

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel

by Father Stephen

Jesus prays that his disciples may experience the unity he shares with his Father, that they may share in his joy, and that they will be consecrated in truth. Jesus also prays for their protection in a hostile world. His own life is a paradigm for the lives of believers. He comes from above, from presence with God, to an alien world that does not accept him and then returns to the Father. The believer in John, is born from above, lives in a hostile and alien world and, as Jesus returns to the Father, the destiny of his followers is to be with him.

The ambiguity of "the world" echoes throughout John. It was made through the Word but did not recognise him. Jesus takes away the sin of the world and God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. He is the living Bread that will be the life of the world. Yet the world often symbolises the power of evil organised against Jesus and his followers. Though other New Testament writings have a more positive attitude to the world, and though the contemporary Church is summoned to be engaged in the world and to discern the manifestations of goodness among non-Christians, in John Jesus and the disciples come to the world to challenge its values.

Christian Aid Week 13th - 19th May



Churches Together will be holding a joint Christian Aid Week service **THIS SUNDAY, 13th May at 6.30pm** at the URC Church. Everyone welcome.

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☜

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

- **Hilda Gerrard Brown's** Funeral Service takes place on **Wednesday 16th May 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.

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

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.

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 ladymountpta@gmail.com or phone Lisa on 07886620462.

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 – Postponed ****



New date will be **Friday 7th September 2018**. Tickets will be available to buy nearer the time.

Don't Forget Sunday, May 13th Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea, 2-4pm 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.

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.

Wirral 2018 Coastal Walk

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.

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.

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



Wirral Food Bank

Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last week. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 12.22kgs and OLSJ 8.35kgs.

The Food Bank are quite short of several items in their warehouse at present and have requested donations of the following items in particular:

- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Potatoes
- Washing-up Liquid
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Instant Mash
- Packet Soup
- Sponge Puddings
- Hot Chocolate
- Washing Powder Tablets
- Cereal (small if possible)
- Tinned Fruit

We have plenty of BEANS & PASTA thank you. Many thanks for your continued generous support.

Holy Family 200 Club

Week 4 – 29th April

1 st Prize	£25	No. 89	J. Jenkins
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 19	F. Ion
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 119	B. Sharp

Week 5 – 6th May

1 st Prize	£25	No. 186	C. Doolan
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 78	M. Thurston
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 74	A. Hamilton

Week 6 – 13th May

1 st Prize	£25	No. 50	M. Robinson
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 29	A. Henry
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 113	T. Hurworth

Week 7 – 20th May

1 st Prize	£25	No. 8	J. Murphy
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 67	Mrs Mitchell
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 54	C. Keenan

Many thanks to all who have paid their subs for this session

New members are always very welcome to join.

VISIT TO THE SEAFARERS CENTRE: as you know each year we send various items to the Seafarers Centre in Crosby for which they are very thankful as are all the Seafarers who visit during their stay in Liverpool. John Wilson from the centre has given us the opportunity to pay a visit to the centre and see for ourselves what happens there.

This will take place on **Thursday 21st June 2018**. The evening will begin at 7.00pm in Crosby and light refreshments will be served during our visit.

We will leave from Our Lady and St John in cars (car share) at 6.00pm.

If you are interested please call Joan Larkin - 0151 342 5517 on or before **Thursday 31st May 2018**.

Collection Amounts

OLSJ	29.04.2018	£1207.81
	06.05.2018	£713.55
HF	29.04.2018	£589.14
	06.05.2018	£953.34
Assam	06.05.2018	£215.50



Over 55's Afternoon Tea: Our next Afternoon Tea will be on **Tuesday 29th May at 1pm** in the Meeting Room at Our Lady and St John. Everyone welcome.

** THIS EVENING **

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. The next one will take place this evening.

- **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.



OLSJ Piety Stall: There is a large selection of Holy Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts available at the Piety Stall at the back of Our Lady and St John's Church.

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	11:00 am	Mass – Deceased Relatives & Friends of Arnold McNab
Mon 14 th May	St Matthias	9:00 am	Mass – Mrs Eddie Fox R.I.P.
Tues 15 th May	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Mr & Mrs P McNamara Anniversary
Wed 16 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 17 th May	Ferial	7:00 pm	Mass – The McGoldrick Family
Fri 18 th May	St Pope John I		No Mass
Sat 19 th May	St Milburga	6:00 pm	Mass – Vin & Mary Williams Margaret & Joseph Hall
Sun 20 th May	Feast of Pentecost	11:15 am	Mass – Nicholas C. G. Ford R.I.P.

OUR LADY & ST. JOHN

HOLY FAMILY	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
	Mon 14 th May	St Matthias		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
	Tues 15 th May	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
	Wed 16 th May	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Holy Souls
	Thurs 17 th May	Ferial	9:00 am	Service of Word and Sacrament
	Fri 18 th May	St Pope John I	11:30 am	Requiem Mass – Elizabeth Murphy
	Sat 19 th May	St Milburga	12 noon	Mass - Mabel Levy R.I.P (Lately Dead) (No Adoration or Holy Hour Today)
			1:30 pm	Wedding Service of Natasha Ryan & John O'Shea
Sun 20 th May	Feast of Pentecost	9:30 am	Mass - Sarah Davies R.I.P (Anniversary)	
		5:00 pm	Mass - Special 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.*