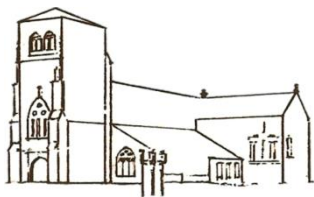


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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

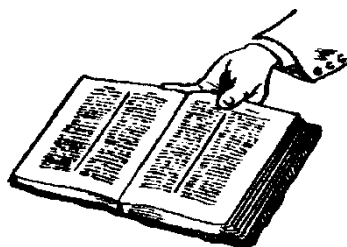
St. Anne's, 7, Overbury St. L7 3HJ

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The Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year 30.09.18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier). Thought for this week –
“how happy are the merciful for they have mercy shown them” (Jesus)



Today's Scripture readings. The question raised and answered in the first reading is again asked and then answered in the Gospel – does God confine the gift of his Spirit to authorised channels? The first reading gives the answer *“if only the whole people were prophets!!”*. The answer Jesus gives is similar *“anyone who works a miracle in my name is not likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us”*.

There have been times in Church history when Churchmen have tried otherwise, and have tried to restrain lay people or women Religious from experiencing God's gifts. Today we see very clearly how God has worked through women. St. Teresa of Lisieux, whose feast day we celebrate tomorrow, is seen today as one of the great teachers of the way to God. It was much more difficult for her namesake. St. Teresa of Avila, living in 16th. Century Spain, who had extra-ordinary experiences of God. Today she is considered to be a Doctor of the Church through her teaching on the way to holiness, but in her own time had to tread a very fine line with Church authorities for her writings, as from a woman, to be accepted.

Again remember how Jesus praised God for revealing things about God to “mere children” and not to the clever of this world. The sophisticated rule themselves out of receiving God's gifts when they are full of themselves and therefore exclude God.

The second reading provides a base for Catholic Social teaching which has been powerfully proclaimed during the past century. The reason why James speaks as he does is that the *“cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord”*. But social justice is more than satisfying people's economic needs. Catholic social teaching makes clear that we need to go beyond the basic necessities of human life, and instead enable people to fulfil their potential. To flourish, and live a truly human life.

Justice requires us to acknowledge people's need for and right to respect and consideration. The dignity of the human being must not be limited to the wealthy and powerful – social justice demands that the dignity of every single human being must be recognized, not as a privilege, but as a basic right..

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Matthew Thompson
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners
Tuesday	12.00 noon	Veronica Bowman
Wednesday	12.15 p.m.	Requiem Mass for John Brunton
Thursday	12.00	Lynda Ellerson
Friday	12.00	Gerry McDonald
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Fr. Pat Sexton

Funerals this week. Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Anthony Brunton whose Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday at 12.00 noon. Please pray for his family.

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.

Money Report . The collection last weekend was **£463.00**. Add on **£624.80** from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,087.80** Thank you all very much.

The **Alpha Group** continues to flourish. One thing is for certain. It will only achieve its purpose if the whole parish prays. The suggestion is that we pray for fifteen minutes a week, specifically for the success of our mission to bring God into everyone's heart. Why do people fight shy of prayer? One problem is that we lead such busy lives and are constantly tired, which is why early morning is considered the best time for prayer. Are there times when you feel unsure as to what you should be doing? Almost frittering away time when you know there are so many things you could be doing but cannot settle? I think that that is often the moment God is inviting you to spend a little time with him. It may be the moment to take out a Gospel passage to reflect on, spend a few minutes silently praying, perhaps not using words, maybe praying the Rosary. Whatever happens, each day there must be a God time. I saw a little card recently which said – look on a crucifix for a full minute then just stay there for God to speak to you.

October Rosary. The Rosary is the special devotion for the month of October which starts tomorrow. A daily rosary is within everyone's reach - on the bus, in the car, walking to school, but best when there are no other distractions.. It has been suggested that during October we pray a shared Rosary after the weekday Mass for those able to stay. It will be led by parishioners. It won't be practical on days we have a funeral as we do on Wednesday of this week. It will start on Tuesday.

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

First Holy Communion programme. Next meeting is 4th. November at 12.00 noon.

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

The **Men's Group** will meet on Monday, 22nd. October, at 7.30 p.m. in St Bernard's.

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

Shared Reader Group. Every Wednesday 10.15-11.45 a.m. In the Parish Rooms

The **Shared Reader Group** got off to a good start on Wednesday and will now continue every week. There will be tea and coffee at 10.15 a.m. and the reading will start at 10.30, to finish at 11.45, in time for Mass at 12.00 noon. Everyone is welcome

Please keep our sick friends in your prayer -Sophia Purnell (aged 7), Rose Cody, 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 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 Fr. Kevin Kelly, Jeanette Airey and John Brunton who have died recently.

Care for our common home. Keeping clean - the challenge! Last week we set ourselves the challenge of a 5 minute shower to save litres of water at each shower. Over the next few weeks, we’ll have a few more water saving ideas. This week, to get us started, we have a water usage audit list to complete (available at the back of church). We are asked to enter the number of times each day we carry out an activity such as a shower, washing dishes, using the washing machine and get a daily total which we can compare with the average daily use per person. This will hopefully enable us to see where we might make further reductions in our usage, thus helping protect our environment and saving ourselves money

The First Holy Communion programme began yesterday, Saturday, and will continue once a every month, meeting in the parish rooms at 12.00. The parish meeting is the starting point for the month’s work which takes place at home within the family, parents working with their children. This is archdiocesan policy, the real teachers of faith are parents. Because of problems in October the next meeting will be 4th. November

National research was initiated in June 2018 via an online survey, circulated through the diocesan Marriage and Family Life Coordinator network, to audit the range and quality of care currently offered to **separated, divorced and remarried Catholics in parishes across England & Wales.**

The goal is to better understand the experience of individuals and couples in these situations and that of the priests, deacons, religious, lay counsellors and parishioners accompanying them. We also hope to identify local models of pastoral, liturgical and catechetical support; examples of good practice and any gaps in provision. Bishop Peter Doyle has briefed his fellow bishops and the Bishops’ Committee for Marriage and Family Life on the research.

Unfortunately, to date there has been a very poor response to the survey. Therefore the submission deadline has been extended to **Friday 19 October** and I would be grateful if you could spend a couple of minutes to complete the survey. The link to the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SDRCATH>.

The **new rotas** are on the church table – please take those relevant to you. People who have an email address should have received them on line. If you haven’t please contact Jane on the office number.

The 35th **CAFOD Fun Run** will take place on Thursday 27th December at Wavertree Athletics Centre and Park, Liverpool L15 4LE. Registration will be from 12noon and the runners and walkers start at 1.00 p.m. on the 4km or 8km run and 2km walk. It's a great way to support people overseas through CAFOD (and get out after Christmas!) and a chance to do some light training now! Further details from 0151 228 4028 or liverpool@cafod.org.uk

Alpha on a Thursday afternoon. We need to get some idea how many of you and people you know would come to an Alpha course on a Thursday afternoon, starting at 1.00 and ending at 3.00 p.m. Also there is a list asking for cooks to prepare the meal (a simple meal) on our Tuesday evening Alpha. A helper is also needed. Thanks Bethia and Claire.

A letter from our parish school. *Dear parishioners, Can you help us? We are looking to establish a Faith Garden. We would welcome your ideas and any time you can spare for this new and exciting space. We want to create the garden for our children to feel safe, reflect and find peace. If you are interested and would like further information please contact Angie on 709 1698. We look forward to seeing you.*

From Fr. Iain Matthews' Impact of God. *[In] any prayer, one's whole life is ultimately the issue. One can pray for strength for tomorrow, for forgiveness for the past, for help in the details of today. One can pray for prisoners of conscience, for loved ones and enemies, for the homeless or the rich, for world peace or inner serenity. To pray for each of these is good. But in each case the need, though real, is a symptom of a deeper need, of a craving that is as close and as vital as we are to ourselves ... The most real thing John of the Cross says about us is that we are created to need God.*

Nigeria's Catholic bishops have launched a campaign to put pressure on President Muhammadu Buhari to secure the unconditional release of Christian captives held by Islamist Boko Haram terrorists. The bishops' campaign highlights the plight of a 15-year-old student by way of example. Leah Sharibu, who was kidnapped in February in Dapchi, is said to be still a prisoner because she refused to renounce her Christian faith. Boko Haram abducted more than 276 schoolgirls in Chibok in 2014. More than 100 of them are still missing. (*the Tablet*)

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought). Wait till you hear what I've been up to! But first of all – thanks, Grace. I'm sorry I was out on a walk with Uncle Bob when you called and left me that lovely chicken. There was so much I thought of giving some to TD but decided he didn't deserve it. I will thank you personally. I took TD out on a run in Sefton Park yesterday, well I did the running!! There were TV cameras, lots of people dressed in old fashioned clothes – a period drama I thought. Wow, what a drama – I stopped the filming. Imagine! It was ITV, about Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and the Palm House acted as Crystal Palace from the great Exhibition of 1851. Everyone thought I wanted to be in on the act when I started to bark – I was greeting a fellow canine. All those top hats and petticoats turned round to see who was interrupting the Queen, leaving Crystal Palace. Will you keep that dog quiet, someone called out!! Then they started filming again. I thought -if I had an equity card they'd have been only too pleased to include something authentic like a real dog. I'm sure Queen Vic liked dogs. Maybe not a scouse Jack Russell, tho. Poor TD. He picked me up, something he never does. Shut up, Mick, he whispered. (He never tells anyone else to shut up). O yes, I saw a big Ally by Wavertree Playground today. I went to greet him. I'm always looking for canine mates. I'm glad we were both on leads. Whatever I did he suddenly decided he'd have me for his tea – or so it seemed like it. He got very cross. I scarpered ASAP. I got a little nip – but it could have been a lot worse. It didn't draw blood. Keep to dogs your own size, Mick, was all TD had to say. And he didn't pick me up this time. Obviously he only did that to spare his own embarrassment. But I will steer clear of Alsatians. I won't share Grace's chicken with them!!—

