



# NEWSLETTER

## ST STEPHEN'S

COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF: WINWICK,  
LONGFORD, ORFORD, HOUGHTON GREEN,  
CINNAMON BROW, FEARNHEAD, POULTON,  
RISLEY AND BIRCHWOOD.

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL  
Registered Charity No. 1199714

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
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**St Bridget &  
St Oliver  
Plunkett  
Pray for us**



### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (B) GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2024

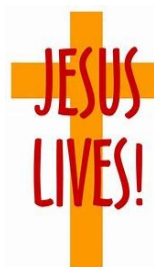
<b>Saturday</b> 20 April	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> <b>5.30pm Mass:</b> John Joe Tighe
<b>Sunday</b> 21 April	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<b>10.45am Mass:</b> Malcolm Fox / Parishioners <i>After Mass: Coffee/Tea/Refreshments</i>
<b>Tues 23 Apr</b>	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<b>9am Mass:</b> Helen Swift
<b>Wed 24 Apr</b>	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<b>10am Mass:</b> Hans Aich <i>Followed by Coffee/Tea/Toast</i>
<b>Thu 25 Apr</b>	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<b>9am Mass:</b> Fr James Preston & David Preston
<b>Fri 26 Apr</b>	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<b>12noon Deanery Concelebrated Mass</b> <i>Int: Catherine Mowatt</i>

### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (B) 28 APRIL 2024

<b>Saturday</b> 27 April	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> <b>5.30pm Mass:</b> Helen McSawley / Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b> 28 April	<b>St Stephen's</b>	<b>10.45am Mass:</b> Rose McLoughlin <i>After Mass: Coffee/Tea/Refreshments</i>

### Feasts & Celebrations This Week...

22 April:	Optional:	St Theodore of Sykeon (Bishop)
23 April:	Feast:	St George (Martyr & Patron of England)
24 April:	Optional:	St Adalbert (Bishop & Martyr)
	Optional:	St Fidelis (Priest & Martyr)
25 April:	Feast:	St Mark (Evangelist)
27 April:	Feast:	(Isle of Man) St Maughold (Bishop)



### PARISH FUNDRAISING when you shop on-line

Access over 3,600 shops  
[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)  
and St Stephen's will  
receive donations

#### How to get started:

Log-on to  
[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

Then type '**Parish  
Development Fund  
St Stephens**'  
in the search box  
and click.

Then follow the  
instructions for set up -  
name/email/password  
and click.

Then access your chosen  
shops and the parish will  
receive donations.

Don't forget recommend  
this to others!

### TEXT GIVING

Text **STSTEPHEN** to  
**70085** to donate **£2**  
**70450** to donate **£3**  
**70460** to donate **£5**  
**70470** to donate **£10**

*"A word  
or a smile is  
often enough  
to put new life  
in a disheartened  
soul."*

St. Thérèse de Lisieux

*From Fr John's desk...*

Good Shepherd Sunday each year is the day on which we pray particularly for priestly vocations. Praying that the Church will have pastors in the image of Christ the good shepherd. We must always remember that our baptismal priesthood and those who are called later to ministerial priesthood all share in the one priesthood of Jesus Christ. That is why we must all conform our lives to his. This year we have a message from our Liverpool Archdiocesan Director of Vocations: Fr Ron Johnson.

“Our synodal journey reinforced our commitment to becoming a Church that values the vocation of all the baptised, but on the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide, we are reminded of the importance of praying in a special way for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This Good Shepherd Sunday we have much to celebrate because this academic year is a significant one for vocations to the priesthood within our Archdiocese. God willing, by the end of July five men will have been ordained to the priesthood for our Archdiocese.

Fr Hugh Donleavy was ordained to the priesthood on 1 December at St Alban's Church in Warrington and plans are underway for the ordination of Deacons James Finnegan and Martin Fyles (from the Venerable English College, Rome), Peter Ross (from St Mary's College, Oscott) and Lister Tonge, (a former Anglican Minister). If all goes well, they will be ordained together in the Cathedral on 13 July.

There are currently three other men in formation for our Archdiocese in the Beda College, Rome and Allen Hall, London and two candidates currently involved in the process of applying to begin seminary in September. Usually, on the first Saturday of each month a group of men gather together to reflect on the priesthood and to discern whether this is God's calling for them. The road to the priesthood is a long one and these men need your continued prayer and the support you give to the Priest Training Fund collection that takes place today.

There is no one type of man that God is calling and our seminarians and discerners come from different backgrounds, have had a wide range of life experiences and cover a range of ages. Perhaps God is calling you!

If you think God might be calling you to serve as a priest within our Archdiocese and are ready to explore this further and perhaps meet other men who are thinking about their vocation, please contact me Fr Ron Johnson (Vocations' Director): St Charles' Presbytery, 224 Aigburth Rd, Aigburth, Liverpool. L17 9PG. Tel: 0151 727 2493 or email [vocations@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcaol.org.uk)

### MARRIAGE BANNS 2024

Friday 24 May - the Marriage of *Janis Pustlis* and *Ivana Ficova* at St Stephen's Church.

Saturday 15 June - the Marriage of *Norbert Gajos* and *Justyna Sloma* at the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.  
(*Januszewice, Diocese of Kielecka, Poland*)

If anyone know of any reason why the above named couples should not be joined in holy matrimony please would they inform me as soon as possible. Thank you - Fr John

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please remember in prayer:



Anne Bland, Cecilia Taylor, Rosemary Rylance, Shirley Byrne, Teresa Grainger, Norman Turner, Barrie Cooper.

### Mary's Meals

For info contact

[www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)



*St Stephen's Church Foyer*

**SATURDAY**

**11 May at 7.30pm**  
(and every 2nd Saturday of the month!)

### LADIES GUILD

**30 April 2024**

**7.30pm**



**St Stephen's Church Foyer**

A warm welcome to the ladies of St Bridget's and St Stephen's and neighbouring parishes.

### *Pray Through Singing*

**Monday**

**13 May 2024 at 7pm**  
**St Stephen's Church Foyer/  
De Paul Room**



For info. call Sandra on 811230

### ST OLIVER'S TOTE 2024

**13th April**

**2 + 7—No winner**

**Rollover £124**



### PARISH BONUS BALL 2024

**17th April**

**Anne Dearden**

**Wins £25**

