

**Sunday 17th December 2023**



**First Reading:**

Isaiah 61: 1-2.10-11

*I exult for joy in the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm**

**My Soul rejoices in my God**

**Second Reading:**

St Paul to the Thessalonians 5: 16-24

*May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

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

**Gospel:** John 1:6-8. 19-28

*There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.*

**NEW 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 07759 296 233

Honor Ambrose 0151 480 5608

**PARISH CLUB**

**St. Aidan:** 07932 404 521

'Parish of St. Agnes and St. Aidan'

**facebook**

# The Parish of St. Agnes and St. Aidan

*Christmas Vigil of the Nativity  
of the Lord 5.30 pm and 8.30 pm*

*Christmas Day Family Mass 10 am*



**Sunday 17th December  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Year B**

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday 16th December

Mass 5.30 pm - Bob Latham, Robert Swan, Sandra Nelson

### Sunday 17th December -Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Mass 9.30 am - Catherine Wood, Barry McArdle

Mass 11.00 am - Albert John Haynes, Marie Reilly



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

Holy Mass is live streamed every Sunday at 11am on youtube:

Search Youtube Stagnesstaidan

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

### Monday 18th December

9.30 am - Celebration of the Word and Communion

### Tuesday 19th December

Funeral Service 11.45 am - Joseph Michael Sutton

Funeral Service 2.15 pm - Mary Clarke

### Wednesday 20th December

Mass 7.30 pm - Tim Herritt, Peter Rittenberg

### Friday 22nd December - To be held in Sr Elizabeth's Room

Mass 12.00 pm - Teresa Hannah, LGBTQ+ Group

### Saturday 23rd December

Mass 5.30 pm - Margaret Markey, Joseph Fortune

### Sunday 24th December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass 9.30 am - Smith Family, Maureen Hamilton

Mass 11.00 am - Patrick & Maureen McLindon, Maurice O'Gorman



#### Confessions: Saturday 5pm - 5.20pm

(or by appointment during office hours)

## **Posada**

Our Posada journey has begun and our figures have spent their first week in the homes of parishioners across Huyton. Please continue to pray as we connect in this special way this Advent.

You can follow the figures' journey via Facebook and the display board at the beach if church.



## **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 07779328414.

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.

## **Christmas Mass Times St Agnes & St Aidan 2023**

### Saturday 23rd December

#### *4th Sunday of Advent*

5.30 pm

### Sunday 24th December

#### *4th Sunday of Advent*

9.30 am

11 am

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

5.30 pm

8.30 pm

### Monday 25th December

#### *Christmas Day Family Mass*

10 am

### Saturday 30th December

5.30 pm

### Sunday 31st December

9.30 am

11 am

### Monday 1st January 2024

#### *Solemnity of Mary Mother of God*

#### *Mass*

12 noon

### Wednesday 3rd January 2024

#### *Mass*

7.30 pm



## A Wider Vision

'We all live with certain categories that make sense to us. We use them to try to make sense of people, circumstances, life, relationships and our understanding of God. Categories by their nature involve definitions, limitations and expectations. There's nothing wrong with that until those categories begin to close us off, narrow our vision and impoverish our life. At some point they always do. We've probably all experienced times when we've thought or said something like "I'm just not sure what to make of this," "I can't figure him/her out." In those times our categories aren't working. The person or situation doesn't fit within our boxes and definitions.

John is one of those people. The wilderness is one of those situations. They are outside the usual categories of the religious authorities of Jesus' day. The priests and Levites are sent to get some answers. When they come to the wilderness and to John with their categories, expectations, definitions and limits, they expect John to fit. He doesn't. He won't allow that. With each negation John refuses to let himself be boxed in or categorised. The priests and the Levites just don't get it. Their categories have kept them from seeing and knowing the one who already stands among them.

Sometimes our categories do that to us. They keep us from recognising the one who stands among us. What if we let the failure of our categories expand our vision? When people, situations, or even God no longer fit the definitions and expectations of our categories maybe it's time to look again, to open ourselves and to consider that there might be something more in the person in front of us and in the situation we are experiencing.' [1] Then we will experience the joy which St Paul speaks of: "Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God." 'This joy proceeds from our surrendering to the Love inside us, a Love that is bigger than we are and by choosing to stay in Love we will pray always.' [2] Love knows no categories; love expands our vision and 'when we recognise the love of God in everything, we will be truly grateful.' [3]

*Adapted: [1] Michael Marsh [2] Richard Rohr [3] Thomas Merton*

## Missing Parishioners

As parishioners we need to be aware that if we don't see someone for a few weeks we should find out what has happened. Or it may be that you are unable to attend Church because you have been ill. In either case please contact the office as soon as possible and we will make arrangements for someone to keep in touch, if you so wish



## Prayer Requests

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

All names will be removed from the list in January. Please let us know if you wish the name to remain on the list.

Sue Adams, Nita Ambrose, Lynn Ashton, Ellie Beaton, Jane Blakemore, Triona Bromwell, Violet Chadwick, Janet Cragg, Ray Cragg, Nicholas Cragg, Celia Cunningham, Jackie Cureton, Susan Curran, Marie D'acy, Ted Davies, Despina, Annette Devine, Pauline Ellison, John Evans, George Finnigan, Patricia Fisher, Violet Fitzgerald, Gary Halliday, Victoria Hill, Barbara & Mike Holman, Jeanette Howard, Steve Hughes, John, Craig Johnstone, Brian Keoghan, Geraldine McLure, Marie McFarlane, Tony McIver, Alan McKeown, Susan McKeown, Thomas Mansfield, Peter Markey, Margaret, Millie Martin, Tim Merritt, John Mitchell, Frank Molloy, Rosie Morley, Jane Murney, Catherine Merrutia, Susan O'Brien, Kerry Patricia, Chrissie Pearson, Claire Pendleton, Margaret & John Quixley, Sr Bernadette Robinson, Maureen Robinson, Baby Rory, Marie Salkeld, Betty Savage, Joan Smith, Donna Sothern, Collette Stalford, Shirley Tasker, Tommy, Billy Turner, Mike Twigg, Vaclava Vilgosova, Frank Walsh, Pamela Watson, Ian Webster, Meryl & Tony Wernham, Amy Wilson, Brian Wilson, John Wilson, Jimmy Wolfe.

### Lately Deceased

Baby Olivia, Michael Davies, Teresa Hannah, Peter Rittenberg,

### Anniversaries

**Sanctuary Lamp week beginning 17th December** Those mentally and physical 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 quiet 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**

## Monthly Craft Group

Our next get together will be held in the Sr. Elizabeth Kelly Room.  
**TO BE ADVISED**

## Baptism

**Baptism Preparation meeting:**  
**First Monday of each month at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be on Monday 8th January (as first Monday is New Years Day)**

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.

### BAPTISM CERTIFICATES

Can be obtained from the Parish Office. 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

## Asylum Seekers/Refugees

We would like to invite everyone to dedicate each Wednesday to pray for refugees and asylum seekers, especially those loved and cared for by the SHARE



Knowsley team. There are prayer cards and candles available at the back of church; please take one home and join together each Wednesday in prayer.

## 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 17th 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'

## 10 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY 9-18th September 2024

- 2 nights in Benevento - half board
- 2 nights in San Giovanni Rotondo - full board
- 2 nights in Assisi - half board
- 3 nights in Rome - half board
- 20kg bags included
- Direct flight from Liverpool to Rome and return to Manchester



The price for two people sharing is £1,230 per person sharing with half board. Single Supplement £50 per person per night. Contact the parish office to reserve your place by paying £300 non refundable deposit. The deposit will need to be paid by 17th December

Fully guided with tours and visits

All travellers must have the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) replaced by Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC)  
<https://services.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/cra/start>

## Diving Renovation

(Zoom meeting)

Maintenance to Mission  
(Parish Renewal)

I would like to invite you all to a one hour zoom meeting with Mr. Jordan Kelly from Divine Renovation on Monday the 18th December from 3.30 pm to 4:30 pm in Sr. Elizabeth Kelly room.

All are welcome!

Fr. Anton

## KNOWSLEY YOUNG ADVENTURERS

To provide the young people in the community the chance to enjoy themselves with friends and develop important personal and independence skills by participating in team building and leadership challenges during adventurous activities that are given in an inclusive, safe and secure environment

We meet every Friday at:

St Agnes and St Aidan's Parish Church  
82 Huyton Hey Road, Huyton L36 5SQ

**Music Group: Tuesday 19th December at 7pm** in the Sr Elizabeth Kelly Community room. All are welcome. Previous experience not necessary.

**Community Prayer Circle Tuesday 9th January at 1-3pm.** A space to come together and pray for the needs of our parish and our local community. If you have a prayer intention, please complete a prayer slip (by St Martins or Our Lady statue) Tea and coffee served. Bring a packed lunch.



**'RACIAL JUSTICE and the CATHOLIC CHURCH' by Fr. Bryan Massingale**

The members of the parish CARJ (Catholic Association for Racial Justice) are reading the following book:

**RACIAL JUSTICE AND THE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

At the next meeting in January (date to be advised) we will be discussing the final chapters of the book.

## PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are currently selling raffle tickets and the draw will take place on Sunday 7th January  
Some of the prizes are:

Air Fryer  
Slow Cooker  
£30 voucher—all stores  
2 x £20 voucher—all stores  
£20 voucher — dining out  
And more