

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: stbernadetteshevington.org.uk

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

Parish newsletter for the 2nd Sunday of Easter

11th April 2021

A BOUT OF DOUBT



Sounds like the flu, doesn't it: a bout of doubt? Yet we all suffer from it from time to time. It's as natural as catching a cold and is one of the trials we have to put up with once we take our first steps of faith. We can doubt whether our Christian faith is worthwhile when we see the way that others behave, inside and outside the Church. Yet we know that if we shoot the messenger then we are not going to hear the message. The Church has always been full of sinners; that's what it's for. And although we sometimes wish it were otherwise, we realise that a Church of sinners means a ragbag of individuals who, no matter how weak they might be, are committed to making Christ known. And of course we are part of that ragbag. At other times we can experience confusion about the basis of our faith. Does God really exist? How do we reconcile the fact that God is creator with all the new discoveries of science and the many theories that seek to show the origins and development of the world and human life? And then there are the tragedies of our existence. Perhaps we wonder about the role of a loving God when we read about natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis or famines. And has there ever been anyone who has not had their faith tested as they witnessed the slow death of a loved one, the sudden shock of losing a friend or the heartache of marital break-up? Doubt does not attack faith. It's actually part of faith. It's a sign that we have not left our brains at the church doorstep and are mature enough to want to reconcile what we believe with what is happening around us. A faith that has not experienced doubt is a faith that has not learnt to walk, to be bold and to think for itself. Yet, like Thomas in today's gospel, we have to learn that at the heart of faith is belief in the unconditional and unbreakable promises of God. We are all called to our Calvaries but we ascend the mount trusting in the knowledge that God will never leave us in the grave. Christ has died. Christ is risen. And Christ will come again.

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: Closed at present.

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Mass intentions

Day	Church	Time	Intention
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.00 pm	For a safe operation
Saturday	St Marie's	6.00 pm	Sara Gaskell (Anniv)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Sunday	St Marie's	11.00 am	Bernard Martin (Anniv)
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	David Wilkinson
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Pat Draper (Anniv)
Thursday	St Bernadette's St Marie's	9.15 am 11.00 am	Brian Chadwick (Anniv) Requiem Mass: Sandra Maria Wilde
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Ivana Hedley
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.00 pm	People of The Parish
Saturday	St Marie's	6.00 pm	Phyllis Morgan
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	Anne Phillips (Anniv)
Sunday	St Marie's	11.00 am	Patricia Pyne (Anniv)



QR code

To help during the pandemic when parish mass books are not able to be used, scan the QR code on your smartphone which will take you straight to a website where the texts of the readings can be found.

Thank you for your offerings £1410.19. 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.

A cheque for £362.07 has been sent to **Nugent**. This included the Crib Offerings and the recent special collection at both churches. Thanks you so much.

At this time, **we say farewell to** :
Sandra Maria Wilde
Until we meet again...

Something to pray about

We can join **Pope Francis** in his prayer intention for April: **Fundamental Rights** We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Knights of St Columba

The Knights recite the Rosary on a Thursday evening at 7.30 pm. To receive an email invitation to join, please contact Steve Lester, steve.lester@zen.co.uk

Flowers for Easter

Thank you for donations made for the beautiful Easter flowers.

Easter Masses

We would also like to thank all Parishioners that attended the

Masses over the **Easter** period. It was a lovely turnout considering the current restrictions and circumstances and hope that you all enjoyed it as much as we did. Made all the more special by the music and choir.

Offertory envelopes

Offertory envelopes for the next tax year are available for parishioners to collect. Nos. 1 to 80 are at St Bernadette's; nos. 82 to 117 are at St Marie's. Please contact the parish office if you do not have envelopes and would like a set.

CAFOD

Thanks to parishioner Holly Jones who took part in the Lent appeal, **The Big Walk for Water** for CAFOD on Saturday 20th February 2021 and 10,000 steps (roughly 5 miles) for each of the 40 days of Lent. You can find out more or donate online now using the below link:-

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/walk-for-water-cafod-appeal2021>

Holly has raised £1,075.00. Well done!

Also, many thanks to all the Parishioners that have generously donated.

Pope Francis

The Holy See's news site – <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

Local and Mayoral elections on Thursday, 6 May. Wigan Council has enquired if anyone would be interested in being a 'Meeter and greeter' at the polling station in St Marie's Hall. This would be from 6.30 am to 10.00 pm & the fee would be £170. Full details will be given when duties and responsibilities have been finalised, but essentially, the role involves giving a warm and

friendly welcome to voters, monitoring and controlling the number of voters in the building and advising about social distancing and Covid-safety measures, which must be adhered to in the polling station. Applicants should have good people skills, the ability to stand for several hours, good mobility and the willingness to work outside. For more information or to apply, please contact Julie Lyon, Electoral Services Assistant, email Julie.Lyon@wigan.gov.uk or telephone, 01942 827171.

At the back of church...

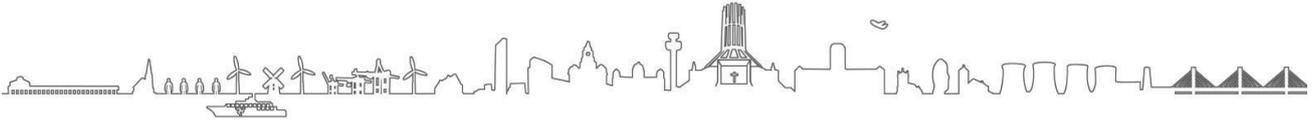
- April Catholic Pictorial are available as you leave Mass. Access the online edition at <https://bit.ly/30qf3r>
- 'Living Faith' booklets for adults, and children, April to June.
- Divine Mercy Message for all Mankind booklets

Volunteer Cleaners for St Marie's.

We would be extremely grateful if any of our Parishioners have any free time in which to assist with the cleaning at St Marie's. If you are indeed interested, then please either call or email our office and we will organise a rota.



Archdiocese of Liverpool



Standing Order Mandate

Name of parish

Our Lady of the Annunciation & St Bernadette 001

Name and address of your own bank

To The Manager

Address

Please pay to

Bank Name

HSBC plc

Address

99-101 Lord Street
LIVERPOOL
L2 6PG

Sort code

40-29-12

Parish bank account number

for the credit of

Account name

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan
Trust St Marie's and St Bernadette (001)
Parish Account

Account Number

61545 922

the sum of

(in words)

(in figures)

£ _____

commencing

Delete as applicable

and thereafter

monthly/annually.

until you receive further notice from me/us in writing

**Please insert the tile and number of your
own bank account**

and debit my account accordingly.

Account name

Account number

Signature

Date



LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE

Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA | www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk



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