

ST. BERNARD'S PARISH BULLETIN



HAPPY NEW YEAR

1st January 2012

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

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THIS WEEK IN CHURCH

Sunday	1 st January New Year's Day	Solemnity of Mary Mother of God	10.00am 6.00pm	Feast Day Mass Feast Day Mass
Monday	2 nd January	St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen bishops and doctors of the Church	12 noon	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	3 rd January	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	6-7.00pm 7.00pm	Exposition and confessions Mass
Wednesday	4 th January	Christmas Weekday	9.00am	
Thursday	5 th January	Christmas Weekday	9.00am	
Friday	6 th January	Christmas Weekday	9.00am	
Saturday	7 th January	Mass of Our Lady in Christmas time	11-12 noon 12 noon	Exposition and confessions Mass
Sunday	8 th January	The Epiphany of the Lord	10.00am 6.00pm	

Holy Father's Intentions for January:

- That the victims of natural disasters may receive the spiritual and material comfort they need to rebuild their lives.
- That the dedication of Christians to peace may bear witness to the name of Christ before all men and women of good will.

MY dear people it is good to start the New Year off under the sure protection of our Blessed Lady, we could not want for a more steadfast friend than Mary.

Did you know that the oldest title given to our Lady and the most important is the one that we celebrate today, Mary, Mother of God? So much is caught up in this phrase, from the simplicity of Mary as a woman: as vessel of honour; as faithful one; as the woman who waited; as the woman who pondered; as the one who helped bring about the Incarnation. She is indeed the treasured one, and especially by her Son, who generously gives her to be our Mother also. There are those who cannot see the value of our devotion to Mary, yet for us her presence in the life of the Church is another sign of God's love and compassion for his people. She becomes a source of blessing for us, and her life and all the devotions we have in her honour call us to love and serve her Son all the more. As the Lourdes motto so beautifully puts it, "through Mary to Jesus": and lets face it what Mother would not want to promote her own child, what mother who knows the joys of heaven and has seen the pains of hell would not want to call and remind her Son's people of the beauty of Jesus' presence in their lives? So it is fitting to ask her special friendship at the beginning of the New Year, more so because we too can call her mother, and she faithful and true will present our cause before the Lord. Bishop Roche of Leeds ends his New Year Pastoral letter with this prayer which I commend to you: "Heavenly Father, source of light in every age, the Blessed Virgin conceived and bore your Son who is called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace. May her prayers, the gift of a mother's love, be your people's joy in every age. May her response born of a humble heart, draw your Spirit to rest on your people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen"

I wish you and yours a very happy New Year, may you be fulfilled, blessed and know love each and ever day. God Bless mjk

White Flower: next Sunday a retiring collection will be taken to help the work of SPUC, which works for the protection of unborn children. Please be generous.

Thanks.

Masses received this week: special Int for Family, Hudson-Davies fam, Bream fam, Hughes fam, Doohan/Byrne fam, Hilda O'Donnell, Margaret & George Leech, George Leech jnr, Susan Cummings, Kath Walsh, Patricia Turner, Frank Horrocks.

Sick: please commend to your prayers the sick and housebound of the Parish especially, Alan O'Donnell, Fr. Vincent Cavey, Peter Burton, Tullio Biasetti, Lannis Agnew, Christopher Makin, Clare Keane.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Fr Michael will be continuing Christmas visits this week to the sick any minister who could accompany him would be welcome.

Journey in faith: if you are interested in becoming a Catholic or knowing more about our faith we will recommence our sessions in the New Year, watch the news letter for details, we are planning to start at the end of January.

The Sacrament of Baptism: if you have a child for baptism, please let us know ASAP, so we can make the usual arrangements, the next Baptism Sunday will be 29th January. Thanks.

URGENT; Getting married next year? Now is the time to contact Fr. Michael to make arrangements: please ring for an appointment. **Please note** the Deanery preparation course which is obligatory begins on 29th January. Please pick up application forms from Fr. Michael after Mass. Thanks

TODAY

CAFOD: This first Sunday of the year is a very good day to share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in need and the **CAFOD** box is out in support of our **Ethiopian Project** and another St. Bernard tradition continues**CAFOD** will be happy to receive your surplus Christmas presents for our next event there will be a box in the porch for the next few weeks. Many Thanks.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

- ♦ **YOUNG AT HEART** - restarts 9 January Parish Hall - Mondays - 1.00pm to 3.00pm
- ♦ **LEGION OF MARY** - Parish Hall - Tuesdays - 7.45pm
- ♦ **DIVINE MERCY** - Sacristy - Thursdays - 7.30pm (taking a break till the New Year)

OTHER NOTICES

APF and Mill Hill Missions (red Boxes): collectors books and calendars are in the Parish Hall.

Diocese of Salford Almanacs now on sale £3.

Fancy a Chuckle? Police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, and the other was eating fireworks. They charged one - and let the other one off.

-Two aerals meet on a roof - fall in love - get married. The ceremony was rubbish - but the reception was brilliant.

-Another one was: Doc, I can't stop singing the 'Green Green Grass of Home'. He said: 'That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome'. 'Is it common?' I asked. 'It's not unusual' he replied.

-I'm on a whiskey diet. I've lost three days already.

-A man walks into a bar with a roll of tarmac under his arm and says: "Pint please, and one for the road."

MINISTRY OF THE WORD MASS READERS FOR JANUARY					
	Reader 1	Reader 2	Prayers		
10.00am	Tony Black	Trevor Richards	Audrey Stedford		
6.00pm	Shelagh Bridge	Andrew Smith	Tony Addyman		
If you unavailable anytime, please arrange a stand-in or contact Tony Black 445 1788					
PARISH MINISTRIES GROUPS					
		Offertory	Eucharistic Ministers Sunday 10.00am	Counting	Tea /Coffee
This week	1 st January	7	Group 2	2	1
Next week	8 th January	8	3	3	2
		Eucharistic Ministers Sunday 6.00pm	Eucharistic Ministers Weekdays	Cleaning	Eucharistic Ministers Tuesday 7.00pm
This week	1 st January	1a	1	4	4
Next week	8 th January	2a	2	1	5
Signed Mass Cards can be obtained from Bridie Close, 44 Shawbrook Rd, during the week or on Sundays from the Bookstall (back of Church) or the Piety Stall (Parish Hall). Items for the Bulletin can be left at the Presbytery or emailed to anniteresa@hotmail.com by Thursday for inclusion the following Sunday.					

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

Manchester Royal Infirmary - Fr. D. Egan tel: 276 4247 (MRI) and 224 1895 (home).

The Christie - Fr. M. O'Brien - tel: 446 3097

Wythenshawe Hospital - Fr K. Brigham and Sr Bernadette - tel: 291 2297

Alternatively ask the ward staff to inform the Chaplain.