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

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A man orders one son to go and work in the vineyard. He answers, "I will not go," but afterwards has a change of heart and goes to work. The man then asks the other son, who immediately says, "Certainly, sir," but never ends up in the vineyard. The parable leaves us wondering what the Father will do. What happens to the deceitful son? But Jesus interrupts with a question, "Which of the two did the father's will?" Jesus' adversaries, the chief priests and the elders, are trapped. They must answer: "The first." Then Jesus hammers home the application that while notorious sinners (who originally said 'no' to God) repented when they heard the teaching of John, the religious establishment did not, even when they saw the conversion of the tax collectors and prostitutes.

Matthew does not simply bash the Jewish leaders of Jesus' time but warns his own community. One indication is the question, "Which of the two did the father's will?" Jesus own prayer is that he do the Father's will and he instructs his disciples to do the same. The parable contrasts a son who says, "Yes, sir (Greek: *kyrie*)" with the one who actually does the Father's will. At the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount, this attitude distinguishes true disciples from false disciples: "Not everyone who says to me "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven." Jesus goes on to say that neither charismatic power nor proper theology is enough without bearing fruit or doing God's will.

Matthew's community is to imitate the "dutiful son". It, too, is composed of people, who like Peter said no, perhaps by denying Christ at times of persecution, but who turned and were transformed by God's grace. Matthew's community is not the heir of powerful religious leaders who prided themselves on their honorific titles and stunning interpretations of the Law, but of tax collectors, members of occupations forbidden to observant Jews and woman so oppressed that they sell their very selves. These kinds of people say yes and become "doers" of God's will.

We are called to an integrity that is expressed in deeds not fine words. We are a community of forgiven sinners, whose initial no has been transformed into a new way of following Christ, not looking to our own interests but the good of others.

**Wirral Trade Justice:** The parish is a member of this group and we are invited to attend a talk 'International Trade for the Common Good?' on **6<sup>th</sup> October** at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Parish Hall, Graham Rd (off Meols Drive), West Kirby. The talk is given by Dorothy Guerrero, a National Leader of the 'Global Justice Now' organization with over 30 years' experience of this subject. It should be a rewarding & informative event, well worth going to.

**Wirral Food Bank:** Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last week. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 20.47kgs and OLSJ 16.26kgs.

**SPUC NESTON** are having an evening with a fabulous local singer Susan Hedges on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October** at 7:30pm in St Winefride's School Hall, Mellock Lane, Neston. Tickets are only £5 which includes light refreshments and it's bring your own drink and glasses. For tickets ring Margaret on 336 2050.

**The Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi** will be celebrated in Chester Cathedral by kind permission of the Dean & Chapter, on **October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm**. The location will be either in the Library for small numbers, or St. Anselm's Chapel or even the Lady Chapel for larger numbers. All are welcome, but it would be helpful to have some idea of numbers. Could those intending to come please contact Tom Herbert (Holy Family) on 648 6358 or 0781?

### Catechetical Formation

A National Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage will be held in Liverpool, in **September 2018**. As part of our diocesan preparation for this, the theme for the next Catechists' Day will be: '*The Eucharist: Food for our Joy*'. We will ask how we, as Catechists, can communicate this great truth of our faith to the many different people with whom we work. The event is open to all Catechists, and to anyone who has a particular interest in this question.

**Saturday, 7th Oct 2017** at Ellesmere Port Catholic High School, **10:00am – 1:00pm**.

**All Enquiries:** Barbara Davies, 07730 526 821

[barbara.davies@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:barbara.davies@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**Registration:** Helen Jones, 0151 652 9855 [helen.jones@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:helen.jones@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

### **Holy Family 200 Club**

Starts a new session **1<sup>st</sup> October**  
Ronnie Buckley will be at both 9.30am and 5.00pm masses over the next few weeks to collect subs. Prompt payment would be appreciated and new member most welcome.

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

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

**&**

**Saturday after 12 noon Mass at Holy Family**

**Asylum Link Merseyside [ALM]:** ALM are holding a fundraising Concert on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October** at St Anne's Church, 7 Overbury St, Liverpool, L7 3HJ at 7.15pm and are seeking our support. If you feel you can help, or donate, in any way or wish to know more the please contact ALM at Tel. 0151 709 1713 or e-mail [www.asylumlink.org.uk](http://www.asylumlink.org.uk)

### **Caritas (formerly Catholic Children Society)**

**HOLY FAMILY:** Would all box holders bring the boxes 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 time for the Autumn Collection from Little House Boxes. Please leave them in the sacristy for emptying and collect them when emptied from the back of church. New boxes are planned for next April in the next few weeks. I will be in touch with people who Gift Aid their donations to ask you to sign new forms, to take account of the Society's change of name. Jill McKenzie 342 3338.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Cursillo Weekend in the Shrewsbury Diocese**

to be held at Wistaston Hall, Crewe on **12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2017**. See poster at the back of church for further details. [shrewsbury@cursillouk.org](mailto:shrewsbury@cursillouk.org)

### **First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion**

**2018:** If you have a child who will be 8 years old in this Academic Year, he or she will be eligible to celebrate these important sacraments in 2018. Children in Year 3 at our parish school Ladymount will follow a programme of preparation there. For children who are in other schools there will be a Parish Programme of Preparation taking place in the parish room at Our Lady and St John. If you wish your child to take part in the parish programme, please contact Fr Stephen on 342 6581 or email [father.stephen@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk](mailto:father.stephen@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk).



**Cafod Harvest Fast Day  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

*We reflect on the endless abundance of God's love, and how human beings across the world see this abundance in the harvests we bring in, the world over. Collection envelopes will be given out at all Masses, in both parishes, this weekend and will be collected the following weekend (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> October).*

## Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October Harvest Festival at both Parishes

### Harvest Festival at Holy Family

Parishioners are invited on that day to bring fruit and vegetables etc. which will be distributed after mass. Any donations received will go to CAFOD.

As in previous years, **there will be no Assam Collection [on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October]**. Instead, parishioners are invited to take part in Cafod's Harvest Fast Day, on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Cafod envelopes are available at the back of church and will be collected, along with the normal Sunday collection, over the rest of October.

### Harvest Festival at Our Lady & St John

Parishioners are invited to take part in our International Themed Harvest Festival this year, celebrating the many nationalities represented in our church. Also, the Mary's Meals backpacks will be our harvest gifts, so please bring any donations to church over the next couple of weeks.

### "Exploring our Catholic Faith through the Arts"

ACTS' ('ADULT CATHOLICS TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY') annual retreat is taking place from **Fri 20<sup>th</sup> October (pm) until after lunch Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2017**. If you are aged between 20 – 35 you will be very welcome. Canon David Roberts will lead the retreat which will take place at St Winefride's, Holywell (N. Wales). Payment will be by anonymous donation (suggested cost £100). Please contact Siobhan Cartwright at [siobhanbc@gmail.com](mailto:siobhanbc@gmail.com) / 0161 477 2783 / 07761 138947. Lifts may be available if required.



**Over 55's Afternoon Tea:** The next afternoon tea will be on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2-4pm** in the Meeting Room at OLSJ. Do come and enjoy a nice cup of tea, homemade cakes and friendly conversation. Everyone welcome.

**OLSJ Children's Area:** We are hoping to revamp the children's area at the back of church and would be very grateful for any donations of toys and books. Any surplus will go the charity shop once we have finished. If you have any suggestions for the area please speak to Laura (from Children's Liturgy) or email [craftykidswirral@hotmail.com](mailto:craftykidswirral@hotmail.com). Donations can also be left in the box in the Meeting Room.



**Monday Coffee Mornings at OLSJ** after Monday morning Mass every week, 9:30am-11am). A welcome start to each week for all who would like to come.

**OCTOBER DEVOTIONS** will take place at Our Lady & St. John's on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 3.30pm**. During the service, petitions may be placed before the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will end with Benediction.

**Parish Visit to Shrewsbury Cathedral on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October:** The coach will depart from Our Lady and St. John's church at 9.30am and leave Shrewsbury 3.45pm to return to Heswall for approximately 5.15pm.



The next **Monthly Prayer Breakfast**

will take place on

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 8:30 am**

in the Meeting Room at OLSJ.

Please do join us for an hour of prayers, discussion and a tasty breakfast! No need to book, just turn up. Everyone welcome.

This month's breakfast will be provided by the parishioners of Heswall URC.

**NEW PENSIONERS LUNCH:** Our monthly pensioners lunch for men and women, returns on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** at 12:30 in the meeting room of Our Lady and St John. If you would like to come and join us, please give Helen a call on 0151 342 7824 on or before Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. Cost for your home cooked lunch is £4.00 per person.



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## VACANCIES

### **Ladymount Catholic Primary School Midday Supervisor Vacancies**

We have vacancies for two part-time midday supervisors, who would ideally be required to work 2/3 days a week from 11.50am-1.20pm. If you are interested in joining our friendly and hard-working team, please contact the school office via telephone or email.

Tel: 0151 648 4326

Email: [schooloffice@ladymount.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@ladymount.wirral.sch.uk)

Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St Jerome	6:00 pm	Mass – Bernard Wright R.I.P.	OUR LADY & ST. JOHN
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	11:15 am	Mass – Edward Murphy R.I.P.	
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Guardian Angels	9:00 am	Mass – Christopher Henry Tickle Anniversary & Emma Cartwright R.I.P.	
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Eileen Finn Birthday Remembrance	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> October	St Francis of Assisi	9:00 am	<b>Celebration of Word and Communion</b>	
		9:30 am to 8:30 pm	<b>Adoration</b> - Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord	
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> October	St Thomas of Hereford		<b>No Mass – Parish Pilgrimage</b>	
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Ferial		<b>(Mass at Holy Family at 9am)</b>	
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Our Lady of the Rosary	6:00 pm	Mass – Ron Kilgannon Anniversary	
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	11:15 am	<b>Harvest Festival Mass – For the Parish</b>	

HOLY FAMILY	Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St Pio of Pietrelcina	12 noon	Mass – Eileen Morgan (Speedy Recovery) <b>(NO ADORATION TODAY, BAPTISM TAKING PLACE AFTER MASS)</b>
	Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9:30 am	Mass – Rita & Cliff Jones (Wedding Anniversary)
			5:00 pm	Mass – Special Intention (Rees Mogg Family)
	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Guardian Angels		<b>(Mass at OLSJ at 9am)</b>
	Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Ferial	9:00 am	<b>Service of Word and Sacrament</b>
	Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> October	St Francis of Assisi	9:00 am	Mass - Intentions of the Savage Family
	Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> October	St Thomas of Hereford		<b>No Mass – Parish Pilgrimage</b>
	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Alan Christian R.I.P.
	Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Our Lady of the Rosary	12 noon	Mass - For those mourning the loss of a child
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9:30 am	<b>Harvest Festival Mass – Harry Doolan R.I.P (Anniversary)</b>	
		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, Mary Latimer and Alexander Hennessey.

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