

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.stbernadettesshevington.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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# Seventh Sunday of Easter

13 May 2018

## NEITHER HERE NOR THERE

Today, the seventh Sunday of Easter, is one of the strangest of the Church's entire year. There's an air of anticipation and unfulfilment about it. Jesus has already ascended to heaven and yet we're still here waiting for the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We're in the in-between time. It gives us chance to pause and breathe a little, to take stock of the thrust of what Jesus said and did during his life and teaching on earth before he went back to the Father.

And when we listen to Jesus' last message today, a prayer to God for his disciples, we find something of a paradox. Jesus wants us to be in the world but not part of it.

Does this mean that we should become like monks in a monastery, shut off from the world and having nothing to do with it? Should we keep our distance from those who are God's children but who are not Christians?

Should we shun science and technology, culture, sport, music and enjoyment? Should we stack our bookshelves with nothing except bibles and prayer books? Should we pepper our conversations with scripture quotes and hope thereby to convert people?

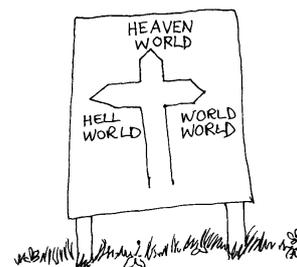
The word "world" has a special meaning when Jesus uses it. It doesn't mean the

earth or the mass of people who inhabit it. It means all those values which do not reflect God's vision for his creation. And so

we live in the world but do not have "worldly" values. The world thinks it's stupid to put yourself last rather than first, to put yourself out for those in need, to die to yourself in order that you can really live. Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, those who are meek. It makes no sense says the "world". For the world puts a premium on comfort and affluence.

So today Jesus reminds us that if we are true to his word, if we allow ourselves to be consecrated in the truth, then our thought-patterns will be different from those who do not know him or believe in his message. And his final prayer is not that we should be removed from the world but that we should be protected from the tempter who will try and entice us to worship fame, success, wealth or what the world might call "progress".

Are we sufficiently tuned in to God's word that we can be in the world but not of it?



### Mass Intentions this week

Seventh Sunday of Easter		I am not asking you to remove them from the world but to protect them from the evil one. (John 17: 15)	
Day	Church	Time	Intention
Saturday	St Bernadette 's	5.30 pm	Joseph Eric Lamb (Anniversary)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Patty Pyne (Anniversary)
Sunday	St Bernadette 's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Derek Brindle (Anniversary)
Monday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Eileen Moore (Birthday Remembrance)
Tuesday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday	St Bernadette's	9.15 am	Pat Herbert (Birthday Remembrance)
	<b>St Marie's</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Requiem: Philip Austen Holmes</b>
	St Marie's	7.00 pm	Thomas Sturgeon (Anniversary)
Friday	St Marie's	9.15 am	Molly Briten (LD)
<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>		Suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven... and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire. These separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. (Acts 2:1-3)	
Saturday	St Bernadette 's	5.30 pm	Kenneth Prescott (Anniversary)
	St Marie's	6.45 pm	Cliff Halliwell (Birthday Remembrance)
Sunday	St Bernadette 's	9.30 am	People of the Parish
	St Marie's	11.00 am	Michael Stretton (Anniversary)

## This weekend:

**Second collection at all Masses for World Communications Day. 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.

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

## Next weekend:

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

Sunday: **Baptism preparation** after 11.00 am Mass.

Sunday: **Dementia Friendly Mass** at Holy Rosary Church, Aintree at 3.00 pm to celebrate Pentecost and Dementia Action week (21-28 May).

**Thank you** for your offerings  
£1,487.01.

## Lenten Alms

£201.16. Thank you.

## Holy Places

£476.99. Thank you.

## Priest's Training Fund

£979.81. Thank you.

## Bonus Ball

No.41 - Rollover - £77.

## St Marie's Sanctuary Lamp

Eileen Moore (Birthday Rem)

## At this time, we say farewell to:

Philip Austen Holmes and Leo Price  
Until we meet again....

## New to the Parish?

You're very welcome. Come and say hello!

## Ladies Section

A Ladies Section trip to Liverpool has been arranged on Wednesday, 1 August to see the Terracotta army. For more information, please contact Ethel Sumner, 426428.

## Counters

Please collect an amended rota from St Bernadette's Church porch. If any parishioner is available and willing to help out as a counter, please let Fr John know as soon as possible.

## Novena of Prayer

The following is the Novena of Prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress and Synod 2020:

Come Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with wisdom, love and courage.

Make us more like Christ in our words and actions.

Bless the work of your Church.

Renew us all in the desire to make Christ known and loved in the world today.

Bless the work of our parish.

Guide all that we do so that our church is a place of mercy and service for all who are seeking you.

Deepen our love for the Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and guide us in prayer and action as we journey towards Synod 2020 to become the Church you are calling us to be.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Ordinations to the Priesthood

There are two tickets left for admittance to the ordination to the Sacred Priesthood of Philip Carr, Anthony Kelly and Carl Mugan (former lay chaplain at St Peter's) by Archbishop McMahon at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Saturday, 7 July at 1.00 pm. Please contact the parish office if you would like to attend.

## Gift aid

From 6 April, the basic tax allowance was increased to £11,850. Any parishioner, who has entered into the gift aid scheme and who no longer pays tax as a result of this increase, should notify the parish office.

Please also notify the parish office of any change of address. Thank you.

## Youth Group

The Youth Group on Wednesday evenings in St Marie's Hall from 7.00 pm until 8.30 pm is now only open every fortnight as currently there are not enough volunteers to cover the rota on a weekly basis. If you are interested in helping out once or twice per month, please contact Fr John or Ruth Speakman, 436968.

The Youth Group will be open on 16 May (30 May half term closed) 6 June, 20 June and 4 July.

## Joint Parishes

The next meeting of the Joint Parishes Working Group will be held at St Marie's on Thursday, 24 May at 7.30 pm, when the Group will discuss a proposal from the Archbishop for a Pastoral Associate to work in our parish. All are welcome to attend.

## Something to pray about

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

**Evangelization – The Mission of Laity** - That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

## Safeguarding

Recently, the parish has been reminded that only adults who have received DBS clearance through the parish may regularly remain with their children at Children's Liturgy, and the parish has been asked to ensure that these rules are being followed. Please could all parents, once their child is settled into the routine of Children's Liturgy (about 2-3 weeks), join the rest of the congregation in church. The protection of children is a very high priority and the parish asks for your co-operation. Those with babies are invited to come into church, the noise they may make is not a nuisance - if a church isn't crying, it's dying.

## Annual Mass

The annual Mass in honour of St John Rigby will be celebrated at Harrock Hall, Wroughton on Friday, 15 June at 7.00 pm. All are welcome.

## CAFOD

Thank you to all who supported the May self-denial last weekend. At St Bernadette's, the amount collected was £367.88. With amounts gift aided, which adds 25% to the value, the total raised was £437.26. At St Marie's, the amount collected was £417. With amounts gift aided, the total raised was £489.

UK Aid Matching Fund doubles the amounts collected.

## Dates for your diary

Monday, 28 May: **Garden Fête** at Cardinal Heenan House, Roby Mill, 12 noon – 4.00 pm. Contact Christine, 07743 646018 for further details.