

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 Saint Marie's:

Open Monday to Friday

from 9.00 am to 12 noon

Pastoral Associate:

Joanne Wallace

e-mail: j.wallace@rcaolp.co.uk

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.

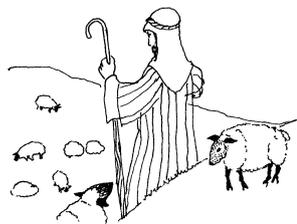
Repository: Open at the back of church after each weekend Mass.

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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Fourth Sunday of Easter

12 May 2019



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HIS MASTER'S VOICE

People don't like being called sheep. When the public is sometimes accused like a bunch of sheep we instinctively want to stand out ourselves and protest that we are not like the rest; we've got a mind of our own.

Maybe this is because the sheep or lamb is seen as a cute but rather hapless animal. It simply follows. Would today's gospel seem easier to swallow if it talked about a faithful dog that listened out for its owner's voice and followed the owner everywhere?

The scripture readings for the Sundays of Easter were originally targeted at those people who had been baptised at the Easter Vigil and were undergoing their first period of "aftercare" as Christians. They also served as an annual "refresher course" for those who were already members of the believing community. So each of the Sundays celebrates one or more of the key aspects of being a Christian.

Today we hear the word of God reminding us that we are not alone in our faith. It is not something we subscribe to and then are left

abandoned in the wilderness. Christ is our shepherd and we belong to his flock which is the Church.

Yet if we are to be the sheep of his flock and enjoy greener pastures and fresh water then we have to listen to his voice. New converts to Christianity have no problem with this since they need no second invitation to discuss and savour their new-found faith. On the other hand, those of us who have been Christians for a longer time are less likely to be aware of the shepherd's voice calling us in the ordinariness of daily life. Is this because we have lost the spark?

The new Christians are being shown that the authentic voice of the shepherd is to be found in God's word and in the assembly of believers: in scripture and in the Church community. If they listen out for that voice then Jesus promises that they will never be lost.

But, of course, what applies to new Christians also applies to us too. So where do the rest of us look and listen out for the voice of the Good Shepherd today?

Mass Intentions this week

Day	Church	Time	Intention
Fourth Sunday of Easter		I give my sheep eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will steal them from me. (John 10: 28)	
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.30 pm	Bernard Martin (LD)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Tom Baron (Birthday Remembrance)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Peter Greene
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Eileen Moore (Birthday Remembrance)
	St Bernadette's	10.30 am	Funeral: Gerard Thomas
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service
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
Fifth Sunday of Easter		He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone. (Apocalypse 21:4)	
Saturday	St Bernadette's	5.30 pm	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Alice & Matthias Speakman (B'day Rem)
Sunday	St Bernadette's	9.30 am	Wedding blessing (Charlene & Dean)
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Derek Brindle (Anniversary)

This weekend:

Second collection at all Masses for the Priests' Training Fund. To gift aid your donation, please use the envelope provided in the offertory envelope box or use the envelopes at the back of Church.

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

Next 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: **Mental Health Awareness conference** with Fr Conor Stainton-Polland, Parish Priest of St Matthew's and St Cecilia's in Liverpool and Kathy Devlin, Clinical Manager, Beacon Counselling Trust at LACE, 1.30 pm-4.30 pm. To book a place, tel. 0151 522 1040 or email formation@rcaol.co.uk.

Thursday: **Holy Rosary** prayed at St Marie's at 6.30 pm.

Friday: **Talk on the Book of Revelation** by Fr Joe Evans as part of the jubilee celebrations at St John's Presbytery, Powell Street, Wigan at 7.00 pm. Free admission, refreshments. All welcome.

Next weekend:

Sunday after 11.00 am Mass: **Baptism preparation** in St Marie's Hall.

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

Thank you for your offerings
£1,484.42.

St Marie's Sanctuary Lamp

Eileen Moore (Birthday Remembrance)

Bonus Ball

No.41 - Rollover - £17 .

At the back of church...

- First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts.

CAFOD

Thank you to all who supported the May self-denial last weekend. At St Bernadette's, the amount collected was £465.83. With amounts gift aided, adding 25% to the value, the total raised was £533.03.

The collection at St Marie's raised £315.31 With amounts gift aided, the total raised was £353.06.

From our Pastoral Associate

There are many different versions of 'Ave Maria' and I'm sure you have a favourite (Schubert or Gounod?) This week, I invite you to listen to 'Ave Maria' by American liturgical composer and author David Haas, which I love because it interweaves two styles – a Gregorian style melody mixed with contemporary
<https://tinyurl.com/y3a51o3f>

Also, the beautiful 'On The Lips of an Angel' by musician, composer and teacher Scott Soper
<https://tinyurl.com/yy7jj6gd> which counterpoints the Gounod melody.

I hope you enjoy them!

Jo Wallace

Catholic Pictorial

Free copies of the May 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.

At this time, we say farewell to:

Gerard Thomas

Until we meet again....

Prayer Group

The next Prayer Group meeting will be held in St Marie's Hall on Monday, 20 May at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

May, the Month of Mary

Ever wondered why we dedicate the month of May to Mary? Please take a copy of the information sheet at the back of church, reminding us why we honour Our Lady in May. There are also some suggestions of ways we can honour Mary in our homes.

Knights of St Columba

During May, the month of devoted to Our Blessed Lady, the Knights of St Columba will be praying the Holy Rosary every Thursday evening, from 6.30 pm. All welcome.

Synod Easter Reflections

Light a candle and take a moment's silence before praying:

Risen Jesus, may we listen for your voice in the depths of our hearts, and in listening may we have the courage to follow you, knowing that we are safe in your loving care and have no need to be afraid. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Marriage Matters

We are a light to the world

Most people, when they get married, think their married life is a private affair but Jesus calls us to be a light to the world as a couple. Through our gentleness and tenderness, our readiness to forgive each other, people we meet can experience some qualities of God's love for them. Living in this way is the vocation of marriage.

Ladies Section

The Ladies Section meeting due to be held on Tuesday, 28 May has been cancelled. The meeting will be held in St Marie's Hall on Tuesday, 4 June.

Something to pray about

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

Evangelisation – Church in Africa

That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for the continent.

Vocations Weekend

There will be a Vocations weekend for young women in Liverpool from 24-26 May, organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Visit www.fcjsisters.org or contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com

Facebook Page

Our parish now has a Facebook page! For those who use the social media platform, search for Our Lady of the Annunciation and Saint Bernadette and please Like and Share our page. This is another way to keep up to date with news, events and to share other information.

New to the Parish?

You're very welcome. Come and say hello. If you would like to contribute your skills and talents to help the parish you would be most welcome.

Dates for your diary

Thursday, 23 May: **Joint Parishes Working Group** at St Marie's at 7.30 pm.

Sunday, 26 May: **May procession, Holy Rosary and Crowning of Our Lady** at St Teresa's College Road, Up Holland at 3.00 pm. Tel. 01695 622001.