

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 Saint Marie's:

Until further notice, the parish
office is accessible via email at
jointparishes@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate:

Joanne Wallace

e-mail: j.wallace@rcaolp.co.uk

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: There will be no
confessions until further notice.

Church opening: Saint Marie's
Church will be closed for private
prayer until further notice.

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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

17 May 2020

SYNOD2020.co.uk



NOT ALONE

Someone once said that the Holy Spirit is the forgotten person of the Trinity. We pray to the Father and we are aware of wanting to imitate Jesus in his life of holiness, but we tend to relegate the Holy Spirit to third place. Of course, all three persons are equal.

We used to call him the Holy Ghost but now Holy Spirit is more common. The very word "spirit" gives us a clue as to what the Holy Spirit does. It is connected with breath. Think of respiration, inspiration. The spirit is the breath of God that courses through us when we allow it to inspire and direct our actions. Living life in the Spirit means that we are not alone. If it were left up to us to make ourselves holy then we would be in fine state. It would be more perspiration than inspiration!

Today's gospel reminds us of Jesus' promise to send an Advocate. This too is the Holy Spirit. We use advocate to describe people who take up a cause and



fight to see that justice is done. An advocate is also another word for a lawyer, someone who undertakes the legal work to defend us in court. We don't stand alone before the prosecution and the judge.

A more precise English word for the Holy Spirit is Paraclete. Like an advocate

Paraclete means someone you call to stand by your side, to accompany you through your ups and downs. The traditional hymn "Come Holy Ghost Creator, come" expresses this aspect of the Holy Spirit. There is someone with us.

In a world where everyone is told that they have to stand on their own two feet perhaps we have lost sight of the fact that we are not alone when it comes to living out our Christianity. To live in the Spirit means that we have a constant companion to whom we can pray, ask direction, and from whom we can seek help and inspiration. Jesus has not left us orphans. He has promised us the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, the Paraclete. It would be a pity not to call upon him.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.
(John 14:18)

Father John will celebrate Masses this coming week for:

Sunday: The People of the Parish; Monday: Paul Brown (LD);

Tuesday: Ivana Hedley (LD); Wednesday: Special intention (AL);

Thursday: Jane Gavin; Friday: Birthday Mass; Saturday: Eric John (LD).

Fr John uploads daily Mass to YouTube. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/qtygvnx>

Watch live Mass in your home at www.heavensroadfm.com Heaven's Road Catholic Online Radio
broadcasting over 250 live Holy Masses each week from 20 churches in England and Ireland.

To keep in touch with what is happening in our parish:

Download our parish app at www.myparishapp.com

Facebook page: Our Lady of the Annunciation and Saint Bernadette
www.twitter.com/stmstb

Visit www.stmariesstandish.co.uk or www.stbernadetteshevington.org.uk

Feast of the Ascension

Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. It commemorates the Christian belief of the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven. It is one of the ecumenical (i.e., universally celebrated) feasts of Christian churches, ranking with the feasts of the Passion, of Easter and Pentecost. Ascension Day is traditionally celebrated on a Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter.

Synod 2020

The deadline for Synod submission is Monday, 18 May. Please reflect on the materials, and on this webpage you can submit your practical proposals for action. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/ycq2lp37>.

Chaplains visits to hospital

If you have family member in hospital and you would like them to be seen by a priest, please make sure to make the ward staff are aware of the patient's desire.

At this time, we say farewell to:

Claire Parkinson, whose funeral takes place this week

Until we meet again....

Marriage Matters

Listen to Jesus within ourselves and within our partner

Jesus is in me and in you! In marriage we are especially called to honour that presence in our spouse every day. There may be times when we hurt each other or take each other for granted, leading to feelings of jealousy and resentment, often to arguments. At times like this the call is for forgiveness, for healing, for affirmation.

Domestic abuse

Since lockdown began, calls to domestic abuse helplines and requests for online help have increased by 49%. If you or anyone you know is affected, help can be found from: <https://tinyurl.com/y7kofkzo>

Standing orders

Attached to the newsletter is a Standing Order form. Please inform the parish office by email, if you do this. Thank you to all those who have already agreed, it is much appreciated.

Prayer resources

Prayer resources while our churches are closed can be found at www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com or through www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk by clicking on 'Prayer and Other Resources'. They include reflections for the Sixth Sunday of Easter.

Prayers for the dead and dying

Prayers that can be said when a loved one has died or is dying can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yc75yrue>

Catholic Universe

To subscribe direct, visit www.thecatholicuniverse.com/shop or tel 0161 820 5722 to arrange delivery. Papers can be delivered direct to your home every week, post free.

Key workers Mass

Mass will be celebrated each Thursday at 7.00 pm for the sick and their families, all front-line workers in the NHS and those who work in social care. Live-streamed via <https://tinyurl.com/y96hnksm>

A word from our Pastoral Associate...

Are we all still OK? I have to admit between balancing work, home-schooling and managing the house, I've had a couple of tough weeks. As some lockdown rules change and we dare to think about what the future may be like, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed. One project that I have been working on, which has kept me focused and spiritually reassured me, is a series of short videos based on the Resurrection narratives in the 4 Gospels and what they say to us during these times. Adapted from longer reflections, these are primarily aimed at families to help us see how God may be working during this pandemic. These will be posted on the parish social media but are also available with more in-depth theological reflections at <https://thegodwhospeaks2020.org.uk/> under the 'God speaks in our times' section. If you're feeling a bit lost during all this, then I hope these short videos can serve as a reminder that even in our lowest moments we are never left alone. Take care and stay safe.

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Letter from the Holy Father

The Holy Father has today issued a letter to the faithful for the month of May in which he encourages us to pray the Rosary. He has also included two prayers which we can say in union with him during the month. To access the letter and prayers follow <https://tinyurl.com/y7gwndcp>

Catholic Pictorial

The May edition of the Catholic Pic is now available at www.catholicpic.co.uk or Twitter @PicCatholic

Cathedral choristers

Do you know a child who would be interested in becoming a chorister at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool? If so, visit <https://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs/>

Online giving website

An Archdiocesan online giving website is now ready to be used and can receive both one-off and regular monthly donations.

Each parish has its own unique link on the website and a photograph of the church is shown to provide additional reassurance to donors that they are donating to their parish. All donations will go to the parish selected by the donor. The link to the page for the parish is <https://tinyurl.com/ycq2b3ax>

Text giving

Text giving is also available for each parish and the details below are ready to use for accepting both one-off and regular donations.

Four text giving campaigns have been created for each parish. If any parishioner is interested in knowing more about text giving, please contact the parish office by email:

jointparishes@gmail.com



Archdiocese of Liverpool

Standing Order Mandate

Name of parish

Our Lady of the Annunciation & St Bernadette 001

Name and address of your own bank

To

The Manager

Address

.....
.....
.....
.....

Please pay to

Bank name

HSBC plc

Address

99-101 Lord Street
LIVERPOOL
L2 6PG

Sort code

40-29-12

Parish bank account number

for the credit of

Account name

Liverpol Roman Catholic Archdiocesan
Trust St Marie's and St Bernadette (001)
Parish Account

Account number

61545922

the sum of

(in words)

.....

(in figures)

£

commencing

.....

Delete as applicable

and thereafter

monthly/annually

until you receive further notice from me/us in writing

**Please insert the title and number of your
own bank account**

and debit my account accordingly

Account name

.....

Account number

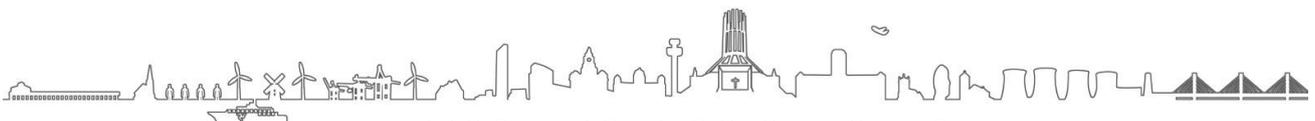
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Signature

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Date

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LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA | www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

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