

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION AND ST BERNADETTE

Serving the Churches of St Marie of the Annunciation, Standish: www.stmariestandish.co.uk and St Bernadette's, Shevington: www.stbernadetteshevington.org.uk

olasb@rcaol.org.uk: www.twitter.com/stmstb: Download our parish app at www.myparishapp.com

Parish newsletter for the 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8th August 2021



FED UP?

Elijah became clinically depressed due to events in his life. He had feelings of hopelessness and pessimism. He just wanted to sit down and die. He felt worthless and helpless even though he had won a great victory over the false prophets. He'd lost all interest.

The angel told him to eat and drink, otherwise the journey would be too much for him. He ate and drank the scone bread and the water, and then he received such strength that he walked for forty days and nights (a symbolic figure indicating trial or testing). He needed that food and drink in order to function properly.

Let's hope that we are not clinically depressed, although it's a relatively common complaint in modern society. But there can come times when we wonder if we're making any impact on our surroundings, when we feel as if the odds are stacked against us and perhaps even wonder

whether God has given up on us. We go off our food.

Today Jesus tells us that in faith terms we cannot go it alone. We will tire and end up losing heart. We need to stoke up with energy, and that nourishment comes from the bread of life, the eucharist. If we're fed up then it's a sure sign we need to be fed.

One of the saddest things is to see someone who doesn't go to communion because they think they are not good enough. What a mistake! Communion is not a reward for good people. It's a remedy for those who know how bad they are and want to get better. If we had to rely on merit before we could receive communion then no one would ever qualify to eat and drink the body and blood of Christ. It is by joining with the believing community, hearing the invitation of God's word and sharing in the gift of eucharist, that we are kept going. Jesus tells us that his body and blood are what keeps Christians alive. Anyone who eats it will live forever. And you can't ask for more than that!

Clergy: Fr Joseph Simionato sdp, St Marie's Presbytery, Almond Brook Road, Standish, Wigan WN6 0TB. Tel: 01257 423291

Parish Office at Saint Marie's: Open Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 12 noon or email the parish office, olasb@rcaol.org.uk. **Please put this in your email address book.** The jointparishes@gmail.com email address still exists and is forwarded to the new email address.

Pastoral Associate: Joanne Wallace e-mail: j.wallace@rcaolp.co.uk

Baptisms: Check with Father Joseph whether possible.

Confessions: Saint Bernadette's: Sunday 9.10 to 9.20 am. Saint Marie's: 10.40 – 10.50 am on Sunday mornings or by request.

Funerals and Marriages: By arrangement.

Visits to sick and housebound: Please enquire about the current situation.

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. They can also be booked by telephone or email. 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 olasb@rcaol.org.uk or hand in to the Parish Office by Thursday morning.

Repository: At the back of Church.

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Mass intentions

Day	Church	Time	Intention
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.00 pm	Private Intention
Saturday	St Marie's	6.00 pm	John Carney (Anniv)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	Private Intention
Sunday	St Marie's	11.00 am	People of the Parish
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Mary Cheetham (nee Hughes) (Anniv)
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Monica Farrell (B'day Rememb)
Thursday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Pat Draper (Wedding Anniv)
	St Marie's	6.30 pm	Thanksgiving for Joanne Wallace's time as Pastoral Associate at our churches
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Siobhan Ann Hartnett (Anniv)
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.00 pm	Private Intention
Saturday	St Marie's	6.00 pm	Kevin Carey (Anniv)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Sunday	St Marie's	11.00 am	John Seddon

Thank you for your offerings £949.55. Thanks to all those Parishioners who are managing to make their offerings even when not able to attend Church. Payments can be made direct to St Marie & St Bernadette (001) HSBC account. Sort Code 40-29-12. Account number 61545922.

St Marie's **Sanctuary Lamp** this week burns for Ann Philp.

The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP cordially invites you to **The Episcopal Ordination of Canon Thomas Neylon as Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool and Bishop of Plestia.** In the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King at 12 noon on Friday 3rd September 2021 with a Feast of St Gregory the Great.

Baptisms Welcome to Matilda Dowd, Maximus John Tonks and Tobias Francis Tonks who were baptised last weekend.

Covid Health & Safety measures.

In St Marie's church, and all the Churches in England, the rows of pews have been returned to normal. Masks will still need to be worn for Masses and hand sanitising will remain necessary as people arrive. Holy Communion (in the hand) will be restored to its traditional place and with a procession (trying to accommodate those who wish to retain social distancing). A steward will invite people to the Communion procession row by row. Communion on the tongue is permissible but it must take place at the end of Communion and the priest will use sanitiser after each communicant has presented themselves. Holy Communion under both kinds will not be re-introduced at this time. The collection basket/plate are still not be passed around. The sign of peace can be restored but without any touching, ie by a gesture. We thank you for your understanding and your continuing co-operation. We are allowed to sing in Church however masks must still be worn. The Hymn and Mass books can be used once per day.

Tea and coffee It is hoped to start serving tea and coffee in the Hall at St Marie's after 11.00 am Mass, as soon as we can. Please let Father Joseph or the office know if you are willing to help with this on a rota basis.

Joanne Wallace

On Thursday 12th August 2021 at 6.30 pm there will be a Thanksgiving Mass for all the support that we have had from Joanne Wallace as our Pastoral Associate over the last 2½ years. She is now leaving for pastures new as Chaplain at St Julie's, Liverpool. Light refreshments will be enjoyed after this mass. We wish her every success and happiness in her new role. She will be sadly missed. If you would like to attend the Mass then please advise us via email, confirming name(s) and the number of place(s) that you wish to reserve to the parish office. Many thanks.

A Final Word from our Pastoral Associate

As I enter my last full week of work as Pastoral Associate, I have been reflecting on what a journey it has been. None of us could have anticipated the twists and turns along the way on a personal, local, national and international scale! I know I was brought to the Upholland area for a purpose and I hope that I have been able to do some good along the way. Thank you to both parishes and the clergy for taking a 'leap of faith' with this PA project and giving me this opportunity - the support, friendship and care extended to me has been a joy and I am eternally grateful for how you welcomed me into your communities. This was only ever a pilot project for 3 years and there has been some valuable learning along the way that I certainly hope will feed into the Synod Pastoral Plan and the future of lay ministry in the Archdiocese. As Fr John Hindley always used to remind me, "You're not a guinea pig – you're a TRAIL-BLAZER!" Here's to more trail-blazing and always moving forward so we can truly be the church God is calling us to be – **St John Rigby, pray for us!** Thank you all so much again, take care and God bless!

JWallace

Something to pray about Join **Pope Francis** in his prayer intention for August: **The Church** Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel. The Holy See's [newssite](https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html) <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

Knights of St Columba recite **the Rosary** on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. To receive an email invitation to join, contact Steve Lester, steve.lester@zen.co.uk.

St. Marie's Thursday Club for the over 60's has re-opened in St. Marie's Church Hall from 12.45pm to about 3.45pm. New members welcome. It costs £2 per session. Ring & Ride is available. For further details contact Bernie on 01257 422225, or just turn up.

At the back of church...

- Catholic Pictorial. Access the online edition at <https://bit.ly/30qfl3r>
- Living Faith' booklets for adults, and children, July - September.

Update from CAFOD - 10th Anniversary of the Syrian conflict – how your donations have helped the Syrian people

Thanks to your donations, CAFOD has been helping people in Syria since the crisis began 10 years ago. Over 12 million people have left their homes, 5.6 million are refugees in neighbouring countries and within Syria, 13 million people need help. At the beginning, our focus was on delivering food and blankets through our local church partners. Then we started providing education, health and legal services, and helping people earn a living. Our latest projects are supporting children, lonely elderly people, helping women learn to read, and helping people restart their small businesses. We've always planned for the long term, standing alongside people who lost everything. None of this work would have been possible without your support of CAFOD. Thank you.

Also CAFOD are looking for families who would be interested in talking about climate change in church, creating displays or recording short videos. Support will be given. If you are interested, please contact Siobhan Farnell at 07779804241 or sfarnell@cafod.org.uk

Urgent appeal for male clothes & toiletries. 120 male **Asylum seekers** arrived recently in the area after spending 5 days in a holding centre, crossing The Channel in small boats. They only have the clothes they arrived in and have no other possessions. If any of you can assist with donations of clothing for men aged 18 to 35, usually small/medium/large, specifically jeans, joggers, hoodies, tea shirts, shorts and trainers (the stuff young men wear!) then please leave at the back of church or contact Janet Decamp, Douglas Valley Outreach on 07845493389. Thankyou for your continued generosity.