

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel

by Father Stephen

Pentecost which is traditionally called "the birthday of the Church," concludes the Lent-Easter season as we return to Ordinary Time. Pentecost was originally a Jewish spring festival, the Feast of Weeks, celebrated fifty days after Passover, but it developed into a commemoration of the covenant made by God with Moses and his people on Mount Sinai. For Christians Pentecost celebrates the Fiftieth Day of Eastertide and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on God's people. In the gospel Jesus promises that after his departure he will send an advocate, a spirit of truth called the Holy Spirit, that will bear witness to himself. The Greek word Paracleitos, translated in the Jerusalem Bible as advocate, has many overtones, suggesting not just a legal advocate but a helper and someone who offers comfort and consolation. This Advocate will continue the work of Jesus by bearing witness to him, teaching the disciples and calling to mind the teaching of Jesus himself. Like Jesus the Advocate will not be accepted by the world. The Spirit quite simply is the continuing presence of Jesus and his saving power in our lives and in the world.



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

URGENT HELP NEEDED!

Would you consider covering for the Regular People whilst they go for doctor's appointments or holidays? This would involve **one hour on a Wednesday** on an OCCASIONAL BASIS. Please be generous with your time.

"It is the LORD"

If the answer is "Yes" please speak to Ann Parsons at Church or on phone number 342 7229.

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.

**** Spanish Evening at OLSJ – Postponed ****



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

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.



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.



Over 55's Afternoon Tea

Our next Afternoon Tea for ladies and gents will be on **Tuesday 29th May at 2pm-4pm** in the Meeting Room at Our Lady and St John. Everyone welcome.

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.



Wirral Food Bank

Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last week. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 24.30kgs and OLSJ 7.54gs.

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.



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.

Holy Family 200 Club

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.

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 on **Sunday 27th May 6-8pm** "The Eucharist and human rights" by Canon David Roberts. Just turn up, no booking required. Everyone welcome.



Congratulations to Natasha Ryan & John O'Shea who were married Holy Family on **Saturday 19th May**. We wish them both many happy years as they step out together on their new life in marriage.

Ad Multos Annos!



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**.

Thank You

Sister Joan Mary and Phyllis would like to thank everybody who came together to make her Golden Jubilee a wonderful day. She was overwhelmed. Thank you too, to Holy Family for their hospitality and warm welcome last Sunday on her birthday.

A massive **THANK YOU** to the Social Committee at Holy Family for a fantastic afternoon last Sunday. They worked tirelessly to entertain us, feed us and to ensure we had a great time. It was lovely to meet up with friends old and new. We look forward to the next one.



Plea for Help

The Scout Group are having a big clean and fix from **9am**



on Saturday 23rd June. This will involve painting, gardening, cleaning, repairs and a big tidy up. If anyone is available to help even for an hour or so we would be very grateful. Help us get prepared for the next year of adventure. Speak to Jean (07966295388) or sign up at the Box Office. Thank you.

S.P.U.C. MID-SUMMER CONCERT with the West Wirral Musical Society, will be singing songs from the shows and Gilbert and Sullivan, on **Friday 15th June at 7:30pm** in St Winefrides School Hall, Mellock Lane, Neston. Tickets only £5 which includes a light supper. Bring your own drink and glass and there will be a raffle and Irish Bingo. For Tickets Please contact Rowena Wright on 336 2684 or Margaret Unsworth on 336 2050.

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.
Mon 21 st May	Dedication of the Cathedral	9:00 am	Mass – Private Intention
Tues 22 nd May	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Jo Gaul
Wed 23 rd 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 24 th May	Our Lady Help of Christians		No Mass
Fri 25 th May	St Bede the Venerable		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)
Sat 26 th May	St Philip Neri	6:00 pm	Mass – Anthony Birch Anniversary
Sun 27 th May	The Most Holy Trinity	11:15 am	Mass – Henry Bernard McGurk R.I.P. Anniversary

OUR LADY & ST. JOHN

HOLY FAMILY	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
	Mon 21 st May	Dedication of the Cathedral		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
	Tues 22 nd May	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Our Lady & St John at 9am)
	Wed 23 rd May	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Simon O'Keefe & Family
	Thurs 24 th May	Our Lady Help of Christians	9:00 am	Service of Word and Sacrament
	Fri 25 th May	St Bede the Venerable	9:00 am	Mass – Holy Souls
	Sat 26 th May	St Philip Neri	12 noon	Mass – Alan Woods R.I.P.
Sun 27 th May	The Most Holy Trinity	9:30 am	Mass - Helen Ryan R.I.P (50 th Birthday Remembrance)	
		5:00 pm	Mass - Barbara Hughes	

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.*