

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  
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## Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year

9 September 2018

### CURED OR HEALED?

Can you imagine what it's like when you know things are going on around you but you don't know what it's all about because you're deaf?

Can you visualise what it's like wanting to join in all the fun but you can't because you have a speech impediment and it takes you too long to try and get out what you want to say?

These were the problems of the man whom Jesus meets in today's gospel. But it wasn't just about being deaf and dumb; Jesus "unblocked" his ears and tongue as a sign that God can open us out to things unheard and unspoken. There are lots of things that stare us in the face but we still don't grasp them.

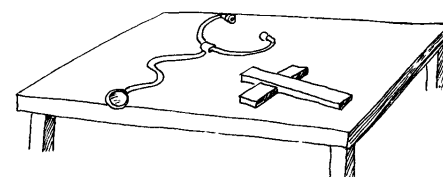
Can you imagine not realising that God was behind creation, as if all the intricacies of the human body simply came together by chance with no intelligent design at its roots? Someone once said that this is tantamount to a whirlwind blowing through a scrap yard and a Rolls Royce being the end result!

Can you imagine going through life and just existing alongside other people without ever experiencing what friendship is? Or thinking that great leaders, inventors or artists reflected their own good qualities without any

reference to something greater than themselves? Can you begin to think of what a dry and empty existence you would have if you just lived for today because you believed there is no tomorrow?

There's much more to life than our ears can hear or our tongues can speak about. And it is this that Jesus wanted the deaf and dumb man to experience. It was not simply a physical cure. Jesus was not just a doctor; he was a healer. He let the man "be opened" to what he could not hear or speak about: to the infinite, to the true meaning of life, to the deeper joys of existence, to what matters, to a faith that he was not alone, to a trust that he would never be abandoned, to a hope that no despair can crush.

Yes, the deaf and dumb man was cured physically. But after his encounter with



Jesus he could hear and speak of things that the crowd was unaware of. They watched a cure. But he went through a healing.

### Mass Intentions this week

Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year		He has done all things well; he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak. (Mark 7: 37)	
Day	Church	Time	Intention
Saturday	St Bernadette 's	5.30 pm	Francis Adrian Stonehouse (FM)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Doris (LD) & Bruno (D) Alekna
Sunday	St Bernadette 's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Alessandro Ferro (Anniversary)
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Barbara Hatton
	<b>St Marie's</b>	<b>2.00 pm</b>	<b>Requiem: Mary Blackledge</b>
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Dec'd Members of the Stonehouse Family
	St Marie's	12.30 pm	<b>Requiem: Therese Perpetua Fairhurst</b>
Thursday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service
	St Marie's	7.00 pm	Eucharistic Service
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service
Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year		On the way to Caesarea Philippi Jesus put this question to his disciples, "Who do people say I am?" (Mark 8: 27)	
Saturday	St Bernadette 's	5.30 pm	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Jean Winstanley (Anniversary)
Sunday	St Bernadette 's	9.30 am	Fred Hurst
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Greg Speakman (Birthday Rem)

### **This weekend:**

There will be a second collection at all Masses for the **Catholic Education 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.

### **This week:**

Monday: **Knights of St Columba** Council meeting at St Marie's at 8.00 pm. Men wishing to learn about the Knights are invited to attend.

Wednesday: **Standish Churches Men's Fellowship** new season begins with the Annual General Meeting at The Globe Inn, Standish from 7.00 pm, with a raffle and buffet to follow. Cost is £10 with all profit going to local charities. Please contact Joe Fairhurst, 402185.

### **Next weekend:**

#### **Home Mission Sunday 2018.**

There will be a second collection at all Masses for the Home Missions. 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  
£1,716.91.

### **Bonus Ball**

No.50 – Rollover - £19.

### **St Bernadette's Sanctuary Lamp**

In Thanksgiving (DB)

### **At this time, we say farewell to:**

Mary Blackledge and Therese Fairhurst

Until we meet again....

### **Prayer Group**

The next Prayer Group meeting will be held in St Marie's Hall on Monday, 17 September at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting and all are welcome.

### **Lourdes Pilgrimage holiday**

If you wish to join the HCPT Pilgrimage holiday with Our Lady at Hosanna House in Bartrès from 15 – 19 October, telephone 01788 564646.

### **Amoris Laetitia**

This week's extract from Pope Francis' recent document:

*"The family must always be a place where, when something good happens to one of its members, they know that others will be there to celebrate it with them"* (Amoris Laetitia,110).

Celebrate something this week with your family! If nothing immediately comes to mind as a cause for celebration - celebrate the gift each family member (including grandparents) brings to your family and share this with them.

### **CAFOD**

Thank you to all who supported the September self-denial last weekend. At St Bernadette's, the amount collected was £280.09. With amounts gift aided, which adds 25% to the value, the total raised was £315.40.

At St Marie's, the amount collected was £332. With amounts gift aided, the total raised was £389.50. The money has been sent to CAFOD to support their Kerala floods appeal.

On Monday, 17 September, CAFOD's Senior Emergency Manager, Robert Cruickshank will be speaking about CAFOD's work in the drought-ridden areas of East Africa and Ethiopia in particular. All are welcome to attend this free event at St Joseph's, Penketh, Warrington WA5 2BB. RSVP for catering purposes to liverpool@cafod.org.uk or call Ged or Colette on 0151 228 4028.

### **Something to pray about**

We can join Pope Francis in his prayer intention for September:

**Universal – Young People in Africa:** That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

### **Development Fund**

Mary Sherlock is to retire at the end of the year from her role at St Bernadette's collecting payments to the Development Fund. Thank you, Mary for the work you have undertaken on behalf of the Development Fund over many years.

A new collector is now required. If you can help, please contact Fr John or telephone the parish office. It would be helpful if someone was in place before Mary retires. Thank you.

### **Catholic Newspapers**

The take up of Catholic newspapers in the parish is not great. The majority of newspapers which are available to parishioners on a weekly basis, i.e. Universe and Catholic Herald are returned for which the parish receives refunds. As from this weekend, the price of the Universe is increasing to £1.50, the first increase since 2011. The Catholic Herald is priced £2.50. Universe Media Group, which supplies the newspapers, has also relaunched the Catholic Times. That will be priced £1.50. In an attempt to reduce the number of returns in future, it would be helpful if parishioners would indicate if they are interested in receiving one of the Catholic newspapers on a regular basis, for which payment would be expected. Please contact the parish office during the next few weeks if you would like to place a regular order for one of the newspapers.

### **At the back of church...**

- APF Mill Hill Mission books.

### **Catholic Pictorial**

Free copies of the September edition of the Catholic Pictorial are available at the back of Church. Please take one to keep up to date with the news from around our Archdiocese.

### **Vocation Discernment**

To support those exploring Vocations to the Priesthood in our diocese, a monthly day of recollection has been organised for the second Saturday of each month. These days will help men who feel called to ordained ministry to discover more about diocesan priesthood and meet others discerning a call to priesthood.

There will be an opportunity to talk with and hear from priests who minister in the diocese, and also a time for prayer and discussion.

The next day of recollection will take place on Saturday, 13 October at St. John's Presbytery, Wigan. For further information, please contact Fr James Preston, Vocations Director at frjamespreston@gmail.com or telephone 0151 727 2493. Regular updates will be posted on our Facebook page: Archdiocese of Liverpool Vocations.