# The Parish of St Wilfrid, Newsletter

Incorporating the Four Church Communities of Garston, Grassendale and Allerton.



## Holy Trinity, St Francis of Assisi, St Bernadette, St Austin

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Second Sunday of Advent				Year B Year 1	Sunday 6th December 2020	
DAY	FEAST	LITURGY TIMES		MASS INTENTION		
Saturday 5th December	Feast of St. John Almond, Priest and Martyr	SFA SFA	10.00am 6.00pm	Martha Roberts (RIP) Joan Ball (Get Well)		
Sunday 6th December	Second Sunday of Advent Bible Sunday	SFA SFA	9.30am 11.15am	People of the Parish John David Green		
Monday 7th December	Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor	SFA	9.30am	Frank O'Dowd (Sick)		
Tuesday 8th December	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	SFA	9.30am	Robert Quayle (In Mem.)		
Wednesday 9th December	Weekday of Advent	SFA	9.30am	Thomas Campbell (LD)		
Thursday 10th December	Weekday of Advent	SFA	9.30am	Deceased relatives and friends of the Howard and Slack families		
Friday 11th December	Weekday of Advent	SFA	9.30am	Service of the Word		
Saturday 12th December	Weekday of Advent	SFA SFA	10.00am 6.00pm	Intentions of Catherine Sweeney Marie O'Shaughnessy		
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## Can I just say....

If the man of the day, the man of the season, in fact, John the Baptist is a hero for us, how attractive was he to those who saw him? Saint Mark gives us a description of an odd man Charles Dickens would have been proud of. We hear of a man who wore camel skin shirts and ate really strange food like locusts. We see him from Tradition depicted as a wild sort of figure with hair and beard all over the place. I've a strong suspicion that he smelt quite a bit too, living like that. All in all a really odd sort of bloke whom many, you would have thought, might well have tried to avoid.

But they didn't avoid him. They came to John in great numbers. Even old Herod, not the one we'll meet in a Nativity play but one of his sons, was really troubled by the message John brought and yet, we're told, he liked to listen to John. Why ever would that be? In some respects any Christian who gives witness to the priority of the things of the spirit and of the eternal over the temporal cuts as strange a figure in today's world, as John the Baptist did in his. We can all of us be prey to the temptation to conform, to blend into the crowd and avoid 'rocking the boat'. We're fearful of being seen as different, of being excluded or made fun of. Yet to fail to offer this witness, with words, actions, attitudes and choices which will often be in contrast with those of our contemporaries, would be to fail to make straight the way of the Lord into their lives and into ours. Each one of us, by virtue of our baptism, is necessarily a prophet. This Season of Advent, the season of Prophets, is here to remind us of that.

But this message we hear today from John the Baptist, that great prophet and bridge between the Old and the New Testaments, to make straight these paths for the Lord by living out our calling to be his prophets isn't a message there to frighten us, to make us feel bad about ourselves. Remember too the message we hear from that other great prophet, that other great precursor to the Gospel: Isaiah. 'Console my people, console them' the Lord says through his lips. Advent is a time for consolation as much as for getting our lives into order, making straight the seemingly crooked ways of our hearts. Yes, there are things we need to attend to but the truth is there: the Lord will come again with power, his arm subduing all things and he will come again to save us. That's the Advent message of joy for which we need to be awake and hear once again.

Fr Joe



We pray for all those who have been Baptised in our Parish.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

## St Francis of Assisi Church ST FRANCIS IS OPEN FOR MASS FROM WEDNESDAY, 2nd DECEMBER

It will be really good to be able to welcome people back to church for the celebration of Mass. However, things are by no means back to normal—we're not back to how things were back in March. For more information about how we can come to Mass, see the front page of the Liverpool South Pastoral Area website. Everyone attending Mass must wear a face covering. You'll see lots of other information there too that applies to every church in the archdiocese that is able to open for Mass. Please bear in mind a few other things particular to our church. Please use our car park and follow the one way system for getting in and out of the car park. The capacity of our church is now about 50. This is severely restricted from normal. We are very grateful to all our volunteers who have helped to welcome people and use our church in new ways and are now even more needed by helping people come to church for Mass in new ways too. *Please do consider joining the volunteer team.* If you would like to help stewarding, please speak to one of the team at church.

Owing to the severely restricted numbers, it may not be possible to allow all who wish to attend, to go to the Mass of their choice. *Please contact the parish office, preferably by email, to let us know which Mass you would like to attend and how many in your household wish to come. For Masses Monday - Friday, please contact us at least 2 days before the Mass you wish to attend. For all Masses on Saturday and Sunday, please contact us by 6pm on Wednesday.* Your household is defined as those you live with. These are the only people you will be able to sit next to in church before leaving a gap for others.

The church doors will open half an hour before Mass giving time for private prayer, and preventing queues as people enter and wait to be seated by the stewards. Please be seated at least 5 minutes before Mass.

Do take a copy of the *Saint Paul Sunday Missal* if you haven't already, but keep it to bring to Sunday Mass. Do not leave it behind or place it on the shelf. There may be a possibility that more Masses will be celebrated on Sundays and through the week if we know there is a demand and we have enough volunteers. The more we are aware of who is coming, the better we can place people in church safely and ensure as many as possible can be seated as possible.

Book your place in early especially for weekend Masses which fill up quickly. If you book and cannot attend, please let the office know asap so others can be accommodated.



Email the parish office detailing which Mass you wish to attend and how many people will be present with you. Wear a face covering in church at all times. Please avoid the queue to enter church by arriving in good time.

Follow the one way systems.



## **Other News & Information with Dates for Your Diary**

**Find us on Facebook!** Do have a look at our page. Let us know what you want to see on it. Facebook ID is **StWilfridGarston** – do "like us" on **Facebook** We continue to keep connected in this time of COVID and welcome all ideas to stay in touch as we can continue on our Faith journey together. We are holding our Novena attracting visitors from across the Mersey (!) and our Advent Service is coming together. Perhaps you have some ideas that we can share to keep us connected and

praying together as one loving community. Helen

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Our Zoom and YouTube Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour on **Tuesday evenings at 7pm weekly** until **Tuesday 22 December** is a very beautiful way to take a moment to be with others in a virtual space connected in prayer.

Zoom details: <u>www.zoom.us/join</u> Meeting ID: 874 0155 0372 Passcode: 601897 . For phone only connection (landline or mobile) call one of these numbers and follow the instructions (there is no need to enter a participant ID): 0203 481 5240/ 0203 901 7895/0131 460 1196. Copies of the Novena are on the website and YouTube access via link on the website or search for "St Wilfrid's, Garston YouTube"



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> O Mother of Perpetual Help, Sweetest Mary, I ask you with your divine grace to watch over me, give me the strength to take one day at a time.

#### Holy Trinity and St Austin's Reception admissions September 2021

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 they will be due to start reception class next year. The deadline for submitting your application forms to both the Local Authority and our schools is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions this year all information will be electronic including forms.

Please see the school websites at www.holytrinitycatholicprimaryschool.co.uk/admissions/ and www.st-austins.co.uk/early-years-admissions-1/.

Walk with Me Booklets A Journey of Prayer for Advent 2020

These are now available at a cost of £1 each.

Each booklet comes sealed for added protection against Covid. Please contact the office to reserve your copy which will be left with the stewards for collection. There will be a limited number available at the back of

## Bambinelli Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent in Italy is often called *Bambinelli* Sunday as it is when families bring the

figure of the baby Jesus from their cribs at home to be blessed. This is a great tradition encouraged by Pope Francis. Now, as we begin this Season of Advent, is a good time to find those crib sets and put the baby Jesus to one side ready for the Third Sunday. Please bring them with you and at all the Masses and they will be blessed. The tradition then encourages us to wrap up those figures once they're blessed so that on Christmas morning the first gift to be unwrapped will be **Jesus**.

#### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Since church reopen for Mass and other sacraments, it wil be a joy to see children baptised again. As with everything else currently, these celebrations have been restricted in some ways. Following recent clarification from the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, as we are now in Tier 2: Only people from one household may be present so godparents will have to stand by proxy. It is now possible to offer preparation for parents who have a child to be baptised but in different ways to "normal". If you wish to have your child baptised please contact the office.

Archdiocese of Liverpool J&P Commission

#### ADVENT REFLECTIONS IN THE LIGHT OF FRATELLI TUTTI

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald (MAfr) on Mondays in Advent 7—7:30pm starting 30 NovemberZoom registration at: **jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk** 

Also broadcast on: YouTube liverpooljusticeandpeace Facebook jpliverpooljp

## Pastoral Associate Update

On this second Sunday of Advent, (Bible Sunday) we reflect on the power of the Word in the scriptures and realised in the person of Jesus. I wonder what words are indicative of Advent for you? I am always drawn to "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". These "O Antiphons" which have been sung since the eighth century, are so evocative of the season. I will be putting images of the O Antiphons online (www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk) and invite you to consider downloading them and displaying one each day from **17<sup>th</sup> until 23<sup>rd</sup> December** on your windows. You can colour them yourselves, perhaps using the piece of scripture as a meditation or ask someone to colour them with you or use the pre-coloured ones. It may be a beautiful way of tangibly expressing our Christian identity in these times. I'll also be sharing on Facebook from **17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>**. I do hope you will participate as this is also going to be offered across the Archdiocese and it is a way of marking our homes as sacred spaces as well as being a light for communities both locally and further afield. "One kind word can warm three winter months" Japanese proverb. God Bless, Helen PS Don't forget -Synod proposals need to be in with the Members by 7<sup>th</sup> Dec!

church, please ask the stewards when you come to church.

#### 12 Carols of Christmas

To help keep us joyful and in good song you are invited to vote for your top Christmas carols so we can compile a St Wilfrid's "12 Carols of Christmas" ! Let us know your top 5 and we'll do the rest. Ask your family, ask your friends! We may not be able to meet and sing in church but the music goes on: watch this space for what will emerge...

> Vote on the website or email Helen h.jones@rcaol.org. uk or text 07449 633977 .

### www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk — for newsletters, information and MORE

## For those who are sick:



Elizabeth Loyden, Maria Jones, Siobhan Fennell, Sydney O'Brien, Cynthia Wilcock, Connor Daly, Maxwell Hughes, Luke Reid, Daniel Stranack, Michael Gannon, Adam Pelligrenie, Sally Rattigan, Margaret Green, Sophie McAuley, Catherine Crist, Sandra Cota, Loretta Brown, Sophie Bainbridge, John Ryan, Vanessa Denver, Jean Dolan, Abby Mooney, Jean Long, Sean Armstrong, Joseph Ball, Joan Ball, Linda Barry. Elaine Keane, Mary O'Neill, Maria Winclawski, Tom Kenwright, Greg McCullough, Gerard Doyle, Murial Mitchell, David Parry, Paul Roberts, John Tallon, Nicholas Cavanagh, Eileen Fowler, Bethany Gaunt, Peter Thomas, Michael Hogan, Margaret Glennon, John Riding, Gerard Hughes, Paul Connor, Chris Doyle, Kenneth

Shillcock, Robert Jost, Pat Toner, Jane Shanley, Gore Davitan, Kathleen Deegan, Keith Garcia, Tracy Hobson, Mary Devaney, Sheila O'Neill, Gerard Murphy, Gerry Simpson, Michael Peter Holmes, Christopher Brown, Philip Hendrick, Dorothy Lynch, Michael Holmes, Josie Malone, Susie Bell, Grace Garnett, Joan Harding, Patricia Doyle, Stephen Skillicorn, Amanda Melia, Bill and Pat Soundie, Barbara Brooks.



Those who have recently died. Jane Jones

For those whose anniversaries which occur at this time: Frederick Kerbey, Daniel Joseph Martin, Cecily Branegan, May Parry,



Marie Culbert, Peter Handley, John Joseph Burke, Michael Burke, Arthur Maddock, Anne Moran David Harry Phillips, James A. Casey, Gerard Ruggles, Ronald Walter Jones, Margaret Ann Burnett, Dmytro Luszniak, Patricia Matthews, Fr. Jim Stringer, Michael O'Donnell, Michael Doyle, Ann McAuley, Terence Michael Haines, Francis Flynn, James Parry, Joseph Fisk, Henry Peter Bowker (SB), Peter Noel Oakley, Mary Kelly, Alexander Malone, Patrick Murphy, Louisa Dunne(SB), Edith McLoughlin, John Clarke, Tony Reid, Robert Falls, James McCabe, Dorothy Evans, Noel Oakley, Coleman Costello, Bridget McDermott, Helen McManus, Hilda King, Patricia Best, Margaret Roughsedge.



### **TEST & TRACE**

In order to support the NHS Test and Trace programme, we are taking contact details (name, contact number and address) for all visitors, as well as recording times entering and leaving the church of St Francis of Assisi, Garston in the Parish of St Wilfrid. If you have downloaded the NHS Test & Trace App on your smart phone you can scan the **QR code** instead which is displayed in church.

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else. If you book Mass via email, you will be sent a form for completion. If you book Mass via telephone, the form will be left at the back of Church for you in an envelope for you to complete and return to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your understanding.

## **Pope Francis' Prayer Intention**

#### www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk

**Livestream Mass:** *Sunday Mass* – 10:00am Vincent De Paul Church, Facebook Live; 10:00am St Anne and St Bernard's, YouTube Channel; 11:00am Met Cathedral, Facebook and YouTube Channel;

*Daily Mass* (Mo-Fri) 10:00am: St Anne and St Bernard's, YouTube Channel

**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**: Tuesdays until 22 December 7-7:30pm. Zoom links on:

www.liverpoolsouthpastoralarea.org.uk\_Also on YouTube 'St Wilfrid's Garston'

Sunday Gospel Reflections: <u>www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/</u> <u>sunday-reflections-readings</u>

**Prepare the Future: Advent Reflections in the light of Fratelli Tutti** (J&P Commission) given by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald Monday 30 Nov, and 7,14,21 Dec at 7pm on Zoom or YouTube & Facebook. Info <u>www.jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk</u>

**Pastoral Area Online Advent Service** – Sun 20 Dec at 4pm on St Wilfrid's, Garston YouTube.

CAFOD Virtual Fun run – 27 December – see



## December 2020

For a life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship

with Jesus Christ be nourished by the

Word of God and a life of prayer.



our website for local details



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