

Reduction in Gift Aid Tax Refund



Since April 2000 our two parishes have benefitted greatly from the tax refunds received from the Government arising from the Gift Aid scheme. This has been possible thanks to the goodwill of the many tax-paying parishioners who have signed up to the scheme. Last year alone a combined total tax refund of over £10,000 was received from our two parishes. This year however we will see an **11% reduction** in the tax refund as transitional relief is phased out by the government. This means that our two parishes will be approximately £1,100 worse off than a year ago.

In the circumstances we ask that if you pay Income Tax, and are not already in the Scheme, that you consider completing a Gift Aid declaration for the benefit of your parish. Gift Aid allows us to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your donations. This means that we are able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you have given throughout the year and at no cost to yourselves. However, in order to substantiate the Income Tax refund claim, it is important that your donations are made either using Offertory Envelopes or by Standing Order payments if you prefer.

If you can help in this way please complete one of the blue gift Aid Scheme cards at the back of the church and hand it in to one of the helpers.

Thank you for your support, and thanks also to those parishioners who filled in the Gift Aid declaration last weekend.

Offertory Envelopes

We are now in the process of ordering Offertory Envelopes for the new year commencing 8th April.

If you are a non-tax payer and would like to use offertory envelopes for the first time then please tick Box 2 of the blue gift aid scheme card found at the back of church. Please note it is not necessary to put exactly the same amount per week in the envelope.

We will then order your box which should be available for collection from the church by the middle of March.

Envelopes can be used by both Tax payers and non-Tax payers alike and should be used from Easter Sunday 8th April. Thank you for your support.



The Parishes of St Agnes and St Aidan

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 4th March 2012
Second Sunday of Lent
Year B

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Inc.
Reg Charity No 232709

Mission Statement of the Archdiocese of Liverpool

*Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world
and proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation.*



Prayer Requests

For those who are sick or in special need of our Prayers

Dougie & May Hayhurst, Sue Johnson, Margaret Maguire, Bill Hall, John Hunter, Paul Roberts, John Roberts, Rose Bryan, Katie Nichols, Daisy May, Claire Bruder, Clare Deane, Martin Thomas, Phil Murray, Pauline Campbell, Kathleen Ross, Bill Browne, Christine Bell, Tricia Robinson, Craig Wilson, Ryan Johnson, Brian Whiteacre, Barbara Shervall, Gerard Taylor, May Cooper, Marie Keights, Ann Paterson, Ian Gordon, Marie Mills, Dorothy Kelly, Bernard Foley, Anne Maguire, Mrs. Symonds, Mary Parker, Maureen Lincoln, Mia Lewsey, Margie, Shirley Wozencroft, Michael Williams, June Hunt, Terry Thompson, Maisy Eason, Brenda Cubells, Rose Saunders, John Pollard, Lily O'Neill, Dean Easton, Lawrence McClintock, Albert Wilson, Nicky Allen, Terry Fielding, Bill Jones, Christopher Massam, Jim Phillips, Joe Muraski, Marion Fallon, Betty Johns, Frank & Joan McCann, Vera Cummins, Rose Rimmer, Philip Bromwell, Anne Nolan, Pauline Burgess, Joan Monaghan, James Soundie, Marie D'Arcy, Jean Brailsford, Thomas Clegg, Daphne Flynn, Tony Clintworth, Baby Aidan James Morris, Lynn McNabb, Ben Crutchley, Claire Waldron, Jim Rose, Kay Vaughan, Wendy Paveley, Elsie Blundell, Kitty Barnes, Maureen McGurk, Vera Murphy, Sandra Rowley, Ann Jones, Mary Organ, Josie Campbell, Jack & Winnie Witter, Harold Mascord, Ben Ball, Fr. Jim Webb, Nel Jordan, Baby Eddie Anthony Doran., Emma Davies, Angela Fleetwood.

We also remember all those mentioned in St. Aidan's Prayer Diary.

There are a number of young adults in our parishes who are terminally ill at the moment. Please remember them and their families specially in your prayers.

Lately Dead

Carol McDonough, Mary Rylance, Norah Barrigan, Lily Kelly, William McClusky

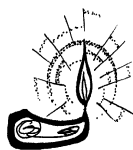
Anniversaries

Joan Glover, Linda Birkett, Brian Dunne, Nancy and Paul Cardwell,

Sanctuary Lamps

This week 4th March

St Agnes Sanctuary Lamp—Peggy & Michael Coyne
St. Aidan's Sanctuary Lamp—Parishioners of St. Aidan



Please ensure that details of your dedication are written on the front of the envelope and placed in the black post box in the Sacristy.

Please enter your Gift Aid

The good news that Jesus announces and embodies is that God's ministering, comforting, and empowering presence is at hand now, at this *kairos* time, and at every moment, especially in times of crisis. Jesus does not announce that God will rescue us from experiencing bleak times of trial, or frightening chaos, as with the out-of-control flood waters in the story of Noah. The good news is that God never abandons the beloved creation and all the living beings with whom the covenant has been made.

To accept this good news is to accept the invitation to change – to conform our manner of living to God's ways. The psalmist lists some of the characteristics of such a life: truth, compassion, love, kindness, goodness, uprightness, humility, and justice. Even though we miss the mark, it is precisely to sinners that God makes these divine ways known. Deliberately retreating into desert space can help to clarify the precise choices we need to make in order to live this manner of life. Like Jesus, who goes to Galilee to carry on the work begun by John the Baptist, even though he knows John has been arrested, we too are not naive about the high cost of choosing to accept and spread the good news.

- Barbara Reid

Please remember the students and staff of Christ the King CFL in your prayers this week. An adapted version of their Mission Week prayer is below:

"Lord of all creation as the community of Christ the King prepares for Mission Week, help them to come together as one.

Prepare their hearts, minds and souls to receive the blessings you will pour out.

Guide and protect all those involved in preparing and facilitating the week. Help them all to play their part so that the community shines as a beacon of grace. Amen."



Desert Days

"Repent and believe in the gospel."

To change one's lifestyle can be extremely difficult. Yet many people today are faced with very painful lifestyle choices as the economic crisis deepens and unemployment escalates. Catastrophic climate change, natural disasters, illness, and other personal tragedies impose on us changes in our way of life. In today's gospel,

Jesus invites all to choose a change in lifestyle. It is not imposed, but failure to accept it will have disastrous consequences. "Repentance," *metanoia*, is a change of mind and heart, a lifelong process of transformation. Jesus is not asking for the temporary foregoing of something pleasurable, like giving up chocolate for Lent. Sometimes such practices become simply a test of willpower. The *metanoia* to which Jesus invites us is both a turning away from whatever inhibits the full flourishing of the divine intent for creation and a turning towards the source of divine love. There is no better time to begin turning than now. Good intentions to make better lifestyle choices in the future become empty rhetoric in light of Jesus' urgent invitation: "This is the time," the *kairos*. *Kairos* means the opportune time, the right time, as distinguished from *chronos*, simple chronological time.

This crucial time is marked by the presence of two simultaneous forces: the divine Spirit who empowers us to choose what is of God, and Satan, the Adversary, pulling us in the opposite direction. IN the gospel, the Spirit drives Jesus into the desert, where choices are clearer. In biblical tradition, the desert symbolises the place where two opposing forces meet. The desert can be a place of danger, where wild beasts dwell, or where revolutionaries hide out. It was a place of testing for Israel, where they turned on their leaders and murmured against God. In prophetic tradition, the desert wandering became romanticised into a honeymoon time for Israel, where the people could be alone with their beloved God, with nothing to distract from their heart-to-heart sharing. So too, for Jesus, the Spirit is with him in the desert, but also the Adversary – all those systems and forces that are opposed to God.

Unlike Matthew and Luke, Mark does not describe in detail the precise ways in which Jesus was tempted. What Mark emphasizes is that God's power is stronger than satanic forces. Using Greek verbs in the imperfect tense, which indicate ongoing action that began in the past, mark says that the divine presence is always with Jesus, as angels "ministered to him". The whole of Mark's Gospel is framed by this phrase. At the close of the Gospel, Mary Magdalene and the other Galilean women who followed Jesus to Jerusalem and stood at the cross "ministered to him."

Mass Intentions

Saturday 3rd March

St. Agnes Mass 5.30pm-Magdaline Wilson

Sunday 4th March—Second Sunday of Lent (Year B)

St. Aidan Mass 9.30am –Terry Burns

St Agnes Mass 11am - John Murray

Monday 5th March

St Agnes 9.30am—Celebration of the Word and Communion

Tuesday 6th March

St.Agnes 12 Noon Requiem Mass- Lily Kelly

Wednesday 7th March

St.Agnes Mass 7.30pm– Denis O'Neill

Thursday 8th March

St Agnes Requiem Mass 10.00am-Mary Rylance

Friday 9th March

St Agnes Mass 9.30am-Veronica Chadwick—**followed by Stations of the Cross**

St. Aidan Mass 12 noon—Parishioners of St Aidan with Thanks

St Aidan 7.30pm—**Stations of the Cross**

Saturday 10th March

St. Agnes Mass 5.30pm—Tim Boardman

Sunday 11th March Third Sunday of Lent (Year B)

St. Aidan Mass 9.30am –Ann Marie Conley

St Agnes Mass 11am - Kay Cameron Till

Confessions

Saturday at St. Agnes 5-5.20 pm & Friday after 12 Noon Mass at St Aidan's

(Until there is nobody waiting)

Please Note

All Mass Intentions have been filled until May 2012 for both Parishes. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE/PRESBYTERY

Main Parish Office:

St Aidan's
92 Adswood Road
L36 7XR

Office Hours: Monday 9am-4pm

Tuesday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Office closed on Wednesdays

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Friday 9am - 4pm

All Enquiries to

Tel/Fax : 0151 489 3085

St Agnes Church
82 Huyton Hey Road
L36 5SQ

For Mass Cards etc

Hours: Friday - 1pm — 4 pm

(Church no- 0151 449 2209)

Also available from St Aidan's
Church

489-3085

**Newsletter items by Thursday
morning to Main Parish Office**

New Email Address:

agnesaidan@rcaolp.co.uk

For your information

**Parish Newsletters are posted on
Parish Website every week.**

Parish Web Site-

Parishes-of-stagnes-
staidans.org.uk

PARISH CONTACTS



SISTERS:

Helpers of the Holy Souls

Sr. Elizabeth - 0151 480 7904

Sr. MaryRose - 0151 482 6895

Sisters of St. Mary of Namur

Sr. Barbara –228-2239

Sr. Gabriel-489-1302

Sr. Sarah-489-1302

Primary Schools

St. Aidan

0151 477 8370

St. Joseph

0151 489 4072

St. Anne's

0151 477 8260

Parish Clergy

Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Anton Fernandopulle

0151 489-3085

Deacon-Mike Whelan

Pastoral Assistant-

Claire Ball 07899 937948

E-mail: clairem_ball@yahoo.co.uk

facebook

'Parishes of St Agnes and St
Aidan'.



Foodbank Update

We discussed the possibility of starting a food bank in Huyton. We have now contacted the regional organiser who is based in Kirkby. They are hoping to get funding in July to set up a satellite in Huyton and there is a possibility of us working with other local churches to bring this provision to the local area. We will keep you posted on any further developments.



Women's World Day of Prayer

Women's World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, organised and led by Christian women on the first Friday in March each year.

Prayers and further information can be found at:

www.wwdp-natcomm.org/index.asp



facebook

There is a Facebook group for our parishes at: 'Parishes of St Agnes and St Aidan'. Please 'like' the group to access information and photos from the parishes.



Catholic People's Weeks

Some of our events are for people of all ages – families with children, as well as people (of any age) without children. Others are for those aged 18 and over. Whichever you choose, you'll find food for thought, fun and friends.

In 2012, there are eleven events, varying between 2 and 7 days, on a range of themes. All our events – whether weekend, long weekend or week-long – offer the revitalising mixture of engaging talks and activities, prayer and socialising, in a community setting, that makes CPW so much valued by its members.

Visit: www.catholicpeoplesweeks.org.uk

Joint Parish Youth Club

The youth group is for those of secondary school age and meets on Thursday evenings in the Sr. Elizabeth meeting room at St. Agnes' from 7-9pm. Entrance is 50p and there are refreshments available to purchase. Please join us!



St. Agnes' Little Church

Sunday 4th March

Children's Mass

Sunday 11th March

Janice & Marie

Would it be possible for as many Little Church volunteers as possible to attend a short meeting after Mass on Sunday 4th to discuss Easter Sunday.



St Agnes Mission Boxes



Mission boxes are due to be emptied this month.

Thank you for your generosity.

Josie & John Mulcahey wish to thank all friends and parishioners of St. Aidan's for all the prayers and good wishes sent to Josie during her recent illness. May God bless you all. Holy mass will be offered for your intentions.

Mass Cards

We now have a range of Mass cards available specifically for St. Agnes and St. Aidan's parishes. Our thanks go to Sr. Margaret for her beautiful designs. The cards can be admired and purchased in the Piety Stall at St. Aidan's and the sacristy at St. Agnes.



St Agnes Altar Servers

There will be a practice on Saturday 10th March at 11am in St Agnes Church.

Please could you all try and attend.

Thank you.

Pat Canning 489-5161



Suggestion Boxes

There are suggestion boxes at the back of St. Agnes' church (by the statue of St. Agnes) and in the foyer of St. Aidan's church. If you have any suggestions, comments or feedback, please feel free to put them in the box.

Parish Collections

Sunday 26th February 2012

St. Agnes £ 902.87

St. Aidan £ 360.84

Standing Orders: January 2012

St. Agnes £996.50

St Aidan £238.00

St. Agnes' team to count:

This week team 3

Thank you for your generous support.



*Welcome To the Parish
family of
St Aidan & St Agnes*

**Stephen Barry
George Robert Mather
& Sonny Patrick Finnigan**

*Who will be baptised on
Sunday 4th March 2012 at
St. Agnes Church*

*Please remember these children and their
families in your prayers*



Rosary at St. Aidan's

The Rosary will be prayed on the 1st Sunday of the month at 4pm in St. Aidan's. All are welcome.

Baptism



St. Aidan's Baptism

Preparation:

2nd Monday of the month in
St. Aidan's church at 6:30pm

St. Aidan's Baptisms:

3rd Sunday at 10:30am

4th Saturday at 12 noon

St. Agnes' Baptism Preparation:

1st Tuesday of the month in
St. Agnes' church at 7:30pm

St. Agnes' Baptisms:

1st Sunday at 12:30pm

2nd Sunday at 2pm

If you wish to have your child baptised, please contact the Parish Office on 489 3085 and you will be booked into a preparation meeting.

Sandymount Retreat

Join us on a day of retreat at Sandymount, Crosby led by Fr. Anton on Thursday 29th March 2012. The cost is £27.50 including lunch & transport.

The coach will leave St. Aidan's at 9am and leave Sandymount at 5pm.

Please let the office know if you wish your name to go on the list.

Thank you.

Repent and Believe the Good News

How do people get the good news of God's love today? Some may get it from newspaper, radio or television. Some may come to church and hear about God's love. But the best way to spread the news of God's love is the same today as it was in Jesus' day. The best way is to tell people about it!



Word Search Puzzle

S J P Y B A P T I Z E D P S S
D M U I D L Q E Z S G T N U C
J V Q Z L L V N R R N E I P E
N E A R D O K N R E P T G M D
W K D S D A E Z P O S G O E Z
T I U U P V Y E Y P E C T Z F
I N Y E A I R S X V L P U C O
M G Y E D N R A E J M N Q Y R
E D H S G D J I J E W F B P T
D O Q T O T L Y T P D A X L Y
R M Z O D E S G Q I E C T Q H
M M G Z B V O I C E S U J E S
V J O R D A N K Q Y E D M W R
M K Z L H G Z I K R R N E P D
E B U H Q H R G E S T N K D S

REPENT	TEMPTED	TIME	BAPTIZED	BELIEVE
DESERT	COME	VOICE	KINGDOM	JORDAN
FORTY	NEWS	OPEN	WATER	DAYS
GOOD	SPIRIT	DOVE	HEAVEN	NEAR

CAFOD Lenten Appeal



In this time of Lent we traditionally "give up" things as a physical reminder during our preparation for Easter, inspired by the Gospel account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. For the last fifty years, people have gone without something on CAFOD Fast Day, whether a meal or a treat, and given the money saved to people throughout the world who need their support. In going without something, we stand alongside our sisters and brothers who are forced to live without some of the basic necessities of life every day. In doing this we also hold them in prayer and play our part in helping to reflect God's kingdom on earth. This year if you "give something up" you may wish to hold in prayer people suffering from water shortages, and use the money saved to help transform the lives of some of these people through CAFOD's work.

This Lent, the generosity of the Catholic community is being recognised by the UK government. Under their UK Aid Match scheme they will match pound for pound every donation given to CAFOD. This is a unique opportunity. So, for every pound you're able to give, CAFOD will receive an extra pound to help thousands more people, in some of the poorest communities in the global South, to live sustainably and with dignity by having access to essential services and resources.

Lent fast day is Friday 2nd March - Envelopes are at the back of church.

