

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 Roberts

Newsletter items to mart.wood52@gmail.com by 8pm on **Wednesday 3rd January**

Feast of the Holy Family (B) - 31st December 2017

DAY	FEAST	TIMES	MASS INTENTION
Sat 30th Sun 31st	Vigil Holy Family	5.00 pm 9.30 am 11.00 am	Margaret & Sheila McCarthy (A) Parishioners Robert Tamas (RIP)
Mon 1st	Mary, the Holy Mother of God	12 noon	Vera Flynn (Id)
Tue 2nd	Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church	12 noon	Paul Farrell (A)
Wed 3rd	Most Holy Name of Jesus	12 noon	Requiem: Hilda Halford
Thu 4th		12 noon	Mark Morrisroe (A)
Fri 5th		No Mass	Private Prayer
Sat 6th Sun 7th	Vigil Epiphany of the Lord	5.00 pm 9.30 am 11.00 am	Ellen McCormick (A) Parishioners Henry Boateng (A)



"...my eyes have seen the salvation which you have made ready in the sight of the nations; a light of revelation for the gentiles and glory for your people Israel."

Luke 2 : 28-32

Confessions:

Mon No Confessions
 Sat 4.30 - 4.45 pm

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: John Meade, Louise Middleton, Charlotte O'Connor, John (Jack) Dunderdale, Vincent Kelly, Eric Taylor, John Bilbao, Lorraine McInerney, Catherine Fay, Joseph Davies, James Gerrard, John Murphy, Elizabeth Maher, Catherine Scales, Charles Sondergaard, Ellen Marshall, Kathleen Robinson, William Delaney, Millicent Smith, John Curtis, Margaret & Sheila McCarthy, Paul Farrell, Mark Morrisroe, Ellen McCormick, Henry Boateng.

SICK: Elizabeth Reid, Russell Grindley, Paula Williams,

LATELY DEAD: Hilda Halford

Please note: Mass on Monday and Tuesday this week is at **12noon** and due to lack of support there be no 10am Mass on Saturday mornings.



to any visitors and new parishioners.

TEA AND COFFEE will be served after the 9.30am and 11.00am Masses today. All proceeds to the Lourdes Fund.



The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit this week for a **Special Intention** and the **Marian Candle** is lit for **Margaret and Sheila McCarthy.**



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.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Parents wishing to have their baby or child baptised are required to attend a preparation course of three sessions, after which you can arrange a date for Baptism.



The next course dates are **14, 21 & 28 January.** Please see Fr James after Mass.

MUSIC ON 7 JANUARY

9.30am ORGAN
11.00am MUSIC GROUP



GIFT AID - Offertory Collection

If you pay tax and have not already taken out **Gift Aid** on your donation and wish to do so, please contact the parish office on 0151 727 2493. Doing so increases your donation by 25% at no expense to you, as we claim that amount from the Inland Revenue.

OFFERTORY 23/24 December

Plate: £525.49 Envelopes: £762.92 S/O: £426.25

Total: £1714.66

Christmas Offering: £2149.01

Hospice Africa (Twiddlemuffs etc): £95.50

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE 23/24 December

5.00pm: 196 9.30am: 136 11.00am: 164

Total: 496

MANY THANKS to everyone who worked so hard in the preparation and celebration of our Advent and Christmas liturgies - they were a joyful reflection of our community's faith and your generosity.

On a personal note, many thanks for the many cards, gifts and good wishes received over the festive season. Wishing you all a happy and holy 2018!

Fr James

PRAYER INTENTION BOOK

A book is placed near St. Anthony's statue in which to write your prayer requests which will be offered to God at the week-end Masses.

Carol Service - Thank You

A big thank you to the Parish and St Charles Primary School choirs for all your hard work in preparing for our annual carol service which resulted in a wonderful start to our Christmas celebrations. Thank you also to our readers, flautist and everyone who turned up to join in the celebration.

Jeremy Mitchinson & James Finnegan

DIARIES are on sale at the back of the Church, price £1.00. All proceeds to help defray the cost of the boiler.

BOILER. Thank you to all those who have donated towards the new boiler. We still have a long way to go to reach our target. So far, we have raised **£4850.72** which includes the money from the Christmas Fair. Thank you once again for your continued support.

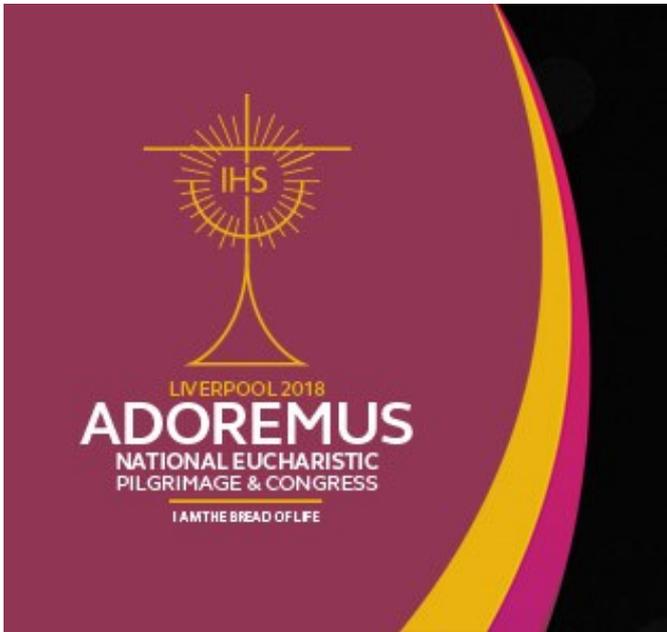
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

You are invited to submit the names of any relatives or friends (with their permission) to be published in this section of the Newsletter. Upon request, names will be listed for a period of 4 weeks from the date of submission, unless otherwise requested. Please contact the Parish Office.

TO OUR YOUNG CHILDREN

There are some prayer books and story books in a box at the back of church for you to use while you are at Mass. Hope you enjoy them.





Prayer in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress 2018 and for Synod 2020.

We thank you Father
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
Keep us grateful each day
for the blessings that surround us.

As we are fed by you,
so now send us out
to share what we have received
with our hungry brothers and sisters.

We humbly ask your help to become the Church
that you are calling us to be:
a community that listens, that trusts,
that lives with courage
and that puts out its nets into new waters.

May the gentle presence of Christ in our hearts
be a source of healing, of new life
and of a deeper trust in you.
We ask this in faith
through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.

PARISH PRAYER GROUP.

The next meeting will be on
Monday 8th January (NB second
Monday). All welcome. For venue
details phone 727 2195 .



Nugent Charity Shop on Allerton Road is in urgent need of stock consisting of clothing, books, bric-a-brac, shoes and handbags. If you have any unwanted items please consider donating them to our Charity Shop and these can be dropped off at 73 Allerton Road, Liverpool, L18 2DH from 9am – 5pm, Monday to Saturday. We can collect donations on Thursday mornings. To arrange a collection please contact the manager at the shop - Jeannette on jeannette.burnett@nugentcare.org or 0151 737 2951

WANTED: USED STAMPS



As Christmas cards start arriving please cut out the stamps leaving a wide border before throwing the envelope away. There is a box at the back of church to collect them for the Marie Curie Centre in Woolton.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON TEA

We are having a Christmas break and meet again on Thursday 11th January

1.30-3pm in the Parish Meeting Room

All are welcome! Come and join us.



Thought for the Week: Lord, my heart is restless until it rests in your love.

A Vocation Prayer

Almighty God,

You have given me the gift of life and the gift of your Holy Spirit. For these incredible gifts, I thank you. Help me to use them well. Deepen within me a desire to do your will.

Help me to hear and answer your call to serve you.

Guide me to the vocation you have chosen for me.

As a loving spouse and parent in the Sacrament of Marriage. As a single person living a life of generous service, or through a special call to serve you in Religious life or the Priesthood.

May your Holy Spirit keep me close to your Son, Jesus, and help me to say Yes to Him with the gift of my life.

Parish Rooms

The Parish Rooms are available for Parish Groups to use for regular meetings. Please ring the office to check availability, as there are several groups who meet on a weekly basis.

Weekly:

Monday Afternoon Pensioners Tuesday Evening SVP, Wednesday Morning Toddlers, Thursday Afternoon Tea and Coffee, Thursday Evening Mothers Prayers Group, Friday Evening Bingo

Monthly:

First Thursday – Soup and a Roll, Third Saturday morning Messy Church, Fourth Tuesday Evening Justice and Peace.

Please note all Sacramental Activities and functions take precedence but we do try our best to be flexible.

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.

PRAYER.

The Jesuits run two very useful websites: "**Sacred Space**", and "**Pray as You Go**" which provide a prayer and reflection for each day and a simple method of meditation. Could be useful for those few spare minutes you may have at lunchtime.

Visit: www.sacredspace.ie and

www.pray-as-you-go.org

SOME MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

Do you co-ordinate any type of group within our parish? Please send details to Martin, Barbara or Val and we will include them in this column. All meetings take place in the hall unless otherwise stated.

MESSY CHURCH Third Saturday of every month, 11 am - 1 pm. Fun activities: painting, crafts, stories, etc. All ages welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Lunch provided.

AFTERNOON TEA We meet on Thursdays, 1.30 - 3.00. Come and share a cuppa and an activity. All are welcome!

PARISH PRAYER GROUP meets monthly, usually, but not always, in a member's home and on the first Monday of the month from 8 to 9 pm. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to join us ring 727 2195 to check date and venue.

PENSIONERS CLUB Mondays at 2pm.

PIZZA & PRAYERS YOUTH GROUP meets once a month on a Sunday from 6:30 – 8 pm. Open to young people in High school. See notices for dates.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP meets at 6 pm on the last Tuesday in every month.

PARENTS AND TODDLERS GROUP meets on Wednesday mornings from 9.30 am - 11.30 am in the Parish Meeting Room. Parents/grandparents are invited to come along and join in.

BINGO Friday evenings at 7.30pm.

MOTHERS PRAYER GROUP Thursdays 7.00pm. For more details, ring Brenda on 728 7048

TEA AND COFFEE is served on Sunday after each Mass. Proceeds to Lourdes Youth Fund.

SOUP AND A ROLL is served on the 1st Thursday of the month after 12 noon Mass. All welcome.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE meets monthly to plan and organise social activities within the parish community. If you are interested in joining this group please contact the parish office.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA Council 9 welcomes Catholic men to come and meet us and find out more about what we do. If you are interested please ring Aidan Carney on 0151 427 7126.

BEREAVEMENT CARE TEAM aims to support families within the parish who have experienced bereavement. If you are interested in joining this group, or if you or anyone in your family would like support from this group, please contact the Parish Office.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (18–35) meets on the third Wednesday of every month for Mass and a Meal.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER BOOKS. There is a selection of prayer books for young children which they are welcome to use during Mass. These are available at the back of church before Mass.