

# OUR LADY & ST. JOHN R.C. CHURCH



## News from the Parish of Our Lady & St. John



In this Summer Term issue we have plenty of news from the Parish and community.

We say a fond farewell to Fr Terry at the end of August and we wish him health and happiness in his retirement. Please come to visit us Fr Terry - there's a coffee morning every Thursday! There will be a celebration Mass for Fr Terry on Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11.15am.

There is more news from some of our parish groups; details of a charity climb up Kilimanjaro; Sea Sunday Mass in July and much more besides.

Enjoy the summer!

I Margaret Sama came from Cameroon to visit my daughter, son-in-law and my grandchildren Lydia, Emmanuel, Kelly, Emma and Sidi.

I have been in this parish for a year and left on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May to return home.

I love the parish priest Father Terry and all the parish, especially my friends in our Prayer Group; Barbara, Margaret, Simone, Marie-Therese, Joan etc. I love you all.

My stay here has been wonderful. Thank you for all the concern for me and my family. Thank you for the beautiful card.

Love you all.

Margaret



## Over 55's Afternoon Tea



This friendly group goes from strength to strength, meeting on the last Tuesday afternoon of each month for traditional afternoon tea with homemade cakes and scones.

Meetings are at 2.00pm in the meeting room.

Do come and join us.

### Upcoming Dates:

June 2014: **No Afternoon Tea**

July 2014: **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July**

August 2014: **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August**



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## Thursday Coffee Mornings

Our meeting room offers a friendly environment where you can just drop in any Thursday between 9.30 and 11.30am. Come along with a friend, or call in and meet up with other parishioners to enjoy tea or coffee with biscuits.



## Stitch Craft Group

It has been a busy time for the Stitchcraft Group, a small mountain of premature baby hats have been knitted and sent to a local hospital and members have also completed a wide variety of baby blankets and other baby items, while other members have chosen to knit cardigans and waistcoats for themselves.

As well as all this knitting and nattering that has been going on we also have a plethora of sampler quilts under construction which we hope to complete by the end of summer.

The group is very varied, if you enjoy any of the above or can bring to the group other stitch craft projects do come and join us, we meet each Tuesday morning 10am to 12.30.



**Congratulations and Happy Birthday  
to Charlotte  
on her 21st Birthday from all members of the Stitchcraft Group.**



## Women's World Day of Prayer

This year the service was in the Methodist Church in Heswall on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March. It was prepared by the women of Egypt and we were urged to pray especially for peace, which seemed highly appropriate. Several ladies from our parish attended and some took part in the readings. We found it meaningful and moving. The thought did occur to us when we were urged to value every drop of water that fell from the sky, that perhaps the women of Somerset and other parts of the UK might find that a little difficult! However, it was good to feel part of a universal act of worship; it gave us a great feeling of inclusion and solidarity.

*By Susan McNulty*

For more information please see the website [www.worlddayofprayer.net](http://www.worlddayofprayer.net)

# The Welcome Ministry & the Meeting Room Steering Group

*by Sheila Smears*

Some six years ago Father Terry asked if I would be willing to take on the welcome ministry and I answered: 'Yes, of course.'

I'd been handing out the parish newsletter intermittently at the 11.15 Sunday Masses for some time, and assumed Father wanted me to arrange for others to become involved.

I was mistaken, for a week later Father Terry handed me a document entitled *Parish Welcome Ministry* where I discovered my role was to be considerably more challenging. The *Welcome Ministry* presented a picture of an ideal parish community. It asked how our parish was working as a community and what more could we be doing to bring a greater sense of belonging.

So I asked a number of parishioners to join me at a one-off meeting with Father Terry, to look at some of the questions raised in the Welcome Ministry document. The meeting went well. We became enthused by the possibilities presented, shared our ideas, made notes - and agreed to meet in a month to pool our thoughts.

And so the Parish Welcome Ministry Group\* came into being, and we continued to meet with Father Terry each month for the following three years.

With Father's encouragement, I spoke from the pulpit at the end of Sunday Mass, telling about the Ministry document, the Welcome Group, and invited parishioners to contribute their ideas for developing our parish community through a Suggestion Box placed in the porch.

We began by serving cold drinks after the 11.15 Mass. Shortly afterwards, Father Terry arranged for a hot water geyser to be installed in the upper sacristy so we could also serve tea and coffee.

Other initiatives, both spiritual and social, soon followed. (Sadly, my notes from this period were shredded and recycled when we moved house last year, so this account is not as comprehensive as it could have been.)

However, those initiatives I can recall include: parishioners greeting and handing out newsletters at the week-end Masses; children speaking from the alter about their liturgy classes; the launch of our parish website; the parish library and children's soft toys in the porch; the improved loop system for hard of hearing; welcome cards for new parishioners placed in the porch; lighting around the church made more effective; refreshments served at both Sunday masses, and the newsletter restyled to allow for more parish information.

On the social side, we enjoyed parish garden parties at the U.R.C., Ceilidh dances in Alexander Hall, concerts at The Church of the Good Shepherd, Cheese and Wine Evenings for parish groups and other sociable events.

At one of the Welcome Ministry meetings we raised a request that had so often been made in the past about our parish having its own meeting room. The group explored and researched the possibilities, and Father Terry agreed that our parish could take the idea forward. This was in the latter part of our third year of meetings. Our parish had grown as a community, and the Welcome Group was ready to disband. Now there were new plans to consider.

Several members of the Welcome Group volunteered to become involved in a meeting room group while continuing to promote parish community events. Under guidance from Father Terry, parishioners with the relevant expertise were invited to join the new Parish Steering Group.\*\*

Over many meetings the steering group worked on plans, adaptations, costings and all that goes with such a project, until the final plans were passed and our meeting room became a real possibility.

The first task then was the raising of sufficient funds for the meeting room to be built. Pledges, fund raising events, donations, a collection box in the porch, all made contributions to the meeting room building fund.

Chairman of the steering group, Bernard Larkin, spoke regularly from the pulpit about how our fund raising was progressing. Architect Nick Belderbos displayed and explained the meeting room's plans.

And finally, our parish meeting room was built. The celebration of Father Terry's Golden Jubilee shortly after its official opening was such a memorable beginning to the meeting room's involvement in our parish life. Now the room is being used by parish groups and others in the community: an asset in so many ways.

Our steering group continues to meet each month, to oversee maintenance of the meeting room and foster ways of further enhancing our parish community.

**Welcome Ministry \***

Father Terry, Sheila Smears (Chair), Nick Belderbos, Mike Burns, Mark Goulding, Dennis Hannon, Jean Hannon, Joan Larkin, Mary Latimer, Dan Miller, Pat Miserotti, Paul Sherrad, Peter Smears

**Meeting Room Steering Committee \*\***

Father Terry, Bernard Larkin (Chair), Anne Rowlands (Secretary), Nick Belderbos, Bernie Hailwood, Victoria Hanlon, Dennis Hannon, Roger Wastnedge, Christine McAlister, Pat Miserotti, John Quinn, Sheila Smears.

# Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

## Baptisms



Oscar George Price	9 <sup>th</sup> February
Edward Anthony Miller	9 <sup>th</sup> March
Millicent Grace Westgarth	9 <sup>th</sup> March
Alicia Katie McGinty	16 <sup>th</sup> March
Leo George Cookson	27 <sup>th</sup> March
Felicity Rose Merrick	27 <sup>th</sup> March
Penelope Davies	22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Logan James Healy-Fergusson	25 <sup>th</sup> May
Lily Mae Louise Gatti	1 <sup>st</sup> June
Jacob David Gatti	1 <sup>st</sup> June

## Weddings

8<sup>th</sup> March

Michael Garton & Leanne Kelly

3<sup>rd</sup> May

Thomas Johnson & Felicity Stewart

17<sup>th</sup> May

Anthony Cassar-Simmonds & Samantha Benjamin



## Funerals

Margaret Scott - 8<sup>th</sup> January

Anne Richie - 17<sup>th</sup> January

Diane Rowlands - 7<sup>th</sup> April

Olga Steen - 23<sup>rd</sup> April

Paul Rooney - 24<sup>th</sup> April

Gerry Pratt - 22<sup>nd</sup> May



## Sally Clarke's Charity Climb of Mount Kilimanjaro



Parishioner Sally Clarke is undertaking a sponsored climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania this September.



Mount Kilimanjaro, at 5,895 metres, is the highest mountain in Africa. The challenge involves 7 days of walking and climbing and sleeping in a tent. Sally has committed to raising £2,500 for the charity CLEFT which helps children born with cleft palate by funding research into improving operating techniques and sending support teams to the developing world to help support and improve surgery and facilities.



Sally and her mum and friends from the parish are organising a fundraising evening on Friday 27 June 2014. Fr Terry has kindly agreed to the use of the church hall for a supper (2 course hot meal with wine) and quiz. Tickets at £15 each will be available in June.

If you are unable to attend the event but would like to support Sally in her challenge, you can find details on [www.justgiving.com/Sally-Clarke-Kilimanjaro2014](http://www.justgiving.com/Sally-Clarke-Kilimanjaro2014)



## Sea Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July @ 6:30pm



As an island nation we rely upon shops and seafarers to provide us with 90% of everything we use in our daily lives. Even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century life at sea is still a hazardous occupation, many lives are lost world wide but only the major incidents involving pollution are ever reported. Many seafarers are poorly paid and live in condition that would not be tolerated in a jail! They also have to endure long periods not just separated from family and loved ones but are unable to make contact with them- something unknown to those who live ashore.

Sea Sunday is held in July each year to support the charities helping seafarers. This year the Liverpool Seafarers Centre, a joint venture between the Apostleship of the Sea and the Mersey Mission to Seafarers will celebrate Sea Sunday at an Ecumenical service to be held at our Parish on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 6:30pm. Please can you show your support for all those seafarers you will never meet but who are responsible for bringing all the things you take for granted. Refreshments will be served in the Meeting Room after the service.



For more information contact

Geoff Rafferty on 342-5402 or [geoffandite@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffandite@btinternet.com)

Or please visit the website [www.liverpoolseafarerscentre.org](http://www.liverpoolseafarerscentre.org)



**Have you made your Will yet? Or are you putting it off to a more suitable time? Did you know that about 60% of the adult population have yet to make their Will?**

### *Why is this important?*

- 1) Firstly, because you can look after your dependants; your wife, children and grandchildren.
- 2) Secondly, because you decide who benefits from your estate after you die, not the state.  
Decide now who would look after your children if something happened to both of you.

If you are not married your partner will not automatically inherit anything from your estate when you die. Plan your estate to minimise or reduce any inheritance tax and protect your legacy for future generations. Finally achieve peace of mind knowing that you have put into place all of these arrangements. Do you wish to stay one of the 60%? Now is a suitable time to make your Will, or review an existing one. Don't leave it till it's too late.

Contact Border Wills, your local Will Writer for a professional, friendly and bespoke service.

Phone 0151 559 0695, email [roger@borderwills.co.uk](mailto:roger@borderwills.co.uk) or visit [www.borderwills.co.uk](http://www.borderwills.co.uk)

# Little Actors Theatre Company



**Drama, dance &  
singing classes  
0151 336 4302**

Parishioner Samantha Giblin runs Registered Charity Little Actors Theatre Company. Little Actors has an access for all policy offering drama, singing and dance for children (and adults). As a result of this policy we offer discounts, so people from all backgrounds can access the classes



Currently on offer we have:

- Theatre Club Neston – Saturday 10.15am-12.15pm (5-11 yrs) - Neston Community & Youth Centre
- Drama Tots - Saturday 9.30-10.10am (2½ - 4 yrs plus parents/carers) -Neston Community & Youth Centre
- Adult dance - Wednesday 7pm - Dee Sea Scout Hut
- Adult Tap - Thursday 1.30pm - Dee Sea Scout Hut

Theatre Club Neston has just performed a new play called 'Shakespeare's Dream' as part of the Leverhulme Drama Festival at the Gladstone Theatre. The children did so well and hopefully in the next edition we can announce our scores.



## **Forthcoming events:**

LATC is hoping to run a fourth Summer Performing Arts Course in Neston for ages 5-11 years. 4th-8th August. 10am-3pm each day. Costs are to be confirmed as they will be set depending on the level of funding secured for the discounts to be offered. All classes are led by professionally trained actors who have current Enhanced DBS checks and are members of British Actors Equity.

Little Actors and Samantha also support the not-for-profit InterACT Youth Theatre. They have just performed a new play called 'The Wardrobe' at The Lowry as part of the National Theatre's Connections. The NT commissions playwrights to write new plays for young people to perform. Young parishioners Joshua and Jonathan Stevens performed in all of the recent shows and really enjoyed the experience.

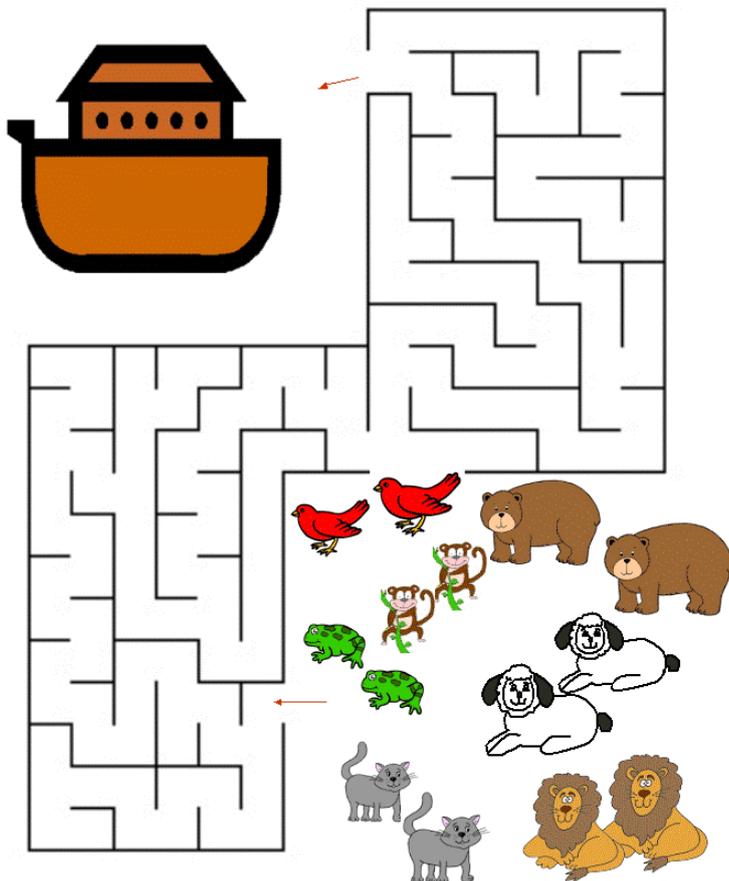
For details contact Samantha

0151 336 4302 or  
[mail@littleactorstheatre.com](mailto:mail@littleactorstheatre.com)

# Children's Corner

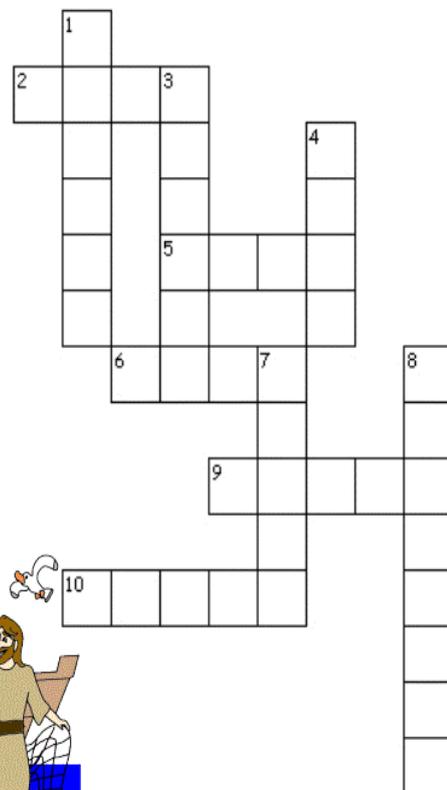
## Noah's Ark Maze

Help the animals find the ark.



Children's Liturgy is open to all children attending 11:15 am Mass. We meet in our meeting room at 11.15 Mass during term time. We then divide into two groups, under 8 years and over 8 years.

## Twelve Disciples Crossword



Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

### Prodigal Son Anagram



- adgilopr \_\_\_\_\_
- aefhrt \_\_\_\_\_
- aceehinnrt \_\_\_\_\_
- afilmy \_\_\_\_\_
- ghnruiy \_\_\_\_\_
- gips \_\_\_\_\_
- ehmo \_\_\_\_\_
- abceeeIrt \_\_\_\_\_
- eefginorssv \_\_\_\_\_
- dfnou \_\_\_\_\_



#### Across

2. Jesus sometimes taught from inside this.
5. The disciples \_\_\_\_ everything and followed Jesus.
6. Jesus gave the disciples authority to drive out evil spirits and \_\_\_\_ every disease.
9. John's brothers' name.
10. From this disciple's boat Jesus taught and performed a miracle with fish.

#### Down

1. Jesus said, "\_\_\_\_ me and I will make you fishers of men".
3. This is the number of disciples Jesus chose.
4. Jesus told the disciples to let down their \_\_\_\_ and suddenly were able to catch fish.
7. We can be Jesus' disciples by trying to \_\_\_\_ all we can about Him.
8. The name for follower of Jesus Christ.

## Parish Diary Dates June/July/August 2014

- **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June** First Communion at 10am
- **Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> June** Confirmation at St Winefride's, Neston at 7pm
- **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** Father Terry's Retirement Celebration Mass, 11:15am mass
- **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July** Catenian Mass for the Birkenhead Circle at 11:15am mass
- **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July** Sea Sunday at 6:30pm
- **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July** Over 55's Afternoon Tea

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## Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund

Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund hosts a completely free week-long summer camp each August for up to 30 boys aged 9-15 years, from North West England, who have physical disabilities.

The charity also provides financial assistance to the families of children with disabilities and other disabled groups for whom our camp is not suitable. Please visit the website for more information

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

Please come and support the Annual Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June, at the United Reformed Church in Heswall (near Tesco) between 10 am and 12 pm. Home-made Cakes, Bottle Stall, Raffle, Plants, and White Elephant - new or nearly new items gratefully received. Please support this Heswall charity - disabled children across the Wirral rely on the charity for a week's annual break at the Barnston Dale

## About Your Termly Newsletter

Our newsletter is published once a term and is filled with articles and advertisements that we believe are appropriate to our Parishioners.

However, this is your newsletter!

If you would like to see something in this newsletter, then don't hesitate to get in contact with us at our email address [contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)

Or you can leave an article in the blue box at the back of Church.

Also if you have a special birthday, anniversary or announcement, we'd love to hear from you.

## Meeting Room Timetable

Monday	5pm - 6pm 7.15pm - 8.45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Heswall Rainbows Yoga for All
Tuesday	10am - 12.30pm 2pm - 4pm	Stitch Craft Group Afternoon Tea - last Tuesday of the month
Wednesday	8pm - 9pm	SVP
Thursday	10am - 12pm	Coffee Morning
Friday	10.30am - 1pm	Songbirds

If you are interested in joining any of the groups/activities or you would like to start a new group, please drop us a line at [contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk) or phone 07563 378727 for more details.



Also, if you would like to hire out the meeting room for a meeting or social event, please either email [contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk) or phone 07563 378727 for availability and prices.

## Church Timetable

Monday	8.45 am	Morning Prayers
	9.00 am	Mass
	9.20 am	Rosary
	9.20 am	<i>Confessions - see Fr Terry</i>
Tuesday	7.00 pm	Mass
Wednesday	8.45 am	Morning Prayers
	9.00 am	Mass
	9.20 am	Rosary
	9.20 am	<i>Confessions - see Fr Terry</i>
	9.30am - 8.30pm	Perpetual Adoration
	8.00 - 9.00 pm	S.V.P
Thursday	8.45 am	Morning Prayers
	9.00 am	Mass
	9.20 am	Rosary
	9.20 am	<i>Confessions - see Fr Terry</i>
Friday	8.45 am	Morning Prayers
	9.00 am	Mass
	9.20 am	Rosary
	9.20 am	<i>Confessions - see Fr Terry</i>
Saturday	10.00 am	Mass
	11.30 am - 12 noon	Confessions
	6.00 pm - 7.00 pm	First Holy Communion preparation
	7.00 pm	First Mass of Sunday
Sunday	8.30 am	Mass
	11.15 am	Mass with Choir and Children's Liturgy

Please observe the parking restrictions in Boundary Lane. Even if you are permitted to park there, please do not park opposite our neighbours' driveways.

1 Boundary Lane, Heswall, Wirral, CH60 5RP

0151 342 6581

Email: [contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)