

**Sunday 15th December 2024**



**First Reading:**

Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**Second Reading:**

St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is very near.

**Gospel Acclamation**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

**Gospel:**

Luke 3:10-18

What must we do?

The Order of Mass is printed on page 4 of the Hymn Book

**OFFICE/CHURCH**

**Parish Office:**

82 Huyton Hey Road L36 5SQ

Tel: 0151 489 3085

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

**Email Address:**

agnesaidan@rcaol.org.uk

Mass cards available from church/office.

*(Please note the parish office is located beside the church, entrance via the church car park - green door)*

**For your information:**

Parish Newsletters are posted on

Parish Website every week at:

**www.stagnes-staidan.org.uk**

Newsletter items by Thursday morning to parish office

**PARISH CONTACTS**

**SISTERS:**

**Helpers of the Holy Souls**

*Sr. Elizabeth* 0151 480 7904

*Sr. Mary Rose* 07770 830 290

**Daughters of St. Paul** 0151 487 8550

**St. Mary of Namur** 0151 489 1302

**Deacon:**

*Mike Whelan*

**PRIMARY SCHOOLS:**

*St. Aidan* 0151 477 8370

*St. Joseph* 0151 477 8990

*St. Anne's* 0151 477 8260

**Parish Priest**

Fr. Anton Fernandopulle 0151 489 3085

*(Resident in parish)*

Fr. Richard Sloan 0151 449 0214

**Pastoral Assistant:**

Christine Ball - christinewball@gmail.com

**Safeguarding Representatives**

Cath Golding - safeguarding062b

@rcaol.co.uk

Honor Ambrose - safeguarding062

@rcaol.co.uk

**PARISH CLUB**

**St. Aidan:** 07932 404 521

'Parish of St. Agnes and St. Aidan'

**facebook**

Images taken during services and events in our Church may be shown on social media or other publications. If you would prefer your image not to be included please let us know.

# The Parish of St. Agnes and St. Aidan

**Wednesday 18th December  
Reconciliation Service 7.30 p.m.**

NEWSLETTER

**15th DECEMBER 2024**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**YEAR C**



Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Inc  
Reg. Charity No. 1199714

**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.*

### Parish of Sts. Agnes & Aidan Live stream Masses

Holy Mass is live streamed every Sunday at 10.30 am on youtube:

Search Youtube Stagnesstaidan

You can watch and pray, the Mass any time after 12.30pm on Sundays,

Livestreamed Masses are with a congregation so if you attend anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

#### **Saturday 14th December - Memorial of St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor**

Mass 5.30 pm - Bob & Kathleen Latham, Terry McCormick

#### **Sunday 15th December - Third Sunday of Advent**

**Mass 10.30 am** - Stephen Lacken, Maureen Hamilton

#### **Monday 16th December**

9.30am - Celebration of the Word and Communion

#### **Tuesday 17th December**

9.30 am - John Hughes, Sr M Tecla Kazomi

6 p.m. St Anne's School Christmas Carols

#### **Wednesday 18th December**

9.30 am - Rose Mountain, Vera Barrett

**Funeral Service 12 noon - Brian McElhinney**

Reconciliation Service 7.30 pm

#### **Friday 20th December**

Mass 12 noon - Sr Maria Amparo, Maggie Santer

#### **Saturday 21st December**

Mass 5.30 pm - David Hussey, Ann Gillan

#### **Sunday 22nd December - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Mass 10.30 am** - David Collins, Margaret Moss

**Confessions: Saturday 5pm - 5.20pm (or by appointment)**

Please be considerate when parking as residents  
also need to access their driveways with ease. Thank you



### Posada

The pregnant Mary, Joseph and the donkey will travel again this year through the community homes of Huyton during Advent, starting from the first Sunday in Advent (1 December 2024). If you would like to be part of the experience, please sign up to the list at the back of the church.



### Huyton Family of Parishes - Exploring the Future

The full version of this update is on the Notice Board in the porches. It will be posted on the parish Whatsapp. It can also be accessed via the link below:

<https://huytonfop.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/>

### Lindisfarne Pilgrimage

We are planning a pilgrimage to Lindisfarne (St Aidan) in the summer of 2025, date to be confirmed.

If you are interested please contact the parish office.

### SHARE KNOWSLEY NEEDS YOUR HELP

Want to make a difference to people's lives and do something rewarding?

Come and join us. Share Knowsley is looking for volunteers.

There are many different ways you can help:

- Helping staff at the drop-ins
- Supporting in the English classes
- Sorting donations
- Working 1:1 with a client
- Helping with casework

If interested please contact us

The [admin@shareknowsley.org.uk](mailto:admin@shareknowsley.org.uk) and the phone number is: 07915 252300

We are also collecting prizes for our Christmas Fayre for tombolas and our raffle. If you have any donations, please bring them to the Old School House or to the back of church.

Thank you so much

Margaret Roche, [Chief Executive Officer](#)

## The holy ground is the ground beneath your feet

‘According to Luke, great crowds stream into the desert to hear John’s fire-and-brimstone preaching. What attracts them? The first clue lies in the question they ask John at the conclusion of his sermon. "What should we do?" This is a question we ask when we’ve come to the ends of ourselves, when our cherished defences are down, when our lives are splitting at the seams. It’s what we ask when we’re weary, bored, disillusioned or desperate. "What should we do?" What do the crowds think such a fringe character will say in answer to their question?

The answer John gives them is so radical we stand in danger of missing it: “You should go home.” Go home to your families, your neighbours, your vocations, your colleagues. Stop fleeing. Stop insisting that God is far away from the nitty-gritty of your particular life. Instead of waiting for a holy ‘some day’ that will never come, inhabit the stuff of your life as deeply and as generously as you can right now. Share now. Be merciful now. Do justice now. Inhabit your life, no matter how plain, how obscure, how unglamorous, how routine. Why? Because the holy ground that matters most is the ground beneath your feet.’ [1]

‘John did not tell any of them to go and be something different. Instead he called them to be who they are but in a different way. He did not tell the tax collectors to go find an honest living. He asked of them honest tax collecting. He did not tell the soldiers to stop being soldiers but to be soldiers who respected others and understood the danger of power. He called the crowds to remember that their life is bound up in their neighbour’s life and there is no room for indifference, complacency, or miserly giving.’ [2]

‘John concludes his sermon in the wilderness with a harrowing description of the coming Messiah: “His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” How is this good news, this portrait of a Jesus who judges, sorts, burns, and gathers us? I believe we squirm at such language because we misconstrue the meaning of judgment. We tend to equate judgment with condemnation, but in fact, to judge something is to see it clearly - to know it as it truly is. In my dictionary, synonyms for judgment include discernment, acuity, sharpness, and perception. What if John is saying that the Messiah who is coming really sees us? That he knows us at our very core? Maybe the winnowing fork is an instrument of perceptive love, patiently wielded by the One who discerns in us rich harvests still hidden by chaff. Maybe it is in offering God every aspect of our lives, that we give Him permission to "clear" us — to separate all that's destructive from all that is good, beautiful, and priceless. This is good news.’[1]

*Adapted: [1] Debi Thomas [2] Michael Marsh*

## Prayer Requests

***Your charitable prayers are asked for those who are sick or in special need of our Prayers.***

Please let the office know if you wish to add a name to the list.

Tricia Andrews, Lynn Ashton, Doris Benette, Catherine Bennion, George Boland, Violet Chadwick, Grace Cheeseman-Woolerton, John Clintworth, James Corbett, Janet Cragg, Ray Cragg, Nicholas Cragg, Marie D'arcy, Janet Davies, Despina, Suzanne Ellison, Tony Ferguson, Patricia Fisher, Iris Glover, Maureen Grimwood, Claire Hindley, Sue Hodgson, Barbara Holman, Marie Hunter, Claire Illingworth, Joelle, Peggy Kane, Dennis Ling, Sheila McGrattan, Maureen, Michael & Lawrence McClintock, Derek McEgan, Patricia Markey, Tim Merritt, Mary & Peter Muldoon, Ann-Marie Naylor, Kathleen O’Gorman, Jimmy Quai, Levinia Redpath, Mia Robinson, Nilma Cristina Rodrigo, Walter Runge, Sara, Betty Savage, Donna Sothern, Alan Spain, Billy Turner, Mike Twigg, Sr Josephine Vassallo, Frank Walsh, Joan Walsh, Pamela Watson, Ian Webster, Vera Whitfield, Kerry Wilson, Sr Clare Wilson, Jimmy Wolfe,

### Lately Deceased

Michael Lynch, Ivan St Pierre

### Anniversaries

Patrick McLindon, Rose Mountain, Mary Clarke

### **SHARe Knowsley**

Please remember the box at the back of church for the collection of toiletries for those in need. *Thank you*

### **Sanctuary Lamp week beginning 15th December -Staff in our Primary Schools**

Please contact the Parish office if you would like a Mass Intention, an Anniversary or anyone adding to the Prayer List. If you wish this to be said on a specific date can you please give the office as much advanced warning as possible. Please note: As in previous years Easter and Christmas masses will be for all the parishioners and not for individual intentions. Thank you.

***Weekday Opening: The church is open daily (except on bank holidays) from 10am—1pm for prayer and refecton.***

## **BEREAVEMENT CARE TEAM - DROP- IN SESSIONS**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month 2pm – 4pm**, in Sr. Elizabeth Kelly Room, at St. Agnes & St. Aidan Church on Huyton Hey Road.L36 5SQ . (*Entrance on St. Mary’s Road via the arched metal gate*). We are not counsellors, just a small group of parishioners who have received training for this special ministry. We have also experienced the grief of having lost a loved one. You may prefer to have a one to one meeting with one of our care team. Our monthly Drop – In, is an open invitation for anyone to come along for a cup of tea and company. Time shared with a warm welcome with an opportunity for quiet prayer should you wish.

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

## Baptism

**Baptism Preparation meeting:**  
**First Monday of each month at 7:30pm.** The next meeting will be on Monday 3rd February

If you wish to have your child baptised, you must contact the Parish Office on 0151 489 3085 and you will be booked into a preparation meeting. These meetings are for parents whose children are under 8 years of age

### **BAPTISMS ARE HELD ON:**

1st Saturday at 12.00pm and  
1st Sunday at 1.30pm & 2.30pm (Fr. Anton)  
4th Sunday at 1.30pm & 2.30 pm (Deacon Mike)

### **BAPTISM CERTIFICATES**

Please email or phone the office with your request. Once ordered copies can be collected on **Monday or Wednesday** from 10 am to 1 pm.

### **PARISH PENSIONERS' CLUB**

**Next meeting will be on 8th January 2025**

1 pm until 3 pm in the parish meeting room (Sr Elizabeth Kelly room)

### **Craft Club**

The next craft meeting will be advised soon  
11 am — 1 pm.. We will now have a subscription of £2 per session

## **LGBTQ+ SOCIAL GROUP**

Will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 6 p.m. in Sr. Elizabeth Kelly room in the church of SS. Agnes and Aidan, Huyton, L36 5SQ

**The next meeting is on Sunday 15th December**

**Instagram:** St.Agnes\_St.Aidan\_LGBTQ & on **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/580539512933145/?ref=share>

Facebook: 'Parishes of Sts Agnes & Aidan's LGBTQ+ Social Group'

### **Advent Preparation**

Join us for an hour of music, readings and prayer as we prepare for Christmas. The last sessions will be on Tuesdays 17th December 10:30 am - 11:30 am in Sr. Elizabeth Kelly room. **All are welcome**

### **Tuesday 7th January 2025**

#### **Community Prayer Circle at 1-3pm.**

A space to come together and pray for the needs of our parish and our local community. Our mission is to pray for the needs of our parish community, the local community and the needs of our world today. Come and see if God is calling you to take part in our parish prayer ministry.

**Music Group: at 7pm** in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly Community room. All are welcome. Previous experience not necessary.

Why not start the new year off with something a bit different. Music ministry is an important part of the mass. Come and make some new friends. Looking forward to meeting you.

## **Christmas Mass Times**

### **Wednesday 18th December**

**Reconciliation Service** 7:30 pm

### **Saturday 21st December**

5.30 pm

### **Sunday 22nd December**

10:30 am

### **Monday 23rd December**

9.30 am

### **Tuesday 24th December**

**Christmas Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**

5:30 pm and 8:30 pm

### **Wednesday 25th December**

**Christmas Day Family Mass** 10.30 am

### **Thursday 26th December**

12 noon

### **Friday 27th December**

12 noon

### **Saturday 28th December**

5.30 pm

### **Sunday 29th December**

10.30 am

### **Wednesday 1st January 2025**

**Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**  
Service 12 noon

## **SHARe Knowsley - THANK YOU!**

We wanted to extend our thanks from SHARe Knowsley to the parishioners of St Agnes and St Aidan for your generosity and support for our work in helping Asylum Seekers and Refugees. Your purchases of the items sold from the Christmas stall at the back of the church and donations of £400 by cash will be of great help to those in need of English classes, toiletries and clothing, especially at this time of year with the cold weather.

Your support is greatly appreciated. We couldn't do what we do without your help. So, thank you and have a happy and Holy Christmas.

Mrs Margaret Roche

## **Car Boot Sale**

Last Saturday of each month 8am to 12 noon.  
**Next Car boot sale on 25th January 2025.**

