ST. AGNES CLUB
Tickets are available from this
Sunday for the Children's
Christmas Party

Sunday 20th December 1-4 p.m Cost £2.50 Available from the club or phone 489 3990

#### Lourdes Pilgrimage - 12-17th September 2016

We will fly directly from Manchester to Tarbes (Lourdes Airport). As requested by parishioners, we will be staying in the same hotel as on the previous trip, the 4\* hotel La Solitude. The pilgrimage is for five nights. The cost including meals will be £609.00 per person sharing a double room. If you are interested please contact the office on 0151-489 3085 or enter your name on the list at the back of church.

#### **Reconciliation Service**

The Advent Reconciliation service will be at St Aidan's on Wednesday 16th December at 7.30pm

#### **Christmas Mass Times**

#### Thursday 24th December

Christmas Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord St Aidan - 5.30 pm St Agnes - 8.30 pm

#### Friday 25th December

Christmas Family Mass St Aidan - 9.30 am St Agnes - 11.00 am



#### <u>Page references for Mass</u> <u>Sunday 6th December 2015</u>

Readings: Page 108

Psalm: What marvels the Lord

worked for us!! Indeed

we were glad

Gospel Acc: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God

Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6

Preface: Page 34

#### **First Communions 2016**

#### **Mass Attendance**

First communion children are reminded to attend Mass regularly and mark the register at the end of the Mass.

Many thanks.

Fr. Anton

#### 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.

## The Parishes of St Agnes and St Aidan





# 6th December 2015 Second Sunday of Advent Year C

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.



## <u>Prayer Requests</u> For those who are sick or in special need of our Prayers

Vera Cummins, Philip Bromwell, Pauline Burgess, James Soundie, Mary Organ. Thomas Clegg, Daphne Flynn, Tony Clintworth, Aidan Morris, Maria Edge, Kay McNeill, Wendy Paveley, Elsie Blundell, Kitty Barnes, Maureen McGurk, Vera Murphy, Amy Adair, Sandra Rowley, Phil Ridler, Josie Campbell, Winnie Witter, Eddie Doran, Joseph Hill, Angela Fleetwood, George Gibbons, Rose Rawlinson, Marie Higgins, Jennifer Hewitt, Averyll Fairfield Logan, Carol Atkinson, Christine Lees, Susan McDougalle, Vera Jones Pat Madden, Philip Gallagher, Carl Atkinson, Ursula Erfani, Clare Pendleton, Marion James Taylor, Rose Sankey, Dolly Morten, Victoria Hill-Edmundson, Colette Wilson, Jennifer McLaughin, Wyn Graham, Josie Riley, Caelan McKeown, Michael McDonough, Margaret Flynn, Mary Davis, Aaron Carmichael, Triona Bromwell, Geraldine Kelly, Patrick McKeown, Jimmy Jones, Janet & Ray Cragg, Maisie Pritchard, Linda O'Keefe, Margaret Sergison, Nancy Evans, Margaret Murray, Geraldine, Sr. Ann, Collette Garlick, Anthony Winrow, Nick Gregory, Kathleen Hughes, Philip Malone, Anthony Wilson, Roisin & Padraig McRory, Jerome Mitchell, Mrs Lynch, Ann Gavin, Nathan Davies. Lawrence McClintock, Moya Fleetwood, Pauline Irvine, John Kennedy, Dorothy Ireland, Laura Mitchell ,Jim & Josephine Phillips, Sophie Bond, Colette Martin, Peter Kelly, Jennifer McKeown, Pat McGiveron, Christina Hill, Julie Bohanna, Jackie Anders, Philip Anders, Angela Smith, Alan McMahon, Graham Dawson, Eva Roberts, Baby Sonny, Nikki Hamner, Kathleen Wilson, Tony McCarthy, Kathleen Keenan Jane Blakemore

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**

Betty Purcell, Terence McMahon, Eileen Platt, Florence Wilson, Eleanor Mullady.

#### <u>Anniversaries</u>

Kay Vaughan, Mary Smith, George Williams, Anthony Hoey, Tom Sweeney, Maureen Renwick, Patrick & Mary McLindon, Mary Smith, George Williams, Harold Jones.

Sanctuary Lamps Week beginning – 6th December 2015

**St Agnes Sanctuary Lamp** – Parishioners of St.Agnes & St.Aidan

St Aidan's Sanctuary Lamp – Kay Vaughan

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.

### Parish Collections Sunday 29th November 2015

St Agnes - £726.68 St Aidan - £315.85

#### **October Standing Orders**

St Agnes £996.00 St Aidan £250.00 St. Agnes' team to count: Team 3

Combined Refugee Collection to date £781.03

Thank you for your generous support

#### Gift Aid Tax Refunds 2014-2015

Our parishes have received the following refunds from the revenue arising from the Gift Aid Scheme.

St Agnes £5,923.86 St Aidan £2,156.98

Many thanks to all those parishioners who gift aided their contributions and made these refunds possible.

If you wish to gift aid your contribution please contact the parish office.

## <u>'Healing Ourselves – Healing our World'</u>

As we approach Advent, Fr Richard will offer another series of CAPACITA wellness practices. They may help us to enter the Christmas season with less rush and greater peace.

Thursdays 7.30 -8.30pm in the Elizabeth Kelly room in St Agnes.

#### **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, you <u>must</u> contact the Parish Office on 489 3085 and you will be booked into a preparation meeting.

Welcome to the Parish family of St Aidan & St Agnes

Teddie Bate
Louie Joseph Gerrard
Joel Gerrard
Amber Sophia Morley
James William Frost
Frankie Evans White

Who will be baptised at St Agnes On Sunday 6th December

Please remember these children and their families in your prayers.

#### **ST AGNES MISSION BOXES**

Mission boxes are due to be emptied this month.

Thank you for all your support

#### PARISH OFFICE/PRESBYTERY

Main Parish Office:
St Aidan's
92 Adswood Road
L36 7XR

#### Office Hours

Monday 9.00am - 12.30pm

Tuesday 9.00am - 12.30pm

Wednesday 9.00am - 12.30pm

Thursday 9.00am - 12.30pm

Friday 9.00am - 4pm

#### All Enquiries to

Tel/Fax: 0151 489 3085

St Agnes Church 82 Huyton Hey Road L36 5SQ

For Mass Cards etc (Church no. 0151 449 2209) Also available from St Aidan's Church 0151 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.

New Parish Web Site
www.stagnes-staidan.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 - 0151 481 0968 Sr. Gabriel - 0151 489 1302 Sr. Louise - 0151 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

St Aidan Parish Club 0151 489 9024 St Agnes Parish Club 0151 489 3990

#### Pastoral Assistant:

Mrs. Christine Ball 07846 737 043 E-mail: christinewball@gmail.com

#### facebook

'Parishes of St Agnes and St Aidan'.

#### **Mass Intentions**

#### Saturday 5th December

St Agnes Mass 5.30pm - Maureen Funnell, Charlotte Birchall

#### Sunday 6th December - Second Sunday of Advent (C)

St Aidan Mass 9.30am - George & Katie Nicholls, Muriel Douglas St Agnes Mass 11.00 am - Tom Sweeney, Sue & John McCormack

#### Monday 7th December

St Agnes 9.30am - Celebration of the Word

## <u>Tuesday 8th December</u> <u>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</u>

St. Aidan Holy Hour 11-12 pm

St. Aidan Mass 7.30pm- Tony McParland

#### Wednesday 9th December

St Agnes Mass- 7.30pm - Special Intention (Irene & Jimmy's Grandson)

#### Thursday 10th December

No Mass

#### Friday 11th December

#### St Agnes Funeral Service 11.30—Terence McMahon

St Aidan Mass 12 noon - Cronin Family, Charlotte Birchall

#### Saturday 12th December

St Agnes Mass 5.30pm - Mario Jayatunga

#### Sunday 13th December - Third Sunday of Advent (C)

St Aidan Mass 9.30am- Agnes Bruder, Joe Murasi, Joan & Frank McCann, Joan Crowney St Agnes Mass 11.00 am - Tom Sweeney, Sue & John McCormack

St.Agnes 4 p.m—Advent Carols In The City- Welcome The Stranger

Confessions: Saturday at St. Agnes 5-5.20 pm & Friday after 12 Noon Mass at St Aidan's (Until there is nobody waiting)

Please contact the Parish office if you would like an anniversary added to the Prayer List in the Newsletter. Thank you.

#### A Welcome Word in the Wilderness

Each one of us could tell a story about the wilderness. I am not talking about the scenic overlook along the highway, the unspoiled beauty of nature, or that quiet, back to nature, weekend getaway from the hassles of life. No. Our stories would be ones of struggles, ups and downs, highs and lows, stories of being lost and overwhelmed, stories of stumbling, falling down, and wondering when, how, or even if we will get up again.

The wilderness of which I am speaking is not the geography around us but the landscape within us. This interior wilderness brings us to the limits of our own self-sufficiency; it leaves us feeling vulnerable and exposed, living on the edge. In the wilderness there are no distractions. There is no place to hide. In the wilderness we face the truth of who we are and what our life is like. Sometimes we go to the wilderness, other times it comes to us. Either way it is hard work which most of us would rather avoid. There is, however, no quick fix. There is no way out of or around the wilderness. The only way is through the wilderness. That's what John the Baptist knows and proclaims in today's gospel. Before him it was Isaiah crying out, "Prepare the way of the Lord." There's something about the wilderness. It's the place where our lives can be transformed, the place we are most open to changing and being changed.

Hidden within every wilderness is the beauty of divine presence. That's why every year at this time the season of Advent takes us not just to the wilderness but to *our* wilderness. It is our preparation for the coming of the Christ. God is always showing up, speaking, and acting in the wilderness places of our lives. That's our sacred story and it is the story of those who have gone before us. The word of God led the Israelites through the wilderness of bondage and slavery. The word of God raised Lazarus from the wilderness of death. The word of God fed the 5000 in the wilderness of hunger and emptiness.

The word of God and the wilderness always go together.

For every wilderness there comes the word of God. The word of God comes in our wilderness because we are loved. It is the divine presence that sustains us in and carries us through the wilderness. It is not the final word but the first word, the creative word, the word that calls us to examine our lives, to turn around, to change our way of being, to see the world, one another, and ourselves in a new way. It is the beginning of our preparing the way of the Lord. This is the repentance to which John the Baptist call us. Ultimately, it is the call to love and be loved.

Michael K. Marsh

#### **Going Forward**

This Advent, let us be aware of *our* wilderness and how it can prepare us for the coming of Christ.

#### **Advent: A Time of Waiting and Reflection**

We welcome you to an afternoon of prayer, reflection and music on **Sunday** 13 December 2015 at 4pm in St. Agnes Church.

An invitation has been made across the diocese for us to gather and reflect on the current refugee crisis. Our parish is honoured to be hosting this special service for the diocese. In a world that often feels hopeless, forgotten and frightening to so many, this is a good opportunity to gather together in prayer and to take some time to reflect on the meaning of Christmas and the coming of hope for the future, especially for those who have been uprooted and are fleeing from the horrors of war. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and join with us. Refreshments will be served after the service

#### **Missionaries Of Charity**

The sisters at Seel Street will be providing gifts for homeless men and the poor in Liverpool at Christmas. They would appreciate donations of gifts for men, e.g. socks, underwear and toiletries would be acceptable. Please leave at the back of Church, or hand them into the office.

They thank you all for your on-going generosity.

#### St. Aidan's & St. Agnes S.V.P

will hold their Christmas Party for our pensioners and housebound on Friday11th December at St. Aidan's Club between 12.00-4.00pm
If you are interested please hand your name to John Cliffe (St Aidan's) or Bob Singleton (St Agnes)
There will also be a list at the back of both churches

#### **Food Bank**

There has, for a long time, been a facility to donate to the food bank at St. Aidan's. We would like to extend this opportunity to St. Agnes' Parish. If you would like to donate non-perishable food items with a long shelf life, we will continue to ensure these are redistributed. We hope that as well as helping people in our local community this may become a resource we can use to help the refugees. Please start bringing these items to church where there will be a central collection point for them.