

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.

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# Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year

7 October 2018

## SCIENCE AND RELIGION

The story of the boy who cried wolf is not true. But what it says is true. There never was such a historical boy. But the moral remains true: if you consistently lie than you run the risk of not being believed when you are telling the truth.

Sometimes, especially in America, Church people engage in battles with scientists about what the bible says on the origins of humanity and what science says it now knows to be virtually certain. It's the old Creation versus Evolution debate.

Today's Genesis readings tells us about God making Adam fall into a deep sleep and then making Eve out of one of Adam's ribs. Is this true? Do we have to believe it? Did it really happen like that?

Most Christians would accept that the bible is telling a story. It is not trying to be historical; it can't be since there was no one else there in the story except God and Adam. It is not trying to be scientific or to give a medical

explanation for how men and women came about. It's just a story.

But it's still true. Because, like the tale of the boy who cried wolf, it's what it's really trying to say that is important. It's the "meat" of the story that counts. And what the writer is attempting to convey is that animal and human life comes from a divine creator and our surroundings depend on that creator for everything. Because men and

women are the product of God's love, then they are drawn to each other in the bond of marriage in a way that reflects God's love: eternal, indissoluble and unconditional. Genesis wants to say nothing more and nothing less.

What a pity it would be if Christians thought that their faith precluded them from rejoicing in scientific discoveries about the origins of our universe and human life.

And what a pity, too, if scientists were given the impression that Christians were so hidebound that they believed in a talking snake.



## Mass Intentions this week

Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year		The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. Genesis 2:22	
Day	Church	Time	Intention
Saturday	St Bernadette 's	5.30 pm	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Wilfred Wraith (Anniversary)
Sunday	St Bernadette 's	9.30 am	Catherine Greaves (LD)
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Edna Josephine Hounslea (Anniv)
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Marie McLoughlin (Anniversary)
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Eileen Pieroni (Anniversary)
Thursday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	John Gavin
	St Marie's	7.00 pm	Eucharistic Service
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service
Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year		Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life? (Mark 10: 18)	
Saturday	St Bernadette 's	5.30 pm	Tony Bithell (LD)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Thomas Gleeson (LD)
Sunday	St Bernadette 's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	James, Teresa & Marie Melarkey (Anniv)

### **This weekend:**

**CAFOD collection** at all Masses.

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Tea and coffee** in St Marie's Hall.

Sunday: **Rosary Sunday** procession at St Wilfrid's, Ashton in Makerfield. Assemble on the Church car park at 2.00 pm.

Sunday: **Film screening of 'Romero'** at St Francis Xavier's Church, Liverpool L3 8DR at 7.00 pm. Tel. 0151 709 1328.

### **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** meeting at the Globe Inn, Standish from 7.00 pm, with a talk on "William Hartley – the Jam man". Buffet and raffle. £10. Please contact Joe Fairhurst, 402185.

### **Next weekend:**

Saturday: **Day of recollection** for vocation discernment at St. John's Presbytery, Wigan. Contact Fr James Preston, Vocations Director at frjamespreston@gmail.com or telephone 0151 727 2493.

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Tea and coffee** in St Marie's Hall.

**Thank you** for your offerings  
£1,483.19.

**Catholic Education Service**  
£522.08. Thank you.

**Bonus Ball**  
No.27 - MMH - £38.

**St Marie's Sanctuary Lamp**  
Cliff Halliwell (Anniversary)

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

- 'Living Faith' booklets for adults and children, Oct. – Dec.

### **CAFOD Harvest Fast Day**

The Harvest Fast Day collection will be a second collection taken after Holy Communion. Please support the Harvest Fast Day self-denial and remember to gift aid if you can.

### **Synod 2020**

Synod Sunday will be celebrated on the weekend of 20 and 21 October and is the first opportunity for parishioners to hear about Synod 2020 and to pick up a leaflet giving information about how to be involved.

### **Amoris Laetitia**

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

*"Dialogue is essential for experiencing, expressing and fostering love in marriage and family life. Yet it can only be the fruit of a long and demanding apprenticeship. Men and women, young people and adults, communicate differently. They speak different languages and they act in different ways. Our way of asking and responding to questions, the tone we use, our timing and any number of other factors condition how well we communicate. We need to develop certain attitudes that express love and encourage authentic dialogue."*  
(Amoris Laetitia 137)

Be aware this week of communication within your family, being mindful of how family members dialogue with one another. Are there patterns of communication that can be affirmed and others that may need improvement.

### **Christmas lunch and carols**

Two ladies from the Ladies section, in conjunction with Grayway coaches, are organising a trip for Christmas lunch and carols at the Calf's Head restaurant, Clitheroe on Wednesday, 12 December, times to be arranged. If you are interested, please contact Ethel, 426428 or Anne, 426016.

### **Holy Rosary**

The Knights of Saint Columba will be praying the Holy Rosary at St Marie's at 6.30 pm each Thursday during October.

### **Sponsorship**

Sean and Joseph completed the 20 mile bike ride last Sunday to raise money to help to pay for the treatment for their cousin Jonah. Thank you to everyone who sponsored them.

### **Bereavement Mass**

A Bereavement Mass will be held at St Bernadette's next Thursday, 11 October at 9.15 am, followed by tea and coffee. Members of the Bereavement Support Group will be present to listen and offer support to those who have suffered loss.

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

The Ladies Section thanks all who supported the MacMillan coffee morning, which raised £1,176.

### **Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

This week, Fr John will be travelling to Lourdes with the Wigan Lourdes Association. If you would like him to bring any petitions, please let him have them before Thursday.

### **Harvest celebration**

On Friday, year 3 children at St Marie's school celebrated Harvest with an assembly in school. Baskets of food provided by the children will be presented at 11.00 am Mass at St Marie's on Sunday for distribution to the needy in the community. Items of food donated by parishioners can be left in the basket in the Church porch.

### **Catholic Pictorial**

Free copies of the October edition of the Catholic Pictorial are available at the back of Church. Please take one to keep up with the news from around our Archdiocese, which includes full coverage of the Adoremus National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress.

### **St John Rigby College**

Open evenings for admission to St John Rigby College in the autumn, 2019 are Monday, 15 October, Thursday, 1 November and Thursday, 15 November, 5.30 pm – 8.00 pm.

### **Mass count**

Would collectors please ensure that a count of the numbers of parishioners attending weekend Masses is taken and recorded. It is a requirement of the parish's tax refund claim to HMRC that Mass attendance numbers are recorded. Thank you.

### **Reflection, Prayer & Teaching**

There will be an afternoon of reflection, prayer and teaching on the role of Our Blessed Lady in the life of the Church and of believers, led by Father Andrew Unsworth at St Joseph's, Wrightington on Friday, 26 October, 12 noon - 4.00 pm. Tickets are £10 in aid of the Wigan Lourdes Fund and the Chorley Walsingham Association. Telephone 676027 or email stjwrightington@rcaolp.co.uk.

### **Dates for your diary**

Friday, 2 November: **Sportsman's Dinner**, organised by the Knights of St Columba, with special guest and speaker, Andy Gregory at Standish Social Club (formerly Standish Labour Club). Tickets £30 on sale after weekend Masses.