

Sunday 9th March 2025



First Reading Deuteronomy 26: 4-10

The confession of faith of the chosen people

Responsorial Psalm

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress

Second Reading Romans 10: 8-13

The confession of faith of believers in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel Reading Luke 4: 1-13

Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil.

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 evening 6.30 p.m.
Station of the Cross**



First Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY 9th March 2025

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.

NEWSLETTER

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 8th March - St John of God

Mass 5.30 pm - Jimmy Crowe, Richard Naylor

Sunday 9th March - First Sunday in Lent

Mass 10.30 am - Mary & Owen McDonnell, Nina Warchalowski

Monday 10th March

9.30 am - Celebration of the Word and Communion

Tuesday 11th March

9.30 am Mass - Bill Hitchen, James Taylor

Wednesday 12th March

6.30 pm Stations of the Cross (led by the Choir)

Mass 7.30 pm - Baby Abigail, Jose Martinez-Abarca



Thursday 13th March

Requiem Mass 12 noon - Rita Doyle

Friday 14th March - Lent fast day for CAFOD

Mass 12 noon - Ellen Vitone, Sr Providenza Grillo

Saturday 15th March

Mass 5.30 pm - Maureen Funnell, Evelyn Long

Sunday 16th March - Second Sunday in Lent

Mass 10.30 am - Brian Taylor, Burrows Family

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



In this season of Ramadan and the approach of 'Id al-Fitr, we are happy to share this hope with you. May our prayers, our gestures of solidarity and our efforts for peace be tangible signs of our sincere friendship with you. May this feast be an occasion for fraternal encounters between Muslims and Christians, in which we can celebrate together God's goodness. Such simple but profound moments of sharing are seeds of hope that can transform our communities and our world. May our friendship be a refreshing breeze for a world that thirsts for peace and fraternity!

May your fasting and other pious practices during Ramadan and the celebration of 'Id al-Fitr that concludes it, bring you abundant fruits of peace, hope, brotherhood and joy.

From the Vatican, 4 February 2025

Kaleange.

George Jacob Cardinal Koovakad

Prefect

ganckarates

Msgr. Indunil Kodithuwakku Janakaratne Kankanamalage

Secretary

Car Boot Sale

Last Saturday of each month 8am to 12 noon.

Next Car boot sale on 29th March 2025.



GARDENER'S CLUB

The Parish Gardeners Club is looking for more volunteers to help maintain the Parish Garden. They meet every Monday morning to tidy up the garden, followed by a social gathering with a bite to eat. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in gardening and socializing. Whether you are a parishioner or not, all are welcome to join the group. Please feel free to reach out to your extended family and friends who may be interested in getting involved.

For more details contact Bryan Blois 077725097814

In a world marked by injustice, conflict and uncertainty about the future, our common vocation involves much more than similar spiritual practices. Our world is thirsting for fraternity and genuine dialogue. Together, Muslims and Christians can bear witness to this hope, in the conviction that friendship is possible despite the burden of ideologies and the mere exclusion of the other. For you, dear Minister, hope is nourished by trust in divine mercy, which forgives and guides. For us Christians, it is grounded in the certainty that God's love is stronger than all trials and obstacles.

We want, then, to become, together, brothers and sisters in humanity who deeply esteem one another. Our trust in God is a treasure that unites us, far beyond our differences. It reminds us that we are all spiritual, incarnate, beloved creatures, called to live in dignity and mutual respect. What is more, we desire to become guardians of this sacred dignity by rejecting all forms of violence, discrimination and exclusion.

This year, as our two spiritual traditions converge in celebrating Ramadan and Lent, we have a unique opportunity to show the world that faith transforms people and societies, and that it is a force for unity and reconciliation.

In a world where "the temptation to build a culture of walls, to raise walls, walls in the heart, walls on the land in order to prevent this encounter with other cultures, with other people" is reappearing (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 27), our challenge is to build, through dialogue, a common future founded on fraternity. We do not want simply to coexist; we want to live together in sincere and mutual esteem. The values we share, such as justice, compassion and respect for creation, should inspire our actions and relationships, and serve as our compass in constructing bridges rather than walls, defending justice rather than oppression, protecting the environment rather than destroying it. Our faith and its values should help us to be voices that speak out against injustice and indifference, and proclaim the beauty of human diversity.

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, Trina Bromwell, Violet Chadwick, Grace Cheeseman-Woolerton, John Clintworth, James Corbett, Janet Cragg, Ray Cragg, Nicholas Cragg, Marie D'arcy, Janet Davies, Despina, Patricia Fisher, Iris Glover, Maureen Grimwood, Claire Hindley, Sue Hodgson, Barbara Holman, Marie Hunter, Claire Illingworth, Joelle, Peggy Kane, Dennis Ling, Ray Lloyd, Sheila McGrattan, Maureen, Michael & Lawrence McClintock, Derek McEgan, Patricia Markey, Tim Merritt, Barbara Moran, Peter Muldoon, Ann-Marie Naylor, Kathleen O'Gorman, Jimmy Quai, Julie Quarless, Levinia Redpath, Mia Robinson, Nilma Cristina Rodrigo, Walter Runge, Sara, Betty Savage, Donna Sothorn, Alan Spain, Billy Turner, Mike Twigg, Sr Josephine Vassallo, Molly Wallis, Frank Walsh, Joan Walsh, Pamela Watson, Ian Webster, Vera Whitfield, Kerry Wilson, Sr Clare Wilson, Jimmy Wolfe,

Lately Deceased

Eve Carmichael, Mary Muldoon

***Sunday 9th March at 1.00 pm
Meeting re Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne***

Anniversaries

Edward Davies, Peter Markey, Kay Cameron-Till, Anne Rowley

Sanctuary Lamp week beginning 9th March—(Those mentally and physically challenged)

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

1st 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 7th April

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 1.30 pm
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 12th March 2025

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

Craft Club

Craft Club has started again on Thursday next date to be advised. 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 16th March

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'

MISSION BOXES

Mission boxes are due to be emptied this month

Thank you for all your support



Tuesday 18th March 2025
In the Sr Elizabeth Kelly Community Room
Community Prayer Circle at 1-3pm.

Our mission is to pray for the needs of our parish and 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

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.

All are welcome

DICASTERY FOR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH OF RAMADAN AND ID AL-FITR
1446 H. / 2025 A.D.

Christians and Muslims: what we hope to become together
Vatican City

Dear Muslim brothers and sisters,

At the beginning of the month of Ramadan, the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue offers you its warmest greetings and friendship. This time of fasting, prayer and sharing is a privileged opportunity to draw closer to God and be renewed in the fundamental values of religion, compassion and solidarity. This year, Ramadan largely coincides with Lent, which for Christians is a period of fasting, supplication and conversion to Christ. This proximity in the spiritual calendar offers us a unique opportunity to walk side-by-side, Christians and Muslims, in a common process of purification, prayer and charity. For us Catholics, it is a joy to share this time with you, for it reminds us that we are all pilgrims on this earth, and that we are all seeking to live better lives. This year, we wish to reflect with you not only on what we can do together to live better lives, but above all on what we want to become together, as Christians and Muslims, in a world in search of hope. Do we want to be simple co-workers for a better world, or genuine brothers and sisters, bearing common witness to God's friendship with all humanity?

More than simply a month of fasting, Ramadan appears to us Catholics as a school of inner transformation. By abstaining from food and drink, Muslims learn to control their desires and turn to what is essential. This time of spiritual discipline is an invitation to cultivate piety, the virtue that brings one closer to God and opens the heart to others. As you know, in the Christian tradition, the holy season of Lent invites us to follow a similar path: through fasting, prayer and almsgiving we seek to purify our hearts and refocus on the One who guides and directs our lives. These spiritual practices, though expressed differently, remind us that faith is not merely about outward expressions, but a path of inner conversion.

LENTEN REFLECTION

Monday 10th March and each Monday in Lent, 7pm - 8.30pm at the convent at 168 Tarbock Road. Sr. MaryRose would like to offer a time for Lenten reflection using a book Bishop Marianne Budde wrote a few years ago:

'How we learn to be Brave ... Decisive Moments in Life and Faith'

(Bishop Marianne Budde 'spoke truth to power' when she called on Donald Trump to exercise mercy and compassion in relation to refugees, the undocumented etc ... at his Inauguration Service.) Places are limited because it has been really difficult to get hold of the books and there are only 13 copies. It should also be possible for people to share copies?

If you are interested please let Sr MaryRose know.

WELCOME TO OUR OPEN CHURCH

As a parish family we have invested a considerable amount of money on security to make it possible to keep the church open during the weekdays from 10am to 1pm (except on bank holidays). Please feel free to avail yourself of this opportunity to spend some valuable time in the



NUGENT CARE / St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

Dear Parishioners,

For many years, we have proudly supported Nugent Care through donations of second-hand clothing and bedding etc for homeless individuals. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, Nugent Care is no longer able to accept these items.

We are pleased to announce a new partnership with St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Liverpool. This Parish works tirelessly to support homeless people and asylum seekers in the area.

We encourage you to continue your generous support as we work together with St. Vincent de Paul Parish to assist those in need.

Thank you for your ongoing kindness and compassion.

Fr Anton

First Communion 2025

Letters have been sent out via schools and packs have been available to be collected since 29th January 2025. Please ensure you are keeping yourself up to date with all information.

Booklet deadline dates are: **28th April 2025** for St. Aidan's St. Joseph's and all other schools and **19th May 2025** for St. Anne's

Please find the dates for First Communion 2025 on the board at the back of church. The programme will be run slightly differently this year with a greater focus on coming to Mass. Please ensure that if you would like your child to make their First Communion you are coming to Mass as regularly as possible.

Parish WhatsApp Group

Its wonderful to see so many parishioners connecting via the parish WhatsApp group. All those who worship here and their families are invited to be part of this link. If you are interested please contact Brian Roberts on 07779 328 414. This is a great tool to keep everyone informed of important events/services Our hope is that this will bring more positive energy to our vibrant parish community.



LINDISFARNE

A reminder for all those travelling on the pilgrimage to Lindisfarne: A non-refundable deposit of £100 is required.

There will be an important meeting on Sunday, March 9th, at 1:00 pm in the meeting room. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you!

Lenten Appeal in Aid of CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

Lenten Fast Day will be held once again this year on **Friday, 6th April**. As we have done in previous years, there will be soup served after Mass. All donations will go towards **CAFOD's** important work.

Please collect CAFOD envelopes for yourself, your family, and your friends, and bring them to the church **on or before the 6th of March**.

On behalf of **CAFOD**, thank you for your continued support

Contemplative Prayer Mornings

The next session will be on Tuesday 11th March 2025. We meet in the Sr. Elizabeth Kelly Room at 10:30 am for 1 hour followed by tea and coffee. All are welcome.

Rediscovering our Divine Identity

It's significant that on the first Sunday in Lent in all 3 liturgical cycles – A, B and C – the gospel focuses on Jesus being tempted. Each of the three temptations touches on Jesus' identity as the Son of God, which had been revealed at his baptism: 'This is my Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.' 'Secure in the knowledge of his divine identity, Jesus had the strength to overcome his temptations. We, too, are tempted to doubt our divine identity. We can so easily find our identity in what we do, in what we possess, in what other people think of us, instead of in who we are.' [1] We are invited to approach the weeks of Lent in the 'desert' of quiet times, rediscovering *our* divine identity.' What if our Lenten ritual this year is to reclaim and re-treasure that which is of ultimate importance and infinite value – people, relationships, justice and compassion, forgiveness, beauty and time to reconnect with whatever renews our spirit and deepens our experience of love? In this process we will somehow find ourselves again. We will be more whole, more complete. [2] When we come home to the divinity in ourselves, the more open we will be to the divinity within the people God sends into our lives.' [1]

'The true purpose of all spiritual disciplines is to clear away whatever may block our awareness of that which is God in us and God in others.' [3] This could be our daily 'mantra' during Lent. Each day will reveal what it is that is blocking our awareness – variations on the themes of our need to be in control, our need to know all the answers. 'When the quest for certainty and control is pushed to the background, the possibility of wonder returns. Wonder provides a gateway to wise insight.' [4]

We begin Lent by blessing and being blessed by the ashes of the palms used in last year's Palm Sunday celebration. Do we see this as a 'doom and gloom' experience, or do we come filled with awe and wonder, knowing what God can do with dust?

'So let us be marked not for sorrow. And let us be marked not for shame. Let us be marked not for false humility or for thinking we are less than we are, but for claiming what God can do within the dust, within the dirt, within the stuff of which the world is made.' [2]

Adapted: [1] Richard Rohr [2] Jan Richardson [3] Howard Thurman [4] Tobin Hart

WELCOMING GROUP

Could all the welcoming group members meet at the back of church after Mass on **Sunday 9th March 2025** please. Many thanks, Veronica

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Please be advised that a meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for 13th April at 1.30 pm in the parish meeting room.

We kindly request the attendance of all Parish Council Members

Family of Parishes – Huyton (February 2025)

The EFG (Exploring the Future Group) met on the 16th November 2024 for a day's discernment to reflect on all the feedback that was gathered in the October meetings: what people felt about the 4 proposals.

After a full day of prayer and discussion the following emerged:

Proposal 1 – *Employment of a youth worker/ investment in laity* and **Proposal 4** – *A Big event and events shared between parishes*, while both good ideas with the potential to bring communities together and strengthen relationships, could work in conjunction with other ideas and were not the sole answer to the issues that have driven this process so far.

Proposal 3 – *One Centralised Church Campus* was thought, at this stage, to be a very big change. In listening to the feedback, it was felt that this was a change a majority of people weren't yet ready for.

Proposal 2 – *The Hub and Satellites* emerged as a choice people could work with and engage with. It was felt that this option could address the very real issues we are having to face re: church numbers and numbers of priests as well as creating a sense of community across the Huyton parishes.

However, it is still very much a proposal and before anything can be decided, it will need a lot more work to be done to delve deeper into the specifics and expand thoroughly on the details. So, it is with this intention that the EFG move forward into the next stage of this process.

The EFG will meet again on the 8th March and 7th June with the intention of being able to share with the community the different ways of realising the proposed future and then invite feedback. As always, with this process, we will keep you updated with information as soon as it is possible to do so. Please continue to pray for all of us on this journey, especially those on the EFG, as together we strive to discern the way forward.

(The last update about the Family of Parishes meetings, publicised in early December 2024, gave an overview of what we have done so far. If you have not managed to read this, it can be found via the following link: <https://huytonfop.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/>)