

THE PARISH OF ST CHARLES AND ST THOMAS MORE

Postal address for all communications:

St Charles & St Thomas More, 224 Aigburth Road, Liverpool L17 9PG
 Office opening hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm. Phone: 0151 727 2493
 Website: www.stcharles.org.uk Email: church@stcharles.org.uk

PARISH PRIEST

& Vocations Director Fr James Preston

Deacons Rev Paul McNicholl
 Rev Jeremy Mitchinson

Office Admin Mrs Val Hogg

Primary School

St Charles, Tramway Road
 Liverpool L17 7JA.
 Tel. 0151 727 5830

Headteacher

Mrs A M Roberts

Newsletter items to Martin Wood, email mart.wood52@gmail.com by 8pm on **Wednesday**

4th Sunday of Easter (C) - 17th April 2016

DAY	FEAST	TIMES	MASS INTENTION
Sat 16th	Vigil	6.00 pm	Marie Celeste Hanlon (A)
Sun 17th	4th Sunday of Easter	9.30 am 11.00 am	Parishioners Stanley Fearn (RIP)
Mon 18th		10.00 am	Fr George Russell (A)
Tue 19th		7.00 pm	Shaun Leslie (A)
Wed 20th		12 noon	Vera Roberts (A)
Thu 21st	St Anselm of Canterbury	12 noon	Veronica Fielding (A)
Fri 22nd		No Mass	Church open for private prayer
Sat 23rd	St George		
Sat 23rd	Vigil	6.00pm	George Grayson (RIP)
Sun 24th	5th Sunday of Easter	9.30 am 11.00 am	Parishioners Patricia, Andre & Jean Louis Janssis (A)



"I am the good shepherd," says the Lord, "I know my sheep and my own know me."

John 10:14

Confessions:

Tues. 6.15pm - 6.45pm
 Sat. 5.15pm - 5.45pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Tues. 6.15pm - 6.45pm

PLEASE PRAY for all who are sick and housebound or in hospital, for all those who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.



ANNIVERSARIES: Denis McGlynn, Christine Mary Reidy, Robert Gerard Lynch, Edwin Perring, Maureen McKenna, Mary Langan, Fr George Russell, Shaun Leslie, Mary Elizabeth Huggins, Mary Agnes Traynor, Mary Neary, Sarah Frances Donnelly, Veronica Fielding, Roberta Doris Linford, Elizabeth Michael, John Thomas Burquest.

LATELY DEAD: Roy Rich

There will be tea and coffee after all Masses today. All proceeds to the Lourdes Youth Fund.

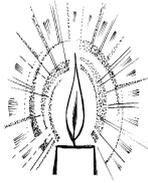


There will be an obligatory collection after all Masses this weekend for the Priests' Training Fund.

IF SOMEONE IS ILL

If you, or someone you know of, becomes ill, goes into hospital, or is no longer able to get to Mass, please contact the parish office 0151 727 2493.

The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit this week for **Fr George Russell** and the **Marian Candle** is lit for the **Hookes Family**.



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome to God's family **Lennon Arthur Crowley** who will be baptised today. We ask you to pray for him and his family.



MARRIAGE ENQUIRERS

For all enquirers about weddings please see Fr. Preston after one of the weekend Masses. Wedding bookings and preparation cannot be arranged by email. If you are getting married at St. Charles and St. Thomas More, or abroad, six months notice is required for the necessary paperwork to be completed.



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents wishing to have their baby/child baptised are required to attend a preparation course of 3 sessions, after which you can arrange a date for Baptism. Please see Fr James after Mass.

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF LADYEWELL

Bishop Tom Williams invites you to join him, on Saturday 28th May, for our annual diocesan Pilgrimage to Ladyewell, Fernyhalgh Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 5RR. The Pilgrimage will begin with the celebration of Mass at 12noon in St Mary's Church, followed by a Rosary Procession to the Shrine and later in the day there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Pilgrims will need to bring their own packed lunch and weather permitting will be able to have a picnic in the grounds of the shrine.

OFFERTORY April 9/10

Plate: £444.86 Envelopes: £ 723.60 S/O: £368.50

Total: £1536.96

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE 9/10 April

6.00pm: 144 9.30am: 175 11.00am: 185

Please pray for **Colette Ingham** who will be received into the church and confirmed during the 11am Mass today.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE AND THE MARIAN CANDLE

can be requested for many reasons. A dedication to a member of your family, young or old, living or dead. For a friend who is in need of prayer. An anniversary, or for yourself for a private intention. Choose a particular week throughout the year, put the name and date on an envelope together with a donation and give it to Fr James or bring it to the parish office.

ST CHARLES AND ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI LED BY FR JAMES PRESTON

Mon 12th - Mon 19th June 2017

For further information and booking form contact: Fr James Preston - Tel 0151 727 2493 or Gill Didino - Tangney Tours, Pilgrim House, Station Court Borough Green, Kent TN15 8AF.



www.tangney-tours.com Tel: 01732 88 66 66 Email: gill@tangney-tours.com

PATHWAYS

Four weeks on different ways of praying. The remaining dates are **April 19th, and 26th** at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room. The meetings will last about an hour and hopefully we'll have time for a cup of tea as well.

Prayer is one of the ways we develop our own relationship with God. He speaks to us in a language we understand, so different ways of praying appeal to different people. Someone said, "Pray as you can, not as you can't."

MUSIC ON 24th APRIL

9.30 am MUSIC GROUP

11.00am ORGAN



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY 2015-2016

'Merciful Like the Father'

You may have noticed that our confessional door has been decorated for the *'Jubilee Year of Mercy.'* Within the arched upper panels of the door are copies of four paintings by the Benedictine Sisters of Turvey Abbey. These colourful pictures illustrate: the parable of the Lost Sheep; the Prodigal Son; the story of Zacchaeus the tax collector; and the many healing miracles of Jesus. All these Gospel stories point us towards God who is our loving and merciful Father: he not only searches for us when we are lost; waits constantly for us to return home to him; enters into the messiness and misery of our lives; but also makes his home with us and stretches out his hands to touch, heal and restore us to wholeness.



A most beautiful work of art, a painting by Rembrandt called *'The Return of the Prodigal Son' [1661-1669]*; is displayed opposite *'the Door of Mercy'* inside our church confessional. Perhaps, sometime during Lent, take time to really **look at and reflect upon** this painting: notice the embrace of the Father and Son; the figures lurking in the shadows; the expression on the face of the Father and the touch of his hands. Our eyes may have instantly been drawn to the hands of the Father, for this is where the light falls. The embrace is an expression of the Father's great blessing, healing and love. Notice how they are different. The left hand of the Father, which is on our right, is firm and muscular; the fingers spread out strongly; the pressure evident from the position of the shoulders. The right hand is delicate and tender, the fingers held gently together in a way that seems to caress and console. The father is not simply a patriarch! He is mother as well as father. He touches the son with a masculine hand and a feminine hand. He holds and supports while she comforts and heals; the hands become an intimate expression of God's mercy, forgiveness and healing.

Perhaps the next time you look at this painting, go to confession, or ask for God's forgiveness and healing; take a moment to picture yourself in this painting kneeling in the place of the son, held firmly in your heavenly Father's gentle, compassionate and merciful embrace.

[Rembrandt's original painting is exhibited in the Hermitage, St Petersburg.]

*The book, **The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming** by Henri J.M. Nouwen [1992], based on Rembrandt's masterpiece, is published by Darton, Longman and Todd.]*

The next series of support meetings for Divorced and Separated Catholics will start in late April 2016. We welcome Catholics and other Christians, who are divorced or separated recently, or in the past, or who are experiencing the breakdown of a marriage or a long term relationship. The small groups are informative, affirming, free and confidential. **For information or to book a place please contact Frances Trotman 0151 727 2195.** General enquiries may be directed to Maureen O'Brien, Marriage and Family Life Coordinator, LACE, 0151 522 1044 m.obrien@rcaol.co.uk

LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT

My sister-in-law and two friends went out to Lesvos in Greece to volunteer with The Lighthouse Project for a week. They returned home full of very sad stories and very passionate about the cause.

They have now set aside time in May/June to return for a further week, but not to Lesvos as the military are now running everything and are refusing voluntary help!

Another drama has developed on the shores of Macedonia and thousands are stuck there without shelter, clothing or food. 40% being children, so they may go there.

They need good clothing, i.e. Crew neck T-shirts, jogging bottoms for men, and leggings for women, any easy wear clothing, as refugees have to walk long distances on foot. They also require underwear, socks and children's clothing. Funds are also needed to ship the goods to Greece, so any items of clothing that are not suitable can be taken to CASH FOR CLOTHES. Every penny they get goes to buying items that are required, or towards shipping costs. Most items are accepted, including shoes.

They pay all their own travel and living costs themselves and work closely with the Lighthouse Project who you can follow on facebook.

So as a caring parish, can we help in any small way? If you can, please leave donations at church, or I am happy to collect. My contact number is 07948 149 763, or see me after 9.30am Mass.



Corporations vs farmers: the struggle for Tanzania's food system **The Casa Club, 29 Hope St, Liverpool, L1 9BQ**

6.30-8.30pm Wednesday 27th April

[Register for your free place now at Eventbrite](#)

Tanzania is at the forefront of the global battle for control over our food. On one side corporations are lining up to seize control over the country's land, seeds and soil. On the other side, small-scale farmers are strengthening their networks and deepening their knowledge in an attempt to keep control of their resources.

Dan Iles, food sovereignty campaigner at Global Justice Now, works in solidarity with activists trying to defend their food systems across the world. Dan will discuss his recent solidarity tour to Tanzania, collecting stories from local farmers and learning about how we can act in solidarity with the growing food sovereignty movement. Join Dan for a discussion about the struggle over Tanzania's food system and the wider context - in Africa, the UK, and around the world.

Organised by Global Justice Merseyside.

For more information about the event or Global Justice Merseyside email [Kathleen Zimak](mailto:kathleen.zimak@blueyonder.co.uk)

Zimak: zimak@blueyonder.co.uk

You can Visit the [Global Justice Merseyside Website](#)

or [Global Justice Merseyside Facebook Event Page](#)

COFFEE MORNING

18th April 10.30 - 12.00

The Cuppa and Chat Team will host a coffee morning in memory of Sophie Armstrong. All proceeds will go to



Please try to attend to raise as much as possible for this worthy cause.

We would be grateful for donations of cakes and scones etc and any items for a raffle. Raffle prizes can be left in the box at the back of the church or dropped off at the parish office. Donations of cakes on the day, please.

Many thanks, Margaret 427 0407

CAN YOU HELP?

There are two tea bars in the **Women's Hospital** which raise funds to support mothers and their babies. Could you spare a couple of hours a week to help keep them running? For more information phone Jacqui on 727-5961.

PARISH BINGO every Friday evening at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.