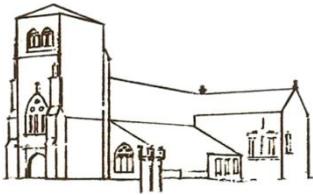


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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

Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year 08.10..17

Revolution in kindness. Thought for this week

“I am struck by how sharing our weakness and difficulties is more nourishing to others than sharing our qualities and successes.” (Jean Vanier)

Today's Scripture readings. The vine was a key industry. It was a symbol of fruitfulness, of joy and of celebration

The theme of the vineyard runs throughout the Scriptures.. It was used as an image of Israel, God taking delight in his people. Songs were composed about the vine (no different from today) but as we see in the first reading there were significant messages involved where God found infidelity in his people. This is expressed in the song about the vineyard.

It is a theme which Jesus takes up in the Gospel. The vineyard in the Gospel represents the chosen people who are in the process of rejecting the one whom God had sent as the fulfilment of all his promises. The messengers sent to reclaim the vineyard for the landowner are the prophets who had been rejected and even killed. The son is Jesus and his killing the crucifixion.

Remember that is the background against which all the Gospel passages of these Sundays need to be interpreted. It is Matthew's concern to explain why the gentile people accepted Jesus when his own Jewish people didn't.

Is there relevance in this Gospel to the Church of today? What is the major negative characteristic of Christians today? Is it apathy? We get soaked in an atmosphere of comfort, and often it takes some external event like a catastrophe, to waken us up. When we cry out – God where are you?-we could hear the answer- I've always been here, where have you been all this time?

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Rita Lawrence
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Veronica Lees Campbell
Tuesday	No Mass	
Wednesday	12.00	Parishioners
Thursday	12.00	Ann Staunton (ill)
Friday	12.00	Molly & family
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Pauline Cunningham (ill)

There will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** on Saturday 4.15-5.15 p.m. and on Sunday 9.15-10.15 a.m.

Confessions are heard during the times of Exposition – and any other time you need.

The **CAFOD** collection will be taken after Mass this weekend, the fruit of your Family Fast.

CAFOD is part of the DEC Rohingya Appeal but hasn't made a separate appeal because of Harvest Collection due to be taken today. You are asked to consider the Rohingya crisis when you make your donation.

The next **Parish Assembly** is planned to take place on Saturday, 25th. November.

The **Prayer Group** meets every Friday at 7.30 p.m. in the Sion Room

The **Men Group** will meet on Monday, 9th. Oct at 7.30 in St Bernard's. All men welcome

The next Justice and Peace is Thursday, 19th. October, at 7.30 p.m. in St. Bernard's

The **Fair Trade stall** is open every Sunday after 10.30 a.m. Mass

Tea, coffee and biscuits served after Mass every Sunday in the kitchen.

Please keep **our sick friends** in your prayer –Veronica Corner, Yvonne Ambrose, Kathie Elliot, Lee Burnett, Flo Coffey, Sister Win, Ann McMahon, Eddie Barrett, Bernie Connolly, Andy Murphy, Trish Riley. There are other house bound people to whom we take Holy Communion weekly. 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. Also for us to take Holy Communion to them.

Please pray for those who have **died recently** – Susan Bradley & Adella Moncreiffe

The First Communion programme,

All parents and children taking part in our First Holy Communion programme are asked to come to church at 12.00 noon on Saturday, October 14th.

The **Journey to Faith** continues on Tuesday, at 7.00 p.m. in St. Bernard's House. Everyone who seeks Baptism, their first Holy Communion or Confirmation is invited to come. The programme lasts until Easter.

Money Report. The collection last weekend was **£530.80**. Add on £624.80 from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,155.80**. **Thank you.**

Care for our common home. UK plastic bag taxes have reduced single use bags by billions - great news for campaigners! Try to take your own bags when shopping. Equally important is to write to retailers complaining about over packaging. It's currently just 15% in the UK.

Asylum Link Fundraising Concert today, Saturday, October 7th. in St. Anne's Church, starting at 7.00 p.m. There will be an array of excellent musicians. Entrance £5. Tickets available at the back of church.

CALLED BEYOND - Young Adults event is for those aged 18 - 35 years 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. at St Charles' Meeting Room on Thursday, 12th October. Led by our friend, Sr MaryAnne FCJ.

Younger people's event for those of Secondary School age 5.00 - 6.30 p.m. at Bellerive Catholic College on Friday, 13th October. Led by Animate, the Archdiocesan young people's service.

We strongly recommend all our young people to take part in what promises to be a very interesting set of meetings. Challenging and highly informative.

Today is Prisoners' Sunday. It is so easy to neglect it, forgetting the tragedies affecting so many families who have a loved one in prison. PACT is the Catholic charity whose sole concern is the issues arising from imprisonment. www.prisonadvice.org.uk. Please ensure prisoners and their families are in your prayer.

Mozart's Requiem: Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, 19.00, 15th November 2017. Concluding the Metropolitan Cathedral's jubilee celebrations the choirs of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral and Westminster Cathedral will join together to sing Mozart's Requiem. The choirs will be joined by the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra and local soloists. The joint choirs and orchestra singing the Requiem will be conducted by the Cathedral's Director of Music, Christopher McElroy. Dr McElroy commented that 'we are enormously excited to welcome Westminster Cathedral Choir and the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra to join us in this special Jubilee Concert: the combination of these performers and the magical architecture of our Cathedral promises to make it a musical highlight of the Cathedral's first fifty years!' Tickets for the concert (available on a first come, first served basis) are £20 for premium seats/ £15 for standard seats and are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/lpoolmetmusic or the Cathedral Shop on 0151 707 3525.'

Bereavement Care Training. A basic training course is available to help parishes set up bereavement care teams. In two sessions the course covers the stages of grief, listening skills and how to get started, and teams will be offered continuing support. 18 & 25th. October. We do need people to share in this ministry. See Deacon Francis.

Young People to Lourdes. Over the past few years a number of our young people have enjoyed great benefits from joining the Archdiocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes. There is such a demand for places that we cannot delay when the opening date for signing on is announced. The only condition is that you have to be 15 years old by the time the pilgrimage commences. Please see Deacon Francis if you would like to go. We try to cover most of the cost.

Syrian Settlement. Will those people who have expressed the intention of being involved in the Syrian Settlement scheme please see Terry Phillips or phone her on 0151 427 3119. We are linking in with other parishes, both Catholic and Anglican, but St. Anne's will be the lead parish.

Community Organising. I am delighted two people have come forward, expressing an interest in community organising. We need more. You will never be the same once you have been involved in this work. Please see Deacon Francis or me. We hope to organise a Citizens Liverpool as there is the very successful Citizens London. The principle is to draw on all religious organisations to combine resources and to bring about change for the common good. Sam Tomlin of the Salvation Army is trying to arrange two training days in January. Anyone who wishes to be involved in non party politics to bring about change would be interested.

Christians under Threat. The Cathedral. Tuesday., 7.30-9.30 p.m. An evening of talks about the lives of Christians under threat in Northern Nigeria and hopes and plans for the resettlement of the Nineveh Plains in Iraq. **Invited speakers:** Bishop Matthew H Kukah of Sokoto Diocese, northern Nigeria, Father Salar, parish priest of St George's Church, Teleskeof, Iraq who is overseeing the resettlement of the faithful, and Counsel and Aid programme coordinator for the Chaldean Archdiocese of Erbil, Stephen Rasche.

The Core of Faith. We are loved and we know it through meeting Jesus.

The original disciples did not come to recognise the divinity of Jesus Christ as a result of reading a theological textbook. They did so by reflecting prayerfully on their personal experience of his life and discussing (and no doubt arguing) amongst themselves about what he had said and how and why he had died –and what came after. Their example is still valid and effective today. People come to faith in Jesus Christ by encountering him through the reading of Scripture and in the life of the Church, and asking themselves, in prayerful humility – who is this man? In reaching their answer they are helped by other people’s similar experiences and other people’s responses. This grounding of faith in a personal encounter is central to the message of Pope Francis, and indeed of the Second Vatican Council.

It is an insight which brings to life the familiar words of the council’s decree *Gaudium et Spes*, which declares that “The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ.” It is our human experience and our encounter with Jesus Christ that gives the Church its agenda. This is especially relevant to moral teaching. And that is where friction occurs between faith handed down and faith interpreted through the lens of experience.

This friction is well illustrated by the gradual but fundamental shift in Catholic perceptions of homosexuality. It also applies to the vexed issues surrounding the admission of divorced and remarried Catholics to Holy Communion. The faith as handed down, for instance by the

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, describes homosexuality as “intrinsicly disordered”. But ordinary Catholics have come to realise –by experience –that homosexual men and women are normal human beings with the normal human need for intimacy and love. This experience says that to label them “intrinsicly disordered” is insulting, demeaning, and not true. There is nothing wrong with them, but something wrong with a theological account that requires Catholics to set aside what their sincere moral intuition and observation of creation tells them.

The traditional distrust of experience sometimes causes Catholics to question the faith “handed down”, as over church teaching on contraception. Better understood, the point of intersection between faith shaped by tradition and faith moulded by experience could remake Catholic teaching on sexuality into something affirmative rather than negative. This is what Pope Francis was aiming to do with his two synods on family life and the resulting papal document *Amoris Laetitia*, where he warns against “an attitude that would solve everything by applying general rules or deriving undue conclusions from particular theological considerations”. As the theologian Richard Gaillardetz writes in this week’s *Tablet*, the neo-scholastic logic-chopping of the pre-Vatican II era, still favoured by some theologians, provides the basis for the allegation that Pope Francis’s teaching is leading people into heresy. Yet, as he points out, “divine revelation, the Council taught, comes to us not as a set of propositions but as a person, Jesus Christ, and is given to all the people of God. Its discovery is the task of all believers...”

(An editorial in *the Tablet*)

Little Mick’s Spot. (paws for thought). I like to get things into perspective. I hear people talking about



nuclear weapons, conflicts, injustices, presidents, prime ministers, all sorts of things. To be honest I am a down to earth sort of creature. All this stuff is talk, with people getting worried, probably leading to ulcers and heart attacks. I never let these things get me down. Who ever heard of a Jack Russell having a heart attack! I can teach you a few

things about keeping life simple, about being regular in one’s habits, avoiding fatty foods and certainly not letting Brother Donald upset me. On the other hand I get very excited when I smell one of those nasty long tailed little varmints. I am not happy until I dispose of it. I love chasing anything that moves. That’s another thing. I keep very fit. TD does no exercise with me despite his claim that “the dog” – that is – ME - helps him exercise. All he does is to gather the ball in the throw stick, throws it, I collect it and bring it back. He throws it again, and again. He doesn’t have to move his feet. I run, twist, turn, and run back with the ball. People say how good is a dog’s life, meaning just lazy. I agree life is good, but the lazy ones are you people in two legs. I just look at TD and you people, all hot under the collar about all sorts of things, hot, cross and bothered. Not me. Little Mick, I say, you could teach them a thing or two. Keep life simple, Son. Just live for today. Eat (not too much), sleep, run. – and bark to your heart’s content. Make them know I am here.