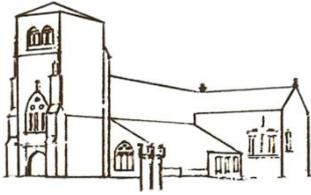


Newsletter for the parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard.



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Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year 22.09.19

Revolution in kindness (as encouraged by Jean Vanier) *don't rush into judgement before you have heard the whole story. Then, there are always two sides.*

Today's Scripture readings. All the readings today have some bearing on our Christian responsibility in relation to social justice, politics and wealth.

Amos, known as the Prophet of Social Justice, denounces the rich who can't wait for the holy day to be over so that they can re-commence their exploitation of the poor. Amos threatens them with divine judgement. There is a phrase in this reading which has always upset me "*we can buy up the poor for money.*" As the psalm points out God is to upturn the values of the world "*from the dust he lifts up the lowly, and from the dunghheap he raises the poor*".

The second reading from St. Paul to Timothy is written at a time when the Church is trying to find its niche in the world of its day. We are encouraged to pray for the well being of our country. If there were ever a time to pray for Britain it is now. If Paul prays for the kings of his day we must pray for the power people of ours.

The Gospel passage about the unjust steward does not hold him up as an example of the right use of wealth. Remember it is a parable which contains only one lesson. It is a challenge by Jesus to his contemporaries to take drastic steps to be ready for the coming Kingdom of God before it is too late. He is not praising the steward for his dishonesty. He contrasts the clever industry of the *this-worldly* with the lethargy of those who claim to follow him. The "children of light" must be as enterprising in their pursuit of God as was the steward of the parable in pursuing his own interests. Jesus speaks of using money to "*win you friends*". i.e. use your money in such a way that people, who benefit from your generosity, will intercede for you with God.

The package contains a warning against subordinating the spiritual to the material. "You cannot be the slave both of God and of money". Some people decide that their charitable days will be in their will. That is fine in itself but there is no sacrifice in it for themselves. Money is their God. Charity is something that I must feel, and it must be for the genuine good of others, not to make me feel good.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Saturday 4.15-5.15 p.m.

Sunday 9.15-10.15 a.m.

Confessions are heard during these times.

Mass this week will be as follows

Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Les Birchall
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Parishioners.
Tuesday	12.00 noon	May b& Tom Sharkey
Wednesday	<u>9,00 a.m.</u>	Martin Esteves
Thursday	12.00	Graham Caddick
Friday	12.00	Paul Watson (sick)
Saturday	5.30 p.m.	Kevin Byrne

The next Co-Ordination meeting this Saturday, 28th. September 10.00 a.m.

The Prayer Group - 7.30 p.m. on Friday in the Parish Rooms.

First Holy Communion programme Saturday, 5th. October, 12.00-1.00 p.m.

The Men's group, Monday, 30th. September

Justice and Peace group 24th. October, 7.30 p.m. in St. Bernard's House.

Prayer Morning. Thursday, October 10th. 6.00-8.00 p.m.

Shared reading group – Wednesday as usual. 10.15 a.m.

Please keep our sick friends in your prayer - Gwen Brown, Rani Matthew, Marie Gray, Tony McKean, Mike Hendrick, Olive Bryce, Mike Toolan, Paul Irvine, Ann Cadwallader, John Cosgrove, Margaret McGowan, Pat Goodall, Sister Michelina, Oliver Barnes, Teresa Murphy, Sophia Purnell (aged 7), Frank Hall, Luba Sajkalova, Chloe Woo, John Reynolds, Pat Brown, Pat Dalton, Adam Dean, Stephen Woo, Nancy Goss, Saadat, Ken Otu, Flo Coffey, Sister Win, Ann McMahan, Bernie Connolly, Andy Murphy, and many others who have asked for our prayer this week. We pray for people in pain – many in our congregation. Please tell us who is housebound . We also take Holy Communion to all the Care and Nursing Homes in the parish as well as to the Liverpool Women's Hospital.

Please pray for Graham Caddick, and Flossie Coffey who have died recently. Please pray for their families.

Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes. July 2020. We have a good tradition in the parish of enabling some of our young people to join the Youth wing of the Archdiocesan pilgrimage. The places, to be available soon, are snapped up immediately they come out which means that we have to be ready. Deacon Francis goes racing around schools and homes on the morning they come out to get the relevant signatures. To join the pilgrimage you have to be 15 by the day it leaves in July. Do please see Francis **today** if you feel you might want to join. His phone number is 0151 724 4937. We try and raise the money for each young person in the parish, but we do ask the young people to organise some money raising ventures themselves because the trip is very expensive. Everyone who has been seems to have had a wonderful experience.

Our First Holy Communion programme will commence on Saturday, 5th. October, from 12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m.. The First Holy Communion service itself, will take place on Saturday, 16th. May, 2020. Our programme is primarily for the parents/carers and their children who are in school year 4, aged 8-9, but older children may also apply. Would those who wish to join us on this momentous journey please complete a copy of the Application Form, available today, and bring it with you on 5th. October, along with a copy of your child's baptism certificate. Deacon Francis is our leader,

The **Alpha Course** starts on Tuesday at 6.00 p.m.. There is a list to sign at the back of the church but if you decide at a later time please just come. Bring whoever you can with you. We have the Good News of the Gospel to share. The most wonderful gift you could offer anyone. Alpha is open to discussion, challenges, questions. In fact it starts itself with the key question – what on earth is life about? The atmosphere is very welcoming. Each session begins with a meal. There is always laughter, absolutely no pressure. It finishes at 8.00 p.m. on the dot. If anyone wants to help prepare the meal please let me know.

Care for our Common Home: which search engine??

A few weeks ago the tip was to try using an eco-friendly search engine - Ecosia. See <http://info.ecosia.org> which uses the profits from the search ad revenue to support tree planting programmes around the world. Over 68 million trees have been planted so far in places where deforestation has been a problem for people and animals, Central and South America, parts of Africa, Indonesia. It seems such a simple way to make the world a better place. If you haven't tried it so far, would you now consider it? You don't have to get rid of your current search engine, just add Ecosia to your computer or phone.

Next Friday 3.00 p.m. sale of Christmas goodies. We have lots and lots of new Christmas items for decorating the home, the Christmas tree, and all sorts of other uses. There will be a further sale on Saturday morning, and again after Mass on Sunday if there are still things left. They will be amazing bargains, probably everything £1, or so many items for £1. Proceeds could go to our public address system fund. See **Pat Darracott** if you would like to help. These details are also found on the School website.

Our friends in **St. Vincent de Paul parish** are celebrating their parish feast day which falls on Friday, with a number of events. These include a special conference at 6.00 p.m. next Saturday with a talk by the Diocesan SVP Chaplain, Fr. Tom Neylon, entitled What message would St. Vincent de Paul have for us today in Liverpool 1.

Pastoral Planning Team. Last week we mentioned our plans to establish a Pastoral Planning Team, which would focus exclusively on the local community. We have several people on board but wish to draw in others who wish to help make our parish a force for good within our community. Please talk about this among yourselves. Deacon Francis and I will be happy to receive your names.

The collection last Sunday was **£422. 55**. With £624.80 from standing orders and tax returns we totalled **£1,047.35. Thank you.**

Sorry there was a mistake last week. The new website for our **Pastoral Area Team** is Liverpoolsouthpastoral.area.org.uk .

More forthcoming events. All of them very worthwhile.

Today, 22 September *Reflection for current Eucharistic Ministers*, Carmel Monastery, Maryton 2:15pm (for 2:30pm start) – 4:15pm (ending with Evening Prayer) led by Fr Peter Fleetwood. Last week's talk was very well attended

Wednesday 25 September Liverpool **Romero Lecture** *Prophetic Trajectories of Hope from San Salvador to Liverpool*, David McLoughlin of Newman University at 001 Theatre, Cornerstone, Hope University, Everton Campus L3 8DR. Bookings: d.reynolds@sfxchurchliverpool.com or 0151 298 1911. Arrive at 6.30 p.m., for a 6.45 start. There will be Mass at SFX Church at 5.45 p.m.

Monday 7 October Synod Talks *The Quiet Revolution of Pope Francis: A Synodal Catholic Church*, Fr Gerry O'Hanlon SJ, at Liverpool Hope University, Hope Chapel monthly 7:00 for 7:30pm

Come at See Conference 12th. – 13th. October Christ the King High School, Southport, PR8 4EX. Information: www.iraneaus.co.uk 0151 949 1199

Jack's. Urgent. St. Anne's School needs your vote.. Our school is up against three other organisations from our local area to win **£500** which we need to help us fund the **Elders Christmas Lunch**. The organisation with the highest number of votes will be awarded this grant. So we ask that parishioners could **vote for us** next time they visit Jack's – please! Voting closes in December. Please spread the word.

Funerals this week. On Wednesday at 1.00 p.m. there will be a Funeral Service for Flossie Coffey in church.. Please pray for Flossie and for the family. R.I.P.

Homework Club. Methodist Church. Thursdays 4.00-6.00 p.m. Places available. See Deacon Francis who helps run the scheme.

Christian Nonviolence. I learned that Jesus was a maker of peace, an agent of restorative justice, and a proponent of what we might call “responsibility to protect *nonviolently*,” as in the case of the woman accused of adultery who was about to be executed when Jesus intervened, neither with justified violence or hand-wringing passivity, but instead, at great risk to himself, with a creative and thought-provoking nonviolent action that saved the woman’s life and saved the men from carrying the burden and terror of the guilt of homicide [John 8:3-11]. . . .

In his time of foreign occupation and oppression, Jesus proclaimed a new, nonviolent order rooted in the unconditional love of God. . . . I [heard], as if for the first time, Jesus’ command for us to love our enemies [Matthew 5:44] and for us to offer no violent resistance to one who does evil [Matthew 5:39], and I was forced to reflect deeply on the actions Jesus took to dramatize this call, including urging [his disciple Peter] to put down his sword as the soldiers were arresting him in the garden of Gethsemane [Matthew 26:52]. . . .

Jesus is the revelation and embodiment of our Nonviolent God, whose sun shines on the good and the evil alike [Matthew 5:45]. I would come to learn therefor, that nonviolence was ontological, at the heart of God, the God who created the universe and said that it was good [Genesis 1]. . . . Nonviolence is *not* ineffective, passive, weak, utopian, naïve, unpatriotic, marginal, simplistic, or impractical, but it recognizes evil in the world and responds to it with good.

I would come to learn that that nonviolence is actively confronting violence without violence; creatively engaging conflict; and nurturing just, peaceful, and sustainable alternatives. . . .

In the 1980s, that included taking nonviolent action to build people-power to support an end to the arms race between the US and the Soviet Union, including public support for arms control agreements and a global Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. In the 1980s and 1990s, that meant building people-power to resist and end US policies stoking war in Nicaragua and El Salvador. Later in the 1990s, that meant being part of a local campaign to build people-power to end policies attacking and harassing homeless people. And in the 21st century, that has included building movements using nonviolent action to urge a comprehensive just peace in Iraq and end the official policy of torture. *Quoted by Richard Rohr*

Little Mick's Spot (Paws for thought). I'm feeling good just now. A doggie bag of beef from the carvery.



Not bad. A nice change from my Eukenuba. TD told me of one priest's dog who has never had a tasty bit. Same food every single day. She looked very well on it, he said. You're just spoilt, Mick! I'll give him – spoilt! I let him know if I don't get a tasty bit of his dinner. I'm letting him know now, to be honest. Don't feed the dog at table, he tells his house mates. Brrrrr! I know all the tricks – the best is – let him think everything is fine when at table, and I quietly encourage a table mate to give me a taste of what they're having. TD hardly ever finds out – until it's too late. You're crafty Mick, he says. Ok, I don't deny it. Just like any other dog. TD admits though, that generally I am very good at meals-but then, only certain smells appeal to me. [He can keep all that vegetarian stuff! My column seems to be making me popular. People say – oh, is this the famous Little Mick? I enjoy the cuddles which follow, but I'd much rather enjoy their doggie bags. Tra.

