

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

Today's gospel recounts two appearances of the risen Jesus. On Easter evening the disciples are gathered in the darkness, fearful behind locked doors. The scene evokes the frequent association in John of darkness with lack of faith. Jesus' first words are, "Peace be with you." Peace is the biblical opposite of fear not conflict and a word that is closely associated with other biblical motifs such as justice, mercy and loving kindness. Here and in the 'doubting Thomas' incident, when Jesus shows his wounds, his disciples recognise him. The symbolism is powerful. The risen Christ is the crucified one: Christ's presence among the community of believers is recognised by his wounds. Jesus is present in the suffering and marginal people of the world.

Jesus now includes the disciples in his own mission and fulfils his promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Recalling the original gift of life to Adam from God's breath, Jesus breathes on them and grants them the power to forgive or retain sins. They are to form a community of forgiveness.

The story of Thomas, set a week later, portrays an example of unfaith which seeks proof of the resurrection. Only after Jesus challenges him to touch his wounds does Thomas confess, "My Lord and my God." John writes his Gospel to bring people to faith in Jesus, the Messiah.



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.



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.

*** Please note that there will be NO Adoration at Holy Family on Saturday 14th April as following Mass at noon, there will be the baptism of Oscar Clarke.**

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.**

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Kathy Margerison** who has died recently.

- **Kathy Margerison's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Monday 16th April at 12 noon** at Our lady and St John.

May her soul Rest in Peace. Please remember to pray for her family at this difficult time.



Baptisms

We warmly welcome the following children, who will be baptised in our Parish over the next few weeks.

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|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Henry Harrison | Holy Family | 8 th April 2018 |
| Oscar Clarke | Holy Family | 14 th April 2018 |

Lenten Lunches – Thank You!

Thank you so much to all who were able to attend and/or help at the Lenten Lunches. Overall £353 was raised for Cafod and £353 for Christian Aid.

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.

Collection Amounts

Our Lady & St. John

25.03.18	CAFOD	£413.25
30.03.18	Holy Places	£223.19
01.04.18	Easter Offering	£1361.26

Holy Family

25.03.18	Sunday Collection	£548.93
25.03.18	CAFOD	£251.15
30.03.18	Holy Places	£146.55
01.04.18	Easter Offering	£736.58
01.04.18	CAFOD	£171.21

Assam Collection: Please note that the next Assam collection will take place on **Sunday 8th April.**



Spiritans Mission Appeal –21st & 22nd April

There will be an Appeal on behalf of the Spiritans Missions at all Masses at both Churches, on the weekend of Saturday 21st April and Sunday 22nd April.



Cake Sale Uganda Fundraiser

On **Sunday 15th April,** young parishioner from Our Lady and St John, Charlotte Duggan, will be running a cake sale after 11.15am Mass. This is to raise funds for her forthcoming trip to Uganda in July where she will be working for the East African Playgrounds charity as a volunteer. Charlotte will be helping to build playgrounds for schools in isolated rural villages and helping teach local children. She has personally raised all the funds required for her trip. Charlotte has been awarded a bursary by Birkenhead Catenians Circle, who will be presenting it at the end of Mass.

OUR LADY & ST. JOHN			
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
Mon 9 th April	The Annunciation of The Lord	9:00 am	Mass – Private Intention
Tues 10 th April	Ferial		No Mass
Wed 11 th April	Ferial	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 12 th April	Ferial		No Mass (Celebration of Word & Communion at HF at 9am)
Fri 13 th April	Ferial		No Mass
Sat 14 th April	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Intentions of Moira Griffiths-Parr
Sun 15 th April	3rd Sunday of Easter	11:15 am	Mass – Intentions of Mary Brownrigg
Mon 16 th April	Ferial	12 noon	Kathy Margerison Funeral Mass
Tues 17 th April	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Peggy Dorman
Wed 18 th April	Ferial	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 19 th April	Ferial	7:00 pm	Mass - Intentions of Eileen & Noel Doyle
Fri 20 th April	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)
Sat 21 st April	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Valerie Mary Kelly R.I.P.
Sun 22 nd April	4th Sunday of Easter	11:15 am	Mass – Molly Burke

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.

HOLY FAMILY			
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
Mon 9 th April	The Annunciation of The Lord		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
Tues 10 th April	Ferial		No Mass
Wed 11 th April	Ferial		No Mass (Celebration of Word & Communion at OLSJ at 9am)
Thurs 12 th April	Ferial	9:00 am	Service of Word & Sacrament
Fri 13 th April	Ferial		No Mass
Sat 14 th April	Ferial	12 noon	Mass - Intentions of Helen Williams (Birthday Thanksgiving)
Sun 15 th April	3rd Sunday of Easter	9:30 am	Mass - Intentions of Frances Hall
		5:00 pm	Mass - Sister Carmel R.I.P. (Lately Dead)
Mon 16 th April	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
Tues 17 th April	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
Wed 18 th April	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Veronica Goodall R.I.P. (Anniversary)
Thurs 19 th April	Ferial	9:00 am	Service of Word & Sacrament
Fri 20 th April	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Private Intention
Sat 21 st April	Ferial	12 noon	Mass - Holy Souls
Sun 22 nd April	4th Sunday of Easter	9:30 am	Mass - For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life
		5:00 pm	Mass - For the Parish

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