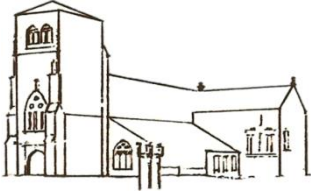


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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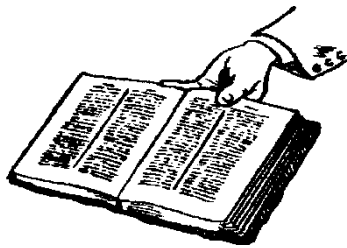
 [St Anne & St Bernard Liverpool](#)

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The Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year 14.10.18

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier)

...But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you... (Jesus)



Today's Scripture. How must a Christian consider the acquisition of wealth? How much are riches an impediment to entering the Kingdom of God?

Jesus does not answer this question directly. What he does say is that for anyone taking their Christian life seriously and seeking to follow him unconditionally, then they must renounce all wealth.

For this young man his wealth was an impediment. But the renunciation of wealth is not an end in itself. It is a pre-condition for following Jesus in order to be "perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect". The young man in the Gospel was seeking true holiness but there was an impediment which prevented him from attaining it, not just having the money, but his love of money.

To hear the invitation of Jesus to "follow me" he had to renounce his love of money. For other people the impediment could be something different. What matters is to follow Jesus.

Many Christians use their money responsibly and generously; "*to give to the poor*" is a key demand made of all Christians. Circumstances do not demand that they renounce everything but we are all answerable for the way we use our money. The Christian teaching is that we are only the stewards of all we possess. It is given us on trust.

In the Gospel Jesus is addressed as "*good Master*". He rejects this description of himself. This sometimes troubles Christians. Don't forget that we must approach Jesus as a human being, aware of his special mission from God, aware of a very special relationship with God, but the truth of the Incarnation, God becoming man, means that Jesus was a man, not a pretend human being. He was a devout Jew. He would react against any kind of insincerity and flattery. He was a prophet. The only standard he knew was the standard of God, the values of God and what were impediments to embracing God.

Finally, Peter asks about those who have given up everything to follow Jesus. The hundred-fold which Jesus promises includes every yearning for God fulfilled. As Paul puts it "*Eye has not seen nor ear heard. nor has entered into the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him*". Or in John's words "*what we are to be in the future has yet to be revealed. What we know is that when it is revealed we shall like him, because we shall see God as he really is*".

Mass this week is as follows -

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Rita Lawrence
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners
Tuesday	12.00 noon	Betty McGrady
Wednesday	<u>9.00 a.m.</u>	Fr. Boniface Moran OSB
Thursday	12.00 noon	Gerry McDonald
Friday	12.00	James Harding
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Jean Daley

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.

There will be a funeral service on Wednesday at 1.00 p.m. for Rosemary Bernadette Jones.
Please for her eternal rest and for God's blessing on her family.

Money Report . The collection last weekend was **£532.56**. Add on **£624.80** from standing orders and tax returns to make a total of **£1,156.36** 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, potato with beans. 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.
Justice & Peace group. Next meeting 15th. November in St. Bernard's House.
The Men's Group will meet on Monday, 22nd. October, at 7.30 p.m. in St Bernard's.
Messy Church – 10th. November. Next Saturday. To meet every 2nd. Saturday
Shared Reader Group. Every Wednesday 10.15-11.45 a.m. In the Parish Rooms.

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, 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 Rosemary Jones, recently deceased, and Rita Lawrence whose anniversary it is.

The October edition of the **Catholic Pic** is available on the church table. Please take your copy.

Please keep on praying for our **Alpha course**. On 27th. October we will be spending the day at Sandymount. This is a key time in the programme. Please pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on those talking part and through them on the whole parish.

Syrian family Community Sponsorship scheme. We attach an additional newsletter this week from our three churches, updating you on our progress. We want to keep you informed for we will need all the support we can get to submit our application Thank you for the wonderful financial support you have given so far.

Our parish has talent (series three). Sunday, November 18th. It is always great fun. Thank you, those many people who, in the past, have come forward and expressed your talent in many and varied ways. Now do so again, encouraging others who have yet to venture on to our stage. Lol is away at present. I would love him to return to find many forms filled in. It is always thoroughly enjoyable. Spread the good news around.

ALM (Asylum Link Merseyside). There is an **Autumn Fundraising concert** in St. Anne's Church on Saturday, 27th. October. In aid of refugees and asylum seekers. Tickets are £5, also pay at the door.

Care for our common world. From the beginning of next year, a new global pact will take effect that could have a profound impact on climate change, cutting harmful greenhouse gas emissions by *change* amounts that could help stave off some of the worst impacts predicted by the IPCC (*The recent forecast on climate*). The Kigali amendment, which was agreed on 15 October 2016 and comes into force on 1 January, will drastically reduce hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). These heat-trapping gases are the byproduct of industrial processes such as refrigeration and can be eliminated from those processes by re-engineering. The amendment comes under the Montreal Protocol, the world's most successful international environmental treaty, which aims to stop the depletion of the ozone layer.

St. Anne's School. There will be the official opening and blessing of our Quiet Space/Garden on Wednesday, 7th. November at 9.30 a.m.

The **Wednesday shared readers group** provides a very happy and sociable atmosphere in which to sit back and enjoy stories. Sister Rachel and friends would love to draw in more of us. Give it a thought.

Little Mick's Spot (paws for thought). Your dog is too friendly, said the man in the park. I had just been to greet his two "eat you for tuppence" dogs (they were on leads, thank God). Anyhow, one of them, fortunately wearing a muzzle, went for me. I didn't take the hint at first. Anyway TD came up and rescued me. He always gets on at me and says my mother didn't bring me up properly. She should have taught you to live and let live, he says, every dog doesn't want your company. And those poor pigeons. They can't sleep with you barking at them. I tell him it's his job to train me, not my Mum. I left home at 6 weeks – taken away, I was. Given the chance she'd have made a better job of me than he has. TD tells me he's just met a dog who only has one meal a day and no tasty bits. But she can go up on the sofa, he says. I think I'd rather have the tasty bits!! O by the way – that chicken. He did give me a lot more of it than he'd threatened. TD was away for two days and when he returned he found the soil had been delivered and the ground had been turfed. He was chuffed. So am I. In the sunny weather I can roll on the grass and do doggy things. I must keep you up date about this garden. You won't see him next summer, you know. He'll be in his garden growing his fruit and veg. Don't say I never warned you.



Synod 2020. We will be hearing a lot about this. It is all about renewing the Church in Liverpool. The word synod comes from two Greek words meaning *Together on the road*. We journey together on our way to God. The Archbishop calls next weekend the first Synod Sunday. He will write to us, telling us what it is about and how we can get involved. He will tell us why he decided to call the synod. It will also be on a leaflet we will receive. So start keeping the synod in your prayer. There will be some decoration in the church.

As Chair of our Parish Assembly John Phillips writes

The brief for the Synod is set out below. Can our Assembly begin to address the concerns of our parishioners?

There are 4 official questions:

1. Where in your everyday life do you experience love, truth, goodness, hope and joy?
2. What things that you encounter during the course of your everyday life cause you concern or worry? When you look to the future what are the things that give you cause for concern?
3. What is the purpose of the Catholic Church in the world today?
4. What are the topics you would like to see on the Agenda for Synod 2020? Not more than 5.

The Listening Process – starts in Lent 2019

- Listening events in all parishes
- Focus groups, selected to be representative
- On-line questionnaire

John then speaks about our assembly.

Dear friends, I should be grateful if you would give some thought to our upcoming Assembly. It seems that the numbers have fallen away to the point where it is largely made up of Coordination Group members. It also seems that the format of going through the group reports isn't attractive.

So, what about something different?

One possibility we might consider is the Assembly as the parish forum for raising matters we want to discuss, with particular reference to the 2020 Synod, preparations for which begin this month. The weekend after next is 20/21 Oct, Synod Sunday, which will flag up the process by which the Church in Liverpool will prepare for the Synod. It is cast as a listening exercise.

If it is the case that the recent Eucharistic Congress did not touch parishioners, it is possible the Synod will go the same way and the clerical Church, that Peter spoke of recently, will shape the agenda and the process for the Synod. There is reason to believe that those planning for the Synod want it to be a genuine listening exercise. So what do we want to say?

Our November Assembly could be our first step in setting out our issues, the ones we have our own conversations about, but do not engage in formal representation to the Archdiocese or Rome about. It could be an open agenda that discusses the role of women, the laity generally, attitudes to whatever. We can put in some specifics about our parish renewal, and minimise the group reports.

What do you think? We could flag this up on Synod Sunday and seek to revitalise our Assembly. We are not meeting before the Assembly so we need to decide in the next week whether it is the same as before or we do something different.

best wishes and thank you to all, John.

I am very grateful to John for this initiative and for taking it up at the beginning of the process. I am delighted that we are having this synod. It is a positive step, calling upon the whole archdiocese to pray and work for renewal. Let us consider very urgently what John suggests and take to heart all the initiatives presented to us. Its success will be in our parish prayer,