

News from the Parishes of Holy Family, Pensby and Our Lady & St. John, Heswall

John's Gospel greets us in the waning darkness of the night as morning approaches. Mary of Magdala notices that the tomb is empty and announces to Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, that "they have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him." Peter and this disciple run to the tomb. When the Beloved Disciple arrives first, he steps aside and lets Peter enter and they see the burial wrappings. They see and they believe.

Mary and the Beloved Disciple reach the tomb first. In John love is the prime Christian virtue and the key to ultimate recognition of Jesus. Unlike Lazarus, who comes forth from the tomb clad in the burial cloths, Jesus' burial cloths are left behind. Christian faith is not belief in the resuscitation of the corpse but hope in a totally new kind of life. True resurrection faith does not arise from seeing and believing in an empty tomb but from meeting God in the scriptures. When Jesus tells Mary, "Do not cling to me," he is saying that even though the earthly relationship is over, he will be with his loved ones in a totally new way.



Jesus Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.

We have journeyed through Lent and Holy Week together, may Deacon Jeff and I wish you a happy and blessed Eastertide.

Father Stephen

Holy Week Children's Liturgy: There will be a special Children's Liturgy at OLSJ during 3pm Mass on Good Friday. We will be doing lots of activities to explore the Easter story and make it meaningful for the children.

IMPORTANT Please Take Note that no children should be left unattended in the children's area at the back of OLSJ church during or after Mass. This area is not supervised and all children playing there should be accompanied by an adult at all times.

The OLSJ Stitchcraft Group will not be meeting on **Tuesday April 3rd**. We will resume again on **Tuesday April 10th** new members always welcome.

Lenten Reflections at OLSJ: Please note that there will be **NO Discussion Group on Tuesday 3rd April** for 1 week only. We will recommence our reflections and discussion on *Rediscover Jesus* on the following **Tuesday 10th April**. We will also be introducing a new book '*The 7 Secrets of Confession*'. Everyone welcome.



**Wednesday 9:30am-8:30pm at OLSJ
&
Saturday after 12 noon Mass at Holy Family**

We would like to thank God for the great Grace He has given us, that we have had Eucharistic Adoration in our Parish since February 2013.

We would also like to thank the people of Holy Family and Our Lady & St. John's parishes who have been so faithful to their Hour and for the many graces and blessings we have received.

We would not have been able to do this without the help of those on our reserve list who have covered for holidays, doctors' appointments etc.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?

Please come and share with us this great opportunity.

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Susan Hickson, Eileen Adams and Kathy Margerison** who have died recently.

- **Susan Hickson's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Thursday 5th April at 9am** at Our Lady and St John.
- **Eileen Adam's** Funeral Service takes place on **Thursday 5th April at 1:30pm** at Landican.
- **Kathy Margerison's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Monday 16th April at 12 noon** at Our lady and St John.

May their souls Rest in Peace. Please remember to pray for their families at this difficult time.

Red Mission Boxes

Holy Family: Would all box holders in Holy Family Parish Church bring them to church for emptying/counting. Boxes can be handed to Mary/John Wrigley or left in the sacristy. Donations also gratefully accepted.

OLSJ: It is once again time for a collection. Would any OLSJ Red Box Holders please leave them in the sacristy over the next two weeks? Thank you, they will be returned with magazines in the normal way.

Gift Aid: The end of the tax year is drawing ever closer. If you Gift Aid your offertory donation it is important that you check you are paying sufficient tax to cover the amount we will reclaim under Gift Aid. If you are no longer paying tax or not enough tax to cover the claim you should contact us urgently:

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| Holy Family: | Fred Taylor | 342 5922 |
| OLSJ: | Bernard Larkin | 342 5517 |

Planned Giving - New Envelopes (Holy Family):

The boxes for next year's envelopes will be available at the back of church from Sunday 25th March onwards. Please take your box as soon as you can and pass on theirs to your friend or neighbour. The boxes are arranged in alphabetical order and there are a few spare boxes for those who wish to join the scheme. The first Sunday to use the new envelopes will be **Sunday 8th April**. Please contact Fred Taylor at 342-5922 if you are a taxpayer and have any questions about Gift Aid or any other questions about the scheme of planned giving.

In preparation for the Eucharistic Congress, Holy Apostles' and Martyrs', Wallasey will be hosting a series of talks entitled "The Eucharist and...". The talks are not intended to be catechesis so much as an attempt to enrich our appreciation of the connection between the Eucharist and our world and our lives outside the doors of the Church. Four dates and speakers have been confirmed as follows:

- **Sunday 15th April 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and prayer" by Bishop Brian Noble;
- **Sunday 29th April 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and charity" by Dr Catherine Hollum;
- **Sunday 13th May 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and Shakespeare" by Father Nick Kern
- **Sunday 27th May 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and human rights" by Canon David Roberts.

Just turn up, no booking required. Everyone welcome.

S.P.U.C. – No to Decriminalising Abortion

Decriminalising abortion will strip the unborn children of any remaining effective legal protection from abortion. Please sign the petition in the church porch to stop this happening. Thank you.

Over 55's Afternoon Tea: We will **not** meet this month because the last Tuesday falls within Holy Week. Our next Afternoon Tea will be on **24th April**.



News from Assam

Fr Cyprian writes to say that the boys are all doing well. Five of the boys who passed the final exams have been chosen to go on to the minor seminary. Fr Cyprian has also sent us the results of the English Essay Prize Competition. This is £50 donated by a parishioner and shared among three winners. Photos of the winners and a copy of the winning essay by Zackarias Lakra are on the Assam noticeboard. All the winning essays can be found on our website. In a few words Zacharias describes how it is to live in a village without any electricity and why education is the key to a better future. We should take the time to read this. **We are looking for a new donor for this year's Essay Competition prize. Any takers? Ring Fred Taylor at 342-5922.**

Collection Amounts

OLSJ 25.03.2018 £751.70



Assam Collection: Please note that the next Assam collection will take place on **Sunday 8th April, not 1st April** which is Easter Sunday.

Wirral Food Bank: Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last week. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 31.60 kgs and OLSJ 13.44 kgs. At the moment the Food Bank is running really short of the following items:

- Tinned Custard
- Sugar (small if possible)
- Washing-up Liquid
- Tea
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Small Cereal
- Sponge Puddings.

Many thanks for your continued generous support.



The next Monthly Prayer Breakfast will take place on

Saturday 14th April @ 8:30am

in the Meeting Room at OLSJ. No need to book, just turn up.

Everyone welcome.

Ladymount PTA

- **Quiz Night** with nibbles, £5 per ticket, on **Friday 27th April** in Ladymount's school hall, from 7.30pm for 8pm start.
- **Summer Fair** 11am - 2pm on **Saturday 19th May**, themed around the Royal Wedding.

We are appealing to any family or friends who may be in a position to donate a gift as a raffle or auction prize. This could be a haircut if you are a hairdresser, a facial if you are a beauty therapist, an hour of accountancy, if an accountant, a room painted (if paint supplied) if you are a decorator...and maybe in the process you could gain a new client. Any other prizes/gifts are most welcome.

The Annual General Meeting of the PTA is on the **9th May**, at the Anchor Inn from 7.30pm. All parents from Ladymount are invited and we would love all parents to help fulfil this vital work in fundraising for the school and our children. More hands make less work for all.

Please contact the PTA via ladymountpta@gmail.com or phone Lisa on 07886620462.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: This year marks the 160th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to Bernadette in Lourdes. The Diocesan Pilgrimage will take place from 26th July to 3rd August overland and 27th July to 2nd August by air. Brochures and booking forms can be downloaded from the Pilgrimage website

www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk

or from the Pilgrimage Office: St Alban's, 30 Mill Lane, Wallasey, CH44 5UD. This year flight seats are limited so early booking is recommended.

Heswall Concert Series presents **Polaris**, saxophone and hap duo on **Friday 27th April at 7:30pm** at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Telegraph Road, Heswall. Tickets £10. 0151 342 7387.

Heswall Friends of the Phil present a violin recital by Sophie Rosa (violin) and Ian Buckle (piano) on **Monday 9th April at 1pm** at St Peter's Centre, Heswall Lower Village. Tickets £6 including tea/coffee & biscuits. Tickets available from Lingham's Bookshop, Heswall or from Alan Bradshaw 0151 342 3587. All proceeds from this concert will be donated to the Liverpool Philharmonic 'Love Music: From the First Note' appeal.

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| Sat 31 st March | Holy Saturday | 7:30 pm | Easter Vigil Mass – Parishioners | OUR LADY & ST. JOHN |
| Sun 1 st April | Easter Sunday | 11:15 am | Easter Sunday Mass – Holy Souls | |
| Mon 2 nd April | Monday of the Easter Octave | 10:00 am | Mass – Maureen Mutch R.I.P. | |
| Tues 3 rd April | Tuesday of the Easter Octave | 9:00 am | Mass – Laurie Fagan R.I.P. | |
| Wed 4 th April | Wednesday of the Easter Octave | 9:00 am | Celebration of Word & Communion | |
| | | 9:00 am to 8:30 pm | Adoration - Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord | |
| Thurs 5 th April | Thursday of the Easter Octave | 9:00 am | Funeral Mass Susan Hickson | |
| Fri 6 th April | Friday of the Easter Octave | | No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am) | |
| Sat 7 th April | Saturday of the Easter Octave | 6:00 pm | Mass – Christine Grannigan R.I.P. | |
| Sun 8 th April | Divine Mercy Sunday | 11:15 am | Mass – Intentions of Beryl Gernon | |

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| HOLY FAMILY | Sat 31 st March | Holy Saturday | | No Mass Confessions 11:30 am - 12 noon |
| | Sun 1 st April | Easter Sunday | 9:30 am | Mass - Thurston Family Intentions |
| | | | | No 5pm Mass Today |
| | Mon 2 nd April | Monday of the Easter Octave | | No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 10am) |
| | Tues 3 rd April | Tuesday of the Easter Octave | | No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am) |
| | Wed 4 th April | Wednesday of the Easter Octave | | No Mass (Celebration of Word & Communion at OLSJ at 9am) |
| | Thurs 5 th April | Thursday of the Easter Octave | 9:00 am | Service of Word & Sacrament |
| | Fri 6 th April | Friday of the Easter Octave | 9:00 am | Mass – Kathleen Jones R.I.P. (Lately Dead) |
| | Sat 7 th April | Saturday of the Easter Octave | 12 noon | Mass - Ken & Sara Bull (60th Wedding Thanksgiving) |
| Sun 8 th April | Divine Mercy Sunday | 9:30 am | Mass - Margaret Le-Gry (Birthday Thanksgiving) | |
| | | 5:00 pm | Mass - For the Parish | |

Confessions – Saturdays 5:15 pm – 5:45 pm at OLSJ Saturdays 11:30 am -11:50 am at Holy Family

Legion of Mary Meetings: Every Monday morning at 10:45 am in the meeting room at OLSJ.

Mother's Prayers: Every Monday morning at 9:30 am in the meeting room at OLSJ.

Adoration: Holy Family: Every Saturday after 12 noon Mass. On 1st Saturday of the Month, Divine Mercy devotions, prayers are included. All are welcome. **Our Lady and St John:** Every Wednesday 9:30am until 8pm after morning Mass. All are welcome.

Sick: Please remember in your prayers all those in both parishes who are sick at home or in hospital, including Catherine Maschke, Peter Curtis, Carol Saunders, Gerry Smith, Joe Lucas, Leonora Reilly, John Marmion, Iris Christian, John Moroney, Father Peter Kelly, Frances Firth, Ken Davies and Mary Brownrigg.

Please get in touch if there are any alterations.