

Archdiocese of Liverpool
Parish of
Our Lady of the Annunciation
and Saint Bernadette

Clergy: Father John Hindley
Saint Marie's Presbytery
Almond Brook Road
Standish, Wigan, WN6 0TB
Telephone: 01257 423291

Serving the Churches of:
St Marie of the Annunciation
Standish
www.stmariesstandish.co.uk

St Bernadette Shevington
www.stbernadetteshevington.org.uk
jointparishes@gmail.com
www.twitter.com/stmstb

Download our parish app at
www.myparishapp.com

Parish Office at St Marie's:
Open Monday to Friday
from 9.00 am to 12 noon

Baptisms: By prior arrangement.
Information available at weekend
Masses. All baptisms take place
during Mass. St Bernadette's first
Sunday, St Marie's third Sunday
of the month.

Confessions: Saint Bernadette's:
Sunday 9.10 to 9.20 am. Saint
Marie's: Thursday 6.30 - 6.50 pm.
or by request.

Church opening: Please
remember that Saint Marie's
Church is open for private prayer
during weekdays between 9.00
am and 12 noon.

Funerals and Marriages: By
arrangement.

Visits to sick and housebound:
Please inform Fr John if you know
of sick or housebound
parishioners who would like Holy
Communion.

Hospital Visits: If you wish to
see a priest please let the hospital
staff know.

Mass Requests: Place in an
envelope and hand in to the
Sacristy or to the Parish Office.
Please indicate your preferred
church, if any. Please also specify
the reason for the intention, i.e.
recently deceased, anniversary
etc. For a particular day, please
request early.

Newsletter Notices: Please e-
mail to jointparishes@gmail.com
or hand in to the Parish Office by
Thursday morning.

Repository: Open at the back of
church after each weekend Mass.

St Marie's Hall: All bookings for
hall usage should be made in
advance with the Parish Office
during the parish office hours.

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan
Trustees Incorporated. A registered charity.
Number 232709.

33rd Sunday of the Year

19 November 2017

CAPITAL GROWTH

Young Antonio's voice was high and squeaky and so he did not pass the auditions for the Cremona Boys' Choir. When he took violin lessons, the neighbours persuaded his parents to make him stop. Yet Antonio still wanted to make music.

His friends gave him a hard time because his only talent was whittling wood. When Antonio was older he served as an apprentice to a violinmaker. His knack for whittling grew into a skill of carving and his hobby became his craft. He worked patiently and faithfully. By the time he died, he left over 1,500 violins, each one bearing a label that read, "Antonio Stradivarius." They are the most sought-after violins in the world and sell for more than £100,000 each. Antonio couldn't sing or play or preach or teach but

his responsibility was to use his ability, and his violins are still making beautiful music today.

Our potential is God's gift to us. What we do with it is our gift to God. Are you investing what you've been given, regardless of how much it is? Or, have you buried your blessing and kept it hidden from others?

We can sometimes confuse hiding our talents with humility, with not wanting to push ourselves forward. Yet if we stop to think for just a moment we'll soon realise that, whatever our talent is, it is God-given. God has entrusted us with skills and talents to be used for his divine purpose. And no one else can ever be you and me. We're unique, with unique gifts that God has welded into our character and personality. And it's part of God's plan from the beginning of time that we should use what we have been given so that the good news of the gospel might be spread and people should come to experience God through you and me.

Today's gospel reminds us that life will not last for ever on this earth. The master is returning and we are returning to our master. What answer will we have to give him when he asks what we have done with all that he gave us? Will we have buried it, or will we have produced a capital return?



Mass Intentions this week

Day	Church	Time	Intention
33rd Sunday of the Year A man entrusted his property to his servants. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. (Matthew 25: 14-15)			
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.30 pm	Geraldine Dagger (Get Well)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Mary Hurst
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Barbara Hatton (Anniversary)
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Pious List
	St Marie's	12.45 pm	Funeral: Neil Laurence Turner
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Jane Gavin
Thursday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Con Scanlon (LD)
	St Marie's	7.00 pm	Anne Stott (Birthday Remembrance)
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Get Well
Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King			I shall look for the lost sheep, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. (Ezekiel 34:16)
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.30 pm	Joseph Lawton (Anniversary)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Kathleen & Frederick Hodkinson (Anniv)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Derek Brindle (Birthday Remembrance)

This weekend:

Retiring collection at Masses at St Bernadette's to purchase festive gifts for the sick and housebound of the parish.

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Tea and coffee** in St Marie's Hall.

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Baptism preparation** in St Marie's Hall.

This week:

Monday: **'With You Always'** Programme session 1 in St Marie's Church at 6.15 pm.

Monday: **Prayer Group** meeting in St Marie's Hall at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting. All are welcome.

Friday: **Christmas fair** in St Marie's School Hall at 3.15 pm.

Friday: **Order of Deacons** information meeting at St John's Church, Fountains Road, Kirkdale, L4 1QL hosted by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, 7.00 - 9.00 pm.

Next weekend:

Saturday: **Embrace**, a one day youth conference for 14-25 year olds at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, 10.00 am - 6.00 pm. Register at www.embrace-liverpool.org.uk

Saturday: **Memorial Mass** for the relatives and friends of deceased supporters of CAFOD at Sacred Heart, Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, PR8 3BP at 5.30 pm.

There will be a second collection at all Masses for the **Catholic Youth Service**. To gift aid your donation, please use the envelope provided in the offertory envelope box.

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Tea and coffee** in St Marie's Hall.

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Baptism preparation** in St Marie's Hall.

Thank you for your offerings
£1,481.45.

APF World Missions

£479.41. Thank you.

Catholic Education Service

£500.17 (Revised total)

Apostleship of the Sea

£573.31 (Revised total).

New to the Parish?

You're very welcome. Come and say hello!

CAFOD

Thank you all who supported the November self-denial. At St Bernadette's, the total raised was £279.20, of which £173 was gift aided giving a grand total £322.45. At St Marie's, the total raised was £468, of which 257.50 was gift aided, giving a grand total of £532.38. Gift aiding adds an extra 25% to the value of your donation. A cheque for £1,000 raised at St Bernadette's by this and previous collections will be sent to CAFOD for the Rohingya refugee appeal. The collection at St Marie's will go to the same appeal.

CAFOD World gift catalogues are available at the back of Church.

Church Development Fund

Due to falling membership, the monthly prizes in the Church Development Fund will be reduced from January 2018. There will no longer be a prize of £40, just one of £100 and three of £50 each month. Thank you to all who have supported the fund over many years. New Members are always welcome.

Baptisms

This weekend, we welcome new members to our Catholic Church community when Callum James Bateson, George Christopher Gill and Finley Jacq Slater are baptised during the 11.00 am Mass. Congratulations!

Advent Concert

Joanne Wallace will be performing at an Advent concert in St Marie's Church on Friday, 15 December at 7.30 pm. Tickets priced £5 will be on sale shortly.

Bonus Ball

No.54 - L King - £34.

At this time, we say farewell to:

Neil Laurence Turner & baby Heidi Mary Knowles

Until we meet again....

At the back of church...

- Advent calendars, Christmas cards, books, ornaments and 2018 calendars and diaries.

Sanctuary Lamps

St Bernadette's: Pat Herbert (Sick)
St Marie's: Rowland Birchall (Birthday Remembrance)

World Day for the Poor

This weekend, the Catholic Church celebrates 'World Day for the Poor'. This is a new event in the liturgical calendar recently instituted by the Holy Father. By placing it at this time of the year, Pope Francis reminds us what sort of kingship we celebrate next Sunday on the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Pantomime

Seats have been booked for the pantomime, Little Red Riding Hood, at Wigan Little Theatre on Thursday, 25 January. The cost (inc. coach) is £13 (concessions) and £17 (full price). The coach will pick up at St Marie's Church at 6.40 pm and at St Bernadette's Church at 6.50 pm. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the list at the back of church and pay as soon as possible. Cheques payable to St Marie's.

Evening of Recollection

There will be a "mini-retreat" for men in St Joseph's Church, Anderton, on Tuesday, 5 December commencing at 8.00 pm, including a meditation, a guided examination of conscience with time for individual confessions, Holy Rosary and Benediction. Tea and coffee at 9.30 pm. There is no charge. Contact Robert Aston, 01204 468896 or e-mail robert@stoneycree.freeserve.co.uk.

Marriage Preparation

Marriage Preparation course dates for 2018 are now available. Visit www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/marriagepreparation.

Funny Money

All old currency including British is welcome as donations to the 'Funny Money' box at St Bernadette's.

Catholic Directory 2018

Copies of the official National Catholic Directory are now available. They can be obtained by visiting www.the.catholicuniverse.com/ecd or by telephoning 0161 908 5301.

Dates for your diary

Monday, 27 November: **'With You Always'** Programme session 2 in St Marie's Hall at 6.15 pm.

Thursday, 30 November: **Autumn Fair** at St Bernadette's school at 6.00 pm.