

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

Jesus says, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love." In John a command is always based on a prior experience of grace, so Jesus says simply, "Love one another as I have loved you." He then points out that no one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. This part of the farewell discourse clearly echoes Jesus' words and actions at the Last Supper, when as the Lord and Master he washes his apostles' feet as an example for us to follow. He wants us to love and serve one another, as he loves and serves us. The immense gift of love precedes and makes possible discipleship.

Jesus then goes on to call his disciples friends. John's readers would immediately recognise friendship as the highest form of love expressed by popular Hellenistic sayings such as "friends hold all things in common," or "friends are other selves," or "friends share a single soul." Communality of heart and soul united early Christians. Friendship was expressed through hospitality, shared meals and bearing one another's burdens.

Without a deep experience of the self-emptying love of Christ who summons us to be friends, withered branches will continue to blight the vine.

Wednesday 9:30am-8:30pm at OLSJ

&

Saturday after 12 noon Mass at Holy Family



ADORATION - Change of Location 9th May

On **Wednesday 9th May**, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be **transferred to Holy Family** for ONE WEEK only because of work to be carried out on the organ at OLSJ.

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Veronica McNutt, John Marmion, Hilda Gerrard Brown, Mabel Levy and Betty Murphy** who have died recently.

- **Veronica McNutt's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Tuesday 8th May at 12:15 pm** at Our Lady and St John.
- **John Marmion's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Tuesday 8th May at 2:15 pm** at Our Lady and St John.
- **Hilda Gerrard Brown's** Funeral Service takes place on **Wednesday 16th at 10:30 am** at Franky Cemetery.
- **Mabel Levy's** Private Funeral Service at Landican on Thursday 17th May.
- **Betty Murphy's** Funeral Mass takes place on **Friday 18th May at 11:30 am** at Holy Family. **TBC**

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



Christian Aid Week **13th - 19th May**

Help raise money for Christian Aid week by coming to a **Coffee Morning on 12th May between**

10am and Midday at the URC Church in Heswall. There will be a raffle and you are invited to bring any unwanted scarves to 'trade' for a 'new to you' one. Churches Together will be holding a joint Christian Aid Week service on 13th May at 6.30pm at the URC Church. Everyone welcome.

Chernobyl Children Lifeline: The annual visit of these poor children to Wirral takes place again in June. It is not too late to ask about hosting but there is also a need for supporters (or Buddies) to help the host families look after the children, when needed. There may be times when family matters take precedence over activities and it might be that a "sitter" is required. These support families provide an integral part of the hosting activity. As last year there is a need for donations of gifts for the children to take home Suggested items are:

- Socks and underpants for ages 8 to 11
- Calpol or any other child paracetamol in sachets,
- Vegetable seeds.

There will be a collection box at the back of church.

Wirral Food Bank: Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last 2 weeks. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 45.08 kgs and OLSJ 25.04 kgs. Many thanks for your continued generous support.



The next Monthly Prayer Breakfast will take place on **Saturday 12th May @ 8:30am**

OLSJ will be hosting the Prayer Breakfast this month. It is a friendly gathering where we hold a reflective service from 8.30am - 9am, followed by a friendly simple breakfast, and this month our service will be led by Father Stephen. All are most welcome.

No need to book, just come along.

Help Required! The Children's Liturgy Team at Our Lady and St John are looking for new volunteers to help out at Children's Liturgy at 11:15am Mass on Sundays. No experience necessary, training and resources will be provided. Please contact Monica Campbell if you are able to join the team.



Ladymount PTA

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 you are a decorator...and maybe in the process you could gain a new client. Any other prizes/gifts are most welcome. Please contact the PTA via ladyountpta@gmail.com or phone Lisa on 07886620462.

Reminder – the next **Assam collection** will take place at all Masses at Holy Family **THIS Sunday 6th May**.

Red Mission Boxes: The recent collection in Holy Family Parish Church raised an amount of £160. Many thanks to all who contributed.



Spanish Evening at OLSJ

18th May at 7:30 pm, £12 - to include a 3-course meal, quiz and a raffle. Wine will be available to purchase by the bottle. Tickets are available from either Veronica on 342 5641 or Christine on 07426 166 814

A date for your diary: Sunday May 13th sees the return of our Senior Citizens afternoon tea, 2-4 pm at Holy Family. This is a popular event and always great fun so put your name down at the Box Office or phone Jean 07966295388 and come along to meet friends old and new.



Urgent Readers Needed at OLSJ

We need more volunteers to read on Saturday Evenings. Please consider making this small but important contribution to our vigil masses. You can contact me on 342 3338 or speak to me in person on a Saturday evening. Thank you. Jill McKenzie.

A prayer petition box will be placed at the back of the church of both parish. The petitions will be taken to Medjugorje by the Parishioner's going in May.

Caritas (formerly Catholic Children Society):

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.



Ian Butler will be taking part in the **Wirral Coastal Sponsored Walk on 24th June** on behalf of the CAFOD Syria, Yemen and Rohingya Appeals. Sponsor forms can be found at the back of Church. Thank you.

Sister Mary Joan - Golden Jubilee

An invitation to all parishioners to join in the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Wirral born, Sister Mary Joan, from the Little Sisters of the Poor, on **Monday 7th May** at Our Lady and St John's Church. Canon Coonan will be celebrating Mass at **11am**. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Meeting Room. Everyone welcome. Sister Mary Joan is the sister-in-law of parishioner Phyllis Driscoll.



S.P.U.C. AGM: You are all cordially invited to attend the AGM of the Neston branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children which takes place next **Tuesday 8th May at 7pm** in St Winefrides Church Hall, Burton Road, Neston. This will be followed at approx 7 45pm by a speaker from LIFE, who will be telling us about the work life

does, plus she will be explaining about Natural Procreation "Napro Technology" this a natural way of helping couples who are having trouble conceiving or are having miscarriages. All are welcome and if you need any more information please phone Margaret Unsworth on 336 2050.

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.



Fundraising for Lucy's Trip to Lourdes

To continue to help Lucy's fundraising for Lourdes she is asking if you would take a tube of smarties home to enjoy. Once you have enjoyed the treat could you please refill the tube with coins and return? All amounts gratefully received. Thanks for all your support so far it has been fantastic.

Fruitful discipleship: Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and the World

A chance to hear Mrs Sherry Weddell, international author, on **Saturday 12th May 2018**, St Ambrose College, Hale Barns WA15 0HE (09:30/10:00-15:30, please bring lunch). Sherry has a wealth of experience helping people deepen their personal relationship with God and live out its implications; she will both inspire and encourage. Everyone welcome.

Enquiries: Barbara Davies 07730 526 821;

Details and Registration:

www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/catholic-faith/the-new-evangelisation/registration or Helen Jones 0151 652 9855.

News from Assam

Fr. Cyprian has written to thank us for the latest £1,000 donation to the Education Project. He says:

Happy Easter! Blessings of the Risen Lord.

I sincerely thank you and all the parishioners for the love you have showed towards BAH. The boys are keeping well. They have just finished their unit test and they have been for ordination to Margherita where Fr. Andreas is the Parish priest. We thank God for the gift of Fr. Gabriel Kujur, a new priest to the diocese. Crowd was beyond calculation. We two of us Fr. Louis, the rector of BAH and myself were at Margherita to help Fr. Andreas. It was well planned and well executed. The entire parish was involved.

We all express our heartfelt love for the love you have showed towards us. They are all praying for you all. Every day during their Rosary they have a decade for your intentions.

Fr. Cypri



Sat 5 th May	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Stefan Plotnicki R.I.P.
Sun 6 th May	6th Sunday of Easter	11:15 am	Mass – Andrew & Josephine Deacon Golden Wedding
Mon 7 th May	Ferial	11:00 am	Mass – Sister Mary Joan Golden Jubilee
Tues 8 th May	Ferial	12:15 pm	Funeral Mass for Veronica McNutt
		2:15 pm	Funeral Mass for John Marmion
Wed 9 th May	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 10 th May	The Feast of The Ascension Holy Day of Obligation	7:00 pm	Ascension Mass – Margaret Mullen R.I.P.
Fri 11 th May	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)
Sat 12 th May	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – John Hughes R.I.P.
Sun 13 th May	7th Sunday of Easter World's Communications Day	11:15 am	Mass – Deceased Relatives & Friends of Arnold McNab

OUR LADY & ST. JOHN

HOLY FAMILY	Sat 5 th May	Ferial	12 noon	Mass - Ken & Sarah Bull Thanksgiving
	Sun 6 th May	6th Sunday of Easter Ferial	9:30 am	Mass - Colette Thurston Intentions
			5:00 pm	Mass - David Noonan R.I.P (Anniversary)
	Mon 7 th May	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 11am)
	Tues 8 th May	Ferial		No Mass
	Wed 9 th May	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Special Intention
	Thurs 10 th May	The Feast of The Ascension Holy Day of Obligation	9:00 am	Mass – For the Parish
	Fri 11 th May	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Mr & Mrs G. P. Barsby
	Sat 12 th May	Ferial	12 noon	Mass - Ken & Sara Bull (Thanksgiving)
Sun 13 th May	7th Sunday of Easter World's Communications Day	9:30 am	Mass - Charles Nicholls R.I.P. (Anniversary)	
		5:00 pm	Mass - Private Intention	

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, Iris Christian, John Moroney, Father Peter Kelly, Ken Davies and Mary Brownrigg. *Please get in touch if there are any alterations.*