goss, Saadat, Ken Otu, Flo Coffey, Sister Win, Ann McMahon, 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 Jimmy Birchall who has died recently

Money Report . The collection last weekend was **£400.08**. Add on **£624.80** from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,024.88**. Thank you all very much.

Justice & Peace matters

1. 16th to 23rd September is the **Week of Prayer for peace in Palestine and Israel**. During this week we are asked to pray for a just peace based on equality for all people in the Holy Land. For further information see the website of Sabeel-Kairos, www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk
2. There will be a talk on the Whitechapel project on 19th. September at a venue to be announced. Please see Ann Jones.
3. Next meeting on 20th. September at 7.30 p.m. in St. Bernard's

Care for our common home. The tip for this week is: **Compost it**. If food is past its best be sure to compost it rather than binning it. Not only will it create a natural fertiliser and keep the garden green, it will reduce the amount of waste going to landfill –and as it will break down naturally there will not be a build up of methane gas.

The Cistercian priests who featured in the film "Of gods and men" are to be beatified in Algeria on December 8th. Many of us saw the film and all would surely recommend it. It was extra ordinary in many ways. It was recommended to me by an agnostic friend.

Prayer. *"...let nothing trouble my peace or make me leave you, O my unchanging God, but may each minute carry me further into the depths of your mystery. Give peace to my soul. Make it your heaven, your beloved dwelling place and your resting place. And may I never leave there alone, but may I be wholly present...."* (St.Elizabeth of the Trinity)

Alpha course. We started last Tuesday and twenty seven people came. We had bargained for twenty four. It went off very well. In many ways it was a get to know you session. It starts in earnest this Tuesday when the question is asked –who is Jesus? Kiara and Leo got us off to a wonderful start with a very tasty meal of rice and dahl. We would be very grateful for some volunteers, not taking part in the Alpha programme, to provide the meal. There is a list at the back of the church for volunteer cook to make a simple meal.

There are some people who wish to take part in Alpha but require a **day time meeting**. It has been suggested that we start on a Thursday afternoon after Mass, to finish by 3.00 p.m. This will allow parents to pick up their children from school. We obviously would like everyone to take part but at the moment that won't happen. If you wish to and are able to come please sign your name on the sheet provided.

Prayer for Alpha. The Alpha leaders' team and some of the group meet in the daily Mass chapel at 5.30 pm. to pray for 15 minutes before we start. We ask you, our parishioners, to set fifteen minute aside some time each week, to pray for the success of the programme and the growth in every way of our parish.

First Holy Communion programme. The programme will be starting soon and we need to know who is joining us. Please see Deacon Francis and give him your child's name, whichever their school, St. Anne's or otherwise. The way the Archdiocesan programme works is to place the full responsibility on the family, but parents get help from Deacon Francis and his team of catechists. Over the nine months there is a monthly meeting, on a Saturday morning, during which a particular theme is presented which is then taken over by the parents or guardian. Relevant materials are given which are used as the basis for the family discussion. Families are encouraged to pray for their children. It is really the duty of the whole parish to pray for the children. From the beginning we will give each child a prayer partner from within the parish. Would every adult who would like to be a prayer partner of one of other children please see Francis or me.

Syrian Family Community Sponsorship Scheme: Following a Gift Aid contribution from our Anglican partner, St James in the City, on top of their initial collection of £770.00 the total for our scheme now stands at £10,512.25. The Home Office requires a minimum of £9000 but the advice of other parishes is for a figure between £10-12,000. This is all very encouraging. We hope to have some news on a house shortly. Thank you all for your support.

A second referendum. Next weekend the Labour Party will gather in Liverpool for its annual conference. This could be a critical moment for the **People's Vote campaign**. There are real signs of movement from the Labour leadership towards backing a People's Vote. But we now need to support and encourage them to go further by showing how popular is the demand for a second vote. So next Sunday, 23rd. September, there will be a gathering in Liverpool for the **March of the Many** to demand a People's Vote on any Brexit deal. You are invited to join it.
People will assemble on **St. George's Plateau, in Liverpool**, on Sunday 23 September at 12.00 p.m. We will then march through the heart of Liverpool to the Pier Head, where we will hear the speeches. Yes, I will definitely be there.

Our head teacher, **Mrs. Shields**, is anxious to ensure the surrounds of the school, beyond the school gates, are kept clean and tidy, fit for the children. We all want them to work in a suitable and tidy environment. Mrs. Shields is looking for volunteers, who are handy with a brush, to give one hour a week to join the Tidy team. Some of you will want to take part. Please phone Mrs. J. Clegg on 709 1698

Adoremus. As Deacon Francis shared with us last Sunday the Eucharistic Congress seemed to have gone off very well. The main events were excellently supported, and the talks were very good. Thirteen of our young people attended the young people's events and seemed to have enjoyed them very much. The fringe events were very successful, our own three went down very well. Jimmy McGovern in SFX was a particular success talking about "Broken". (Jimmy will be visiting us soon). Now our focus will be on the archdiocesan synod in 2020. As a parish we need to prepare for it in a very constructive way. The Adoremus talks and much else can be found on the website of the Bishops' Conference. Also there is extended coverage on shalomworldtv.org.

A theology of tenderness, the pope said, expresses "the beauty of feeling loved by God" and the beauty of feeling the need to love others in God's name.

Today, more than ever, the world needs a revolution of tenderness, Pope Francis said. "Far from being reduced to sentimentalism, tenderness is the first step in overcoming the withdrawal into oneself, to emerge from the self-centeredness that ruins human freedom, God's tenderness leads us to understand that love is the meaning of life," The Catholic faith "inextricably" binds together tenderness and theology, which is called "to communicate the concreteness of God (as) love..

A theology of tenderness expresses "the beauty of feeling loved by God" and the beauty of feeling the need to love others in God's name.

"Whatever happens, whatever we do, we are sure that God is near, compassionate, ready to feel moved by us," he said, because God loves his children.

"When people feel truly loved, they feel able to love, too. Furthermore, if God is infinite tenderness, then people -- created in his image -- are capable of tenderness, too."

"We feel called to pour onto the world the love received by the Lord, to offer it in the church, in the family, in society, to join it in serving and in giving ourselves," while it is all done "not out of duty, but out of love.

It is a theology of "walking," of moving out of the "strangleholds" that theology often finds itself locked in and of journeying toward God while taking other people by the hand. It is a theology that is not "narcissistic," but extends itself to be at the service of the community, "a theology that is not content with repeating paradigms of the past," but desire always to be "the Word incarnate."

"Therefore, there is a lot of work to do for theology and for its mission today: make incarnate the Word of God for the church and for people of the third millennium,"

Pope Francis said. "Today more than ever, there needs to be a revolution of tenderness. This will save us.

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought). I was so embarrassed! Me! Yes, very embarrassed. I was



mooching around the other day when Gary, the building site manager, came running in. Get Mick, he said. We need you. Needless to say my chest swelled. I'm coming, A rat is locked in our toilet. It can't get out. Leave that to me, I said. So I run in. Smell, here, smell there. Then I was drawn to the sink. Rat smell. Then I looked up. There it was, on the drain pipe as high as it could get. There was this varmint. Now I'm not called "Little" Mick for nothing. I stretched as high as I could, barking, but couldn't quite reach it. Angry, why couldn't those men use a pole and chase it down. I bounced up and down on my hind legs, trying to reach the wretched thing. Then the little *****suddenly ran along the pipe and jumped out of the door. So quick. Those grown men were terrified, you should have seen them! It ran over TD's shoes, then under the container. You should have seen his face! Not as red as mine, though! (sort of!) Of course I went after it but I was too late. So you see why I felt so bad, called to exercise my Jack Russell skills – and failed. I let down my breed. You're no good, Mick, they said. To make the matter worse they later caught the varmint – in a trap!! I'll never live this down. O yes, I go on patrol as often as I can. I'm just going on my late night excursion now. I have to win my stripes back. I'll make my fellow JRs proud of me.