



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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NOT OVER YET

All that preparation for
Christmas and only ten
days later it seems so far
away. Gone are the
Christmas adverts for
food, drink and presents

and we're all rushing to buy that last
leather sofa on offer (hurry, sale must end
next Monday!) or drooling at the adverts
for our luxury cruise around the world, or
maybe just the camping holiday...

But the Church recognises Christmas as
a season, not just a bank holiday. And we
have two echoes of the Christmas event
that keep it alive in our hearts and minds:
Epiphany (today) and the Presentation of
the Lord (in about a month's time).

The word epiphany is a most uncommon
one. What it actually means is
manifestation or showing. It recalls the
day when the glory of God was made
visible and accessible through the birth of
the child Jesus. The wise men, coming
from virtually the edges of the then-known
world, represent the fact that the glory of
God has been revealed to every corner of
the globe: from the Great River to earth's
bounds, as today's psalm tells us.

Epiphany is about universalism. No one
has a monopoly on God and Christ did not
come for some sort of elite group but for



every single
human being of
all time. The three
wise men came to
do homage to
Jesus because

they felt he was special to them and to
their people. Even people who have no
evident outward religious expression often
indicate that the simple message of
Christmas is one that still appeals to the
human heart. In fact, St Leo the Great was
fond of saying that there can be no
strangers at Christmas because God has
graced us all, saints and sinners, with the
gift of his own Son.

But like every liturgy, Epiphany does
not leave us simply looking at the past. It
coaxes us to change and renewal in our
daily life of faith and to make a difference
to the future. If we celebrate Epiphany as
the making visible of God's gift of true
humanity in the person of his Son, then we
are also agreeing to be "epiphanies"
ourselves, to be thankful people who never
cease praising God for his many gifts and
who show God's graceful presence in our
world by the way we ourselves live.
Christmas may have come and gone, but
Epiphany reminds us that it's not over yet.
We've a lot of showing to do.

Mass Intentions this week

Feast of the Epiphany		Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. (Isaiah 60:2-3)	
Day	Church	Time	Intention
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.30 pm	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Harry Clarke (Birthday Remembrance)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	Peter Lucas
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Jenny Horrocks
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Private intention (FW)
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Margaret Mary Sullivan (Birthday Rem)
Thursday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Joe & Angela Murphy
	St Marie's	7.00 pm	Carole Hudson (LD)
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	June Danson (Anniversary)
Feast of the Baptism of our Lord		Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God." (Isaiah 40:9)	
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.30 pm	Derek Purcell (LD)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Roy Johnson (Anniversary)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Private intention (ANP)

This weekend:

CAFOD collection at all Masses.

This is not a second collection and so CAFOD envelopes should be placed on the collection plate/in the collection bag at the Offertory.

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

This week:

Wednesday: **Standish Churches Men's Fellowship** meeting at the Globe Inn, Standish at 7.00 pm, includes a talk by Reverend Martin, a raffle and buffet. A £10 donation fee and optional £1 for a raffle ticket, with all profit going to local charities. Please contact Joe Fairhurst on 402185.

Thursday: **Joint Parishes Working Group** at St Marie's at 7.30 pm.

Next weekend:

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

Thank you for your offerings
£3,561.94.

Bonus Ball

No.28 - Mike Perkins - £16.

St Marie's Sanctuary Lamp

Susan

At the back of church...

- 2019 calendars and diaries.
Christmas cards, Advent calendars and candles half price;
- New 'Living Faith' for adults, and children, January – March;
- Rotas for St Marie's readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

Pantomime

For those attending this year's pantomime at Wigan Little Theatre on the evening of Tuesday, 22 January, the coach will pick up at St Marie's Church at 6.40 pm and at St Bernadette's Church at 6.50 pm.

Two seats are still available. Please contact the parish office if you wish to attend.

Something to pray about

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

Evangelization:

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

Solemnity of the Epiphany

This weekend, the Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. The Epiphany or manifestation, which traditionally falls on 6 January, is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ. Western Christians commemorate principally (but not solely) the visit of the Magi to the Baby Jesus, and thus Jesus's physical manifestation to the Gentiles.

Marriage Matters

Gifts to each other

Epiphany means manifestation or revealing. The Wise Men brought Jesus gifts: gold, revealing his kingship, frankincense his Priesthood and myrrh his dying. On our wedding day, and every day since, we have 'gifted' ourselves to each other, and to others, unwrapping daily the 'gold' of our love, the incense of our prayers, and the myrrh of our dying to self.

Crib Appeal 2018

Please help Nugent Care to continue the work of its founder, Father James Nugent, by giving your support to the 2018 crib collection. All proceeds will be used to help those in need across the Archdiocese.

Development Fund

Subscriptions for 2019 are now due and will be collected each weekend in January. Cheques welcome. It would be helpful if subs were paid for the full year. New Members to support the Fund are required.

St John Rigby

The deadline for receipt of applications for a place at St John Rigby College in September 2019 is Monday, 4 February. Applications can be made on line via the College website, www.sjr.ac.uk.

Chaplain Visits

If you would like a member of the Catholic Chaplaincy Team to visit a loved one or yourself in hospital, please text Paul, 07525 399769.

Baptisms

This weekend, we welcome new members to our Catholic Church community when Lottie Clements and Louie John Clements are baptised during the 9.30 am Mass. Congratulations!

Pastoral Statistics

Each year, the parish is required by the Archdiocese to send in statistics about our parish life. These include the number of baptisms, weddings, funerals, First Holy Communions etc. during the year. This year for the first time, the parish is being asked to record the number of sick and housebound Communions. Please would all Eucharistic ministers provide the parish office with the numbers of sick and housebound parishioners they visit in the parish. Thank you.

Bible Alive

Donations to the Bible Alive campaign totalled £131.61. Thank you. Raffle tickets sold last weekend for items in a Highgrove hamper raised £200 for the campaign. Thank you to the parishioner who donated the hamper and to all who took part in the raffle.

Walsingham Pilgrimage

As part of the Jubilee celebrations at St John's in Wigan there will be a pilgrimage to Walsingham from Monday, 21 to Thursday, 24 October. For further details or to reserve a place, please contact Chris Higgins on 07712 552410 or email him at cjhiggins72@aol.com.

Appeal for the Needy

Thank you to all who generously donated Christmas food and gifts, which have been distributed to the homeless and needy in the area. They were all very gratefully received and Father John has received thanks from many on your behalf. Thank you also to all who gave their time in the lead-up to Christmas to distribute the food and gifts across the borough.

Dates for your diary

Sunday, 20 January: **Christian Unity Service** at St Wilfrid's at 6.30 pm.

Monday, 21 January: **Ecumenical Prayers** at St Wilfrid's at 12 noon.

Tuesday, 22 January: **Ecumenical Prayers** at St Marie's at 12 noon.

Wednesday, 23 January: **Ecumenical Prayers** at Standish Methodist at 12 noon.

Thursday, 24 January: **Ecumenical Prayers** at St Marie's at 12 noon.

Friday, 25 January: **Ecumenical Prayers** at St Wilfrid's at 12 noon.