

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



## Easter Triduum



### Maundy Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

**7 pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper at Holy Family

### Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March

**10 am** Walk of Witness starts at OLSJ

**3 pm** Celebration of the Lord's Passion at Holy Family & OLSJ

### Holy Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March

**7:30 pm** Easter Vigil at OLSJ

### Easter Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April

**9.30am** Mass at Holy Family

**11.15am** Mass at OLSJ

**But NO evening Mass at Holy Family.**

Today's gospel concludes John's presentation of the public ministry of Jesus and provides a bridge to the account of his final days. The Greeks who would like to see Jesus, underline the universal dimension of the lifting up and the glorification of the Son of Man: "And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself." Having witnessed both the sadness of death and triumph over it in his raising of Lazarus from the dead and having reached the hour of his own death Jesus now speaks of the paradox of life through death. As the springtime festival of Passover draws near, Jesus points to the mystery of the grain of wheat, which after seeming to lie

dead in the soil, now springs up to sustain life. This dying and rising provides a pattern for Jesus' disciples. Anyone who loves his life loses it. Anyone who hates his life in this world will gain eternal life. Loving life does not refer to the proper sense of dignity and joy we should have as graced people, it means a preference for the world and human glory that can blind us to God's love. Hatred of life means rejection of the claims of the world and a willingness to serve and follow Jesus.

### + Stations of the Cross at Holy Family +

Stations of the Cross will be said every Friday during Lent after Morning Mass. If anyone would like to lead the Stations on Friday please sign the sheet in the sacristy corridor. Thank you.

**Confirmation 2018:** This year confirmation will take place on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June** at Our Lady and St John's Church. Young people in Year 8 and above are eligible to be confirmed. If you wish for your child to enrol, please give your child's name, date of birth and your email address to Fr. Stephen as soon as possible.



**Holy Family Easter Egg Raffle** Our annual Easter egg raffle will start this Sunday. Monies raised will be shared between Lucy's fundraising for Lourdes and funding our senior citizens afternoon tea. Tickets available from the Box Office. As ever we are grateful for your support and generosity.



### Parish Baptisms this Year

We warmly welcome everyone to our Parish, who has been baptised at Holy Family and Our Lady and St John this year.

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Joshua Baker           | 14 <sup>th</sup> January |
| Grace Georgia Laing    | 4 <sup>th</sup> March    |
| George Daniel McAteer  | 17 <sup>th</sup> March   |
| Penelope Brandon-Simes | 17 <sup>th</sup> March   |



**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.



### Lenten Lunches Raising money for CAFOD & Christian Aid

Why not support CAFOD and Christian Aid by attending one (or more) of the four Lenten Lunches? As part of "Churches Together Heswall", the team provide home-made soup and crusty bread, followed by a biscuit and a cuppa.

**Date: March 23rd.**

**Times: 12:15 - 1:30pm.**

**Price: £4.**

**Venue: Heswall United Reformed Church.**

I hope that more Catholics will be able to support CAFOD and Christian Aid by attending this year's Lenten Lunches. Please join us!

### Lenten Reflections

Do come and join Bob Evans in the Meeting Room at OLSJ every Tuesday in Lent from 7pm – 8pm where he will be holding a discussion group on the book **Rediscover Jesus** by Matthew Kelly. If you can't make the group, you can sign up for the daily Lenten Reflections from Matthew Kelly on our Parish Website via the Parish Blog. Just go to the Parish Blog and click on the link under the title 'Best Lent Ever' or alternatively you can go directly to the website at

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/lenten-reflections-2018>



### 'Feed the Hungry'- Self-Denial in Lent- Bring back your bowls.

Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, marks the end of our campaign in support of Cafod's work in helping to feed those poor people in the world whose share in the basic necessities of life are far less than our own. 'This is what God asks of you - only this'. A collection box will be available at the back of Holy Family church for you to return the result of your self-denial in the bowls and/or Cafod envelopes.

Rachel Belderbos from OLSJ, invites parishioners to a **Coffee Morning** she is holding to raise funds for a new Breast Scanner at the Countess of Chester Hospital on **23<sup>rd</sup> March** from 10:30am onwards at 21 Mill Lane, Heswall.



### **☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞**

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

- **Kathleen Jones'** Funeral Service takes place at Landican on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 11:30am.**
- **Laurie Fagan's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 10am** at Our Lady and St John.
- **Susan Hickson's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 9am** at Our Lady and St John.
- **Eileen Adam's** Funeral Service takes place on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 1:30pm** at Landican.
- **Kathy Margerison's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Wirral Food Bank:** Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last week. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 16.98 kgs and OLSJ 24.05 kgs. At the moment small packets of e.g. sugar, tea etc suitable for single people would be much appreciated. Many thanks for your continued generous support.

**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.

**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.



Holy Family Easter Flower Collection will take place **THIS Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup>**. Thanks for your continued generosity.

**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 April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**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:

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> April 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and prayer" by Bp Brian Noble;
  - **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and charity" by Dr Catherine Hollum;
  - **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and Shakespeare" by Fr Nick Kern
  - **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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.***

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

**Collection Amounts**

|             |            |         |
|-------------|------------|---------|
| <b>OLSJ</b> | 25.02.2018 | £636.79 |
|             | 04.03.2018 | £673.52 |
|             | 11.03.2018 | £585.40 |
| <b>HF</b>   | 11.02.2018 | £536.94 |
|             | 18.02.2018 | £610.34 |
|             | 25.02.2018 | £483.32 |
|             | 04.03.2018 | £468.70 |



|                                 |                              |                       |   |                                |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Sat<br>17 <sup>th</sup> March   | St Patrick                   | 6:00 pm               | Mass – Tim Hetherington Anniversary Mass                    | <b>OUR LADY &amp; ST. JOHN</b> |
| Sun<br>18 <sup>th</sup> March   | <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>  | 11:15 am              | Mass – Michael Walker                                       |                                |
| Mon<br>19 <sup>th</sup> March   | Ferial                       | 9:00 am               | Mass – Geraldine Ion R.I.P.                                 |                                |
| Tues<br>20 <sup>th</sup> March  | Ferial                       |                       | No Mass   |                                |
| Wed<br>21 <sup>st</sup> March   | Ferial                       | 9:00 am               | Celebration of Word and Communion                           |                                |
|                                 |                              | 9:00 am to<br>8:30 pm | Adoration - Come and spend some quiet time<br>with Our Lord |                                |
| Thurs<br>22 <sup>nd</sup> March | Ferial                       | 10:00 am              | Funeral Mass – Laurence Fagan                               |                                |
| Fri<br>23 <sup>rd</sup> March   | Ferial                       |                       | No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)                        |                                |
| Sat<br>24 <sup>th</sup> March   | Ferial                       | 6:00 pm               | Mass – Richard Darby R.I.P.                                 |                                |
| Sun<br>25 <sup>th</sup> March   | <b>Passion (Palm) Sunday</b> | 11:15 am              | Mass – John Harrison R.I.P.                                 |                                |

|                               |                                 |                             |                                       |  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>HOLY FAMILY</b>            | Sat<br>17 <sup>th</sup> March   | St Patrick                  | 12 noon                               | Mass – Mr & Mrs Stanton R.I.P (Anniversaries)<br><b>** NO ADORATION/HOLY HOUR TODAY.<br/>Baptisms taking place) **</b> |
|                               | Sun<br>18 <sup>th</sup> March   | <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> | 9:30 am                               | Mass - Smyth Family Intentions   |
|                               |                                 |                             | 5:00 pm                               | Mass – Holy Souls  |
|                               | Mon<br>19 <sup>th</sup> March   | Ferial                      |                                       | No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)  |
|                               | Tues<br>20 <sup>th</sup> March  | Ferial                      |                                       | No Mass  |
|                               | Wed<br>21 <sup>st</sup> March   | Ferial                      |                                       | No Mass  |
|                               | Thurs<br>22 <sup>nd</sup> March | Ferial                      | 9:00 am                               | Service of Word and Sacrament  |
|                               | Fri<br>23 <sup>rd</sup> March   | Ferial                      | 9:00 am                               | Mass – Hazel Campbell<br>Followed by Stations of the Cross (Every Friday in Lent)                                      |
|                               | Sat<br>24 <sup>th</sup> March   | Ferial                      | 12 noon                               | Mass – Betty Walker R.I.P (Lately Dead)  |
| Sun<br>25 <sup>th</sup> March | <b>Passion (Palm) Sunday</b>    | 9:30 am                     | Mass - Douglas Thompson (Anniversary) |  |
|                               |                                 | 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 and Ken Davies.

*Please get in touch if there are any alterations.*