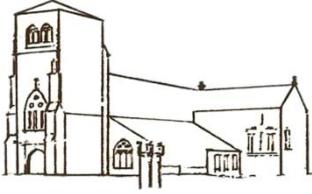


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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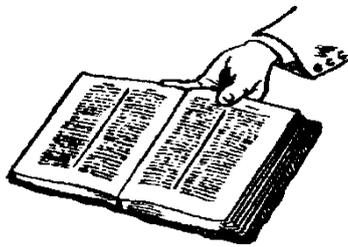
 [St Anne & St Bernard Liverpool](#)

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The Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year 07.10..18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier)

..... *"make hospitality your special boast"* (St. Paul)



Today's Scripture. Mark, in his Gospel, brings together two key themes in the journey to human fulfilment, the permanence of marriage and care of children. The first reading is one of the stories in Genesis about the creation of man and woman. Our big problem is taking literally what was written originally to illustrate a teaching. In this case the teaching given is to emphasise that the

man and woman share the same humanity, the same destiny and they do this through each other. The "one flesh" means far more than a physical union. The word "flesh" in Hebrew means the whole human person, including all the spiritual aspects of our human nature. That leads us to appreciate that the sexual relationship in our Christian tradition is far more than physical copulation but an enriching, humanising, refining, healing and wonderfully fulfilling communion which leads to God.

The combination of the first reading and the Gospel emphasize that marriage is God's work, created and blessed by God for the wellbeing of them both. The Gospel links this teaching with the special care that children need and Christian teaching puts children at the heart of the marriage relationship, equally as vital as the love between the two partners in the marriage.

Every age has seen a change in the common perspective of the relationships within marriage, reflecting the relevant position of men and women within society. The Bible says that marriage in its essence is not a human option but a divine creation.

Today's second reading is the first of a series from the Letter to the Hebrews. The Letter emphasises the fullness of the humanity of Jesus, to be held as equally important as our faith that he is divine. Jesus is the High Priest who enters into the Holy of Holies of God's presence, (remember in the Temple only the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies, the inner sanctum), and because of his destruction of death, and with it the power of sin, he enables us to follow him into the glory of God. This letter presents Jesus as both the high priest who offers the sacrifice and himself as the victim. And so in his confrontation and victory over death he brought salvation to all humanity.

This Letter to the Hebrews, we do not know its author, needs to be read and prayed about. It tends to be neglected by many, yet the insights it gives are profound.

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Fr. Pat Sexton
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners
Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Requiem Mass for Jeanette Airey
Wednesday	No Mass	
Thursday	No Mass	
Friday	12.00	Requiem Mass for Carol Ann Carr
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Rita Lawrence

Funerals this week. There are three funerals this week.

On Monday there will be a funeral service for Jackie Barlow at 10.00 a.m.

On Tuesday there is a Requiem Mass for Jeanette Airey at 10.00 a.m.

On Friday there is a Requiem Mass for Carol Ann Carr at 12.00 noon.

Please pray for the repose of their souls and for their grieving families.

Please note there will not be Mass on Wednesday or Thursday. I will be in the Isle of Man, just for one night. You may have heard of the devotion to *Mary, The Untier of Knots*. Pope Francis was drawn to a painting in Germany and the story behind it. He introduced it to his former diocese, Buenos Aires, and it has spread from there. There are so many knots in our own lives which need to be untied. Fr. John Divine, Parish Priest in Douglas, IOM, is having a Novena, each day of which various knots in our society are opened up and prayed about. He has asked me to speak about intractable asylum cases, the intention of that day.

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 **£424.26**. Add on **£624.80** from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,049.06**. Thank you all very much.

The **Alpha Group** continues on Tuesday, 6.00 – 8.00 p.m. If anyone is prepared to cook a meal for the 30 people taking part. I would be grateful. Something simple – so far we have had rice and dahl, lentil soup, beef soup (mini scouse), baked potato and salad. There is a team of helpers. Please let me know if you will be lead cook for one session. We have excellent facilities. Everything needed will be provided.

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. Next Saturday. To meet every 2nd. Saturday

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

The Messy Church meeting next Saturday is celebrating **Messy Church's seventh birthday** at St. Anne's. A happy birthday to Frances and all her friends and helpers. Come and celebrated with them.

Care for our common home: saving water

Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth, this will save 6 litres of water per minute!!!

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 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 Fr. Kevin Kelly, Jeanette Airey, Jackie Barlow and Carol Carr who have died recently.

Alpha this week is reflecting on why we pray. Prayer is the most important thing in our lives. Or is it in my life? This group represents the parish – we are all in it together. Do please pray this week – there cannot be any transformation in our parish until we start to pray, individually and collectively. Why not meet with some friends and share a rosary and also find that 15 minutes to pray for wonderful things to happen. On 27th. October the Alpha group will having an away day when we pray for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit on them, and through them on the whole parish.

Parish finances: the parish accounts presented at the July Assembly showed that for 2017 the parish had a surplus of £22,595. With the surpluses from recent years we were able to get approval to build our parish rooms, and put in the toilet and disabled facilities. We were helped with a grant of £15,500 from the Gubay Trust for the toilets, so that the original estimates of about £80,000 were affordable. As is the way in these things, costs increased. The Property & Finance Group overseeing the project took a view that we wanted the best for our parishioners, and our growth as a community, so when snags and problems were hit with the old rooms, the flooring, and so on, we chose not to cut back and end up with something not fit for our parish. And to cut costs, we took on some of the renovation and cleaning work ourselves. However, the costs rose to about £125,000. This sum of money has been debited from our account this year, and we now have a parish deficit of about £24,000 at 1 October. This is not a crisis. Our income gives us a surplus of about £2,000 a month so we anticipate that we will clear the deficit in a year or so, as long as there is no big drop in our income. In the meantime we can delight in the wonderful new rooms and facilities. Every now and again, not too often we hope, we ask if people would think about their weekly or monthly offerings, and see if they can increase them, and especially Gift Aid them, as that gives us an extra £25 for every £100 we collect. If you already give through Gift Aid no paperwork is required, as the accounts pick up any change in giving through the bank or envelopes. If you would like to use envelopes on a weekly or monthly basis, or pay by bank order and to Gift Aid it, then please see John Phillips. Thank you for your support in all different ways. We have much to delight in.

Shoebox Appeal. We will be making shoeboxes filled with gifts for either a family or for an elderly person for the Link to Hope shoebox appeal. See www.linktohope.co.uk for stories about who the boxes went to. **Collection dates: 28/10/18 and 4/11/18**

This letter has just been received –it speaks for itself.

I am Fr. Mario da Silva, IVE. Parish priest of Holy Family Church in Gaza.

I would like to thank your parish because I just now received the Easter card you sent me last year (I apologize but the post mail here is not working properly, that is the reason we just now received it).

I would like that my greetings and thanks can reach your parishioners.

It was not only a simple Easter card that arrived to us but it arrived with love from you and brought hope to my people. Best regards in Christ, Fr. Mario da Silva, IVE.

We will reply and build up links with Fr. Mario. It gladdens our hearts.



St. Bernard's as you have never seen it!

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought). In the dog 'ouse yet again!! You see those beautiful floors above. Nice and smooth aren't they? Well, I have to tell you. The other day TD saw my paw marks, all solidified, on a concrete floor. O Mick, your marks are on those floors for all eternity, he said. How can we get rid of them? !! Then he apologised to Ian who is the Boss. Sorry about Mick's paw marks, he said. Thank God Ian laughed.



That's the third floor he's marked, he said! He landed me in it alright. TD almost had a heart attack. It's ok, we try to brush it out, Ian said Not very successfully I have to confess. There am I, then, my prints will be found by the archaeologists of the future! A friend of TD called yesterday with a whole cooked chicken. I have just bought this from Sainsbury's, she said, - for Little Mick. TD's face turned every colour you can imagine. You bought that chicken for – the dog! Mick won't see much of this, he said. That man claims to love me. He keeps my chicken and he speaks of me as "the dog". He gave me some scruffy bits from his fridge. He is keeping the present bought for me"! And he doesn't even eat chicken!