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

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After the promises given to Peter in last week's gospel, Jesus points his disciples to Jerusalem, where he will suffer greatly and ultimately be crucified. Peter, to whom the Father revealed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God, "remonstrates" with Jesus or better "rebukes" him (the same word, used often when Jesus "rebukes" a demon), saying, "Heaven preserve you, Lord, this must not happen to you." In language used against no other disciple, Jesus calls Peter "Satan" (in the original sense of "adversary" rather than demon) and says that he is an "obstacle" in his path. The Greek word used is *skandalon* (literally a "snare"), often used with the word "stone," which trips a person or causes him to fall. What a transformation from the rock on which Jesus will build his Church!

The next part of the gospel is about the cost of listening to and following God's word. All the followers of Jesus are summoned to renounce themselves and take up their cross and follow Jesus. "For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." The "life" promised to disciples is the true life embodied and taught by Jesus: rejection of power when offered all the kingdoms of the world; identifying with the poor, the mourners, the peacemakers and those who seek justice, forgiveness of enemies; quiet and constant prayer to a loving Father; inner peace amid threats of suffering –all these are thinking as God thinks.

Renouncing is more profound than daily acts of self-denial. It means displacing myself from the centre of my consciousness while looking to the true self embodied by Jesus' teaching. The self that is lost is the autonomous individual so prized in our society. The self that is found is true life in a community of brothers and sisters who take up the challenge of discipleship by speaking and living from a fire that burns within our hearts. Such discipleship embodies a life of costly grace described by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who carried his cross to death in opposing Nazism. He described costly grace as "the gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for," such grace is costly because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs him his life, and it is grace because it gives human beings the only true life. Peter, firm rock and stumbling stone only learnt this after he failed and even denied Jesus.



### Ladymount School - Foundation Governor Vacancy

**A vacancy for a Foundation Governor has arisen and expressions of interests are being sought from practising, committed Catholics for the role.**

Foundation Governors are appointed by Bishop Mark, to represent his and the Catholic Community's interests.

Governors have key roles in ensuring clarity of vision, holding the school to account, and financial oversight.

Foundation governors ensure that the religious character of the school is preserved, and religious education is delivered in accordance with the Bishop's policy.

If you are interested in the role, further information is available from Fr Stephen, or Brian Sharp the current chair of the Governing Board who can be contacted on 342 8519.

**Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal** – School clothing and classroom essentials: If you are buying new school clothes/equipment please consider either recycling your good quality used items or donate some new items for this appeal ball, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, spoon. Remember they don't have to be new...recycle where you can!  
[www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/the-backpack-project](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/the-backpack-project)

### CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

We have received a note reminding students starting at university this September to look out for their Catholic Chaplaincy. Most of our Universities and Higher Education Institutions have a dedicated Catholic Chaplain based in the university or the local parish. The Catholic Chaplaincy is a place for you to explore your faith as a young adult, to meet other young people with similar interests from a great range of backgrounds, and to get involved in activities and social outreach. If you already have a strong faith, this is a chance to deepen it. If you are full of questions and doubts, this is a chance to share them and search for some honest answers about life and faith. Everyone is welcome.

## Important Notice



**OLSJ Church  
Interior  
Redecoration**

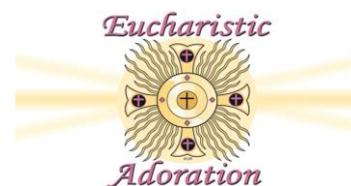


Please note that Our Lady & St. John's Church is to be redecorated internally starting on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September** for up to 4 weeks. **All weekday Masses, Services and Liturgies, which usually take place at OLSJ, are therefore taking place at Holy Family** during the period of the works. Weekend Masses **will not** be affected by this.

**Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament** on Wednesdays will take place at Holy Family, starting immediately after the morning Mass, however, due to circumstances will finish at 7.00pm!

The Meeting Room at OLSJ, will also be repainted during this time. Activities that normally take place in the Meeting Room, will have to be postponed during the week beginning Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

**For safety reasons, please do not attempt to gain access to the Church on weekdays during this period.**



**Wednesday 9:30am-7:00pm**

**&**

**Saturday after 12 noon Mass**

**both at Holy Family during September**

*My soul is sad,  
My heart is breaking tonight.  
Could you not watch and  
comfort me until light?  
Am I alone,  
Surrounded only by night?  
Could you not watch one hour with me?*

### Lately Dead of the Parish

Your prayers are asked for the Repose of the Souls of **William (Bill) Landreth** (Margaret Doolan's brother) who died recently. His Funeral Service has already taken place.

Also, please keep in your prayers, **Alan Christian** (Jane Everett's dad) who died suddenly recently. Alan's Funeral Service takes place at Holy Family on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 11 am**. Followed by burial at Landican at 12 noon.

Please remember their families in your prayers at this sad time.

*May they Rest in Peace.*

**Wirral Food Bank:** Thank you to both parishes for all your donations during August (3 weeks). The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 47.64 kgs and OLSJ 37.03 kgs.

**NOTE:** The next Monthly Prayer Breakfast will take place on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September** at 8:30am.



### Family Ceilidh



at the British Legion, Heswall on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**. This is open to family and friends of Our Lady & St. John and Holy Family. **Tickets are going fast** - please contact Joan as soon as possible to get your tickets (£5 each). Call Joan Larkin 342 5517.

**Justice & Peace Group Meeting:** The next meeting will take place on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm** at the Holy Family church. Anyone from either parish is welcome to come along and see what we do.



SHREWSBURY  
CATHEDRAL

### VISIT TO SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Father Stephen will guide us on this tour of Shrewsbury Cathedral, which will be followed by Mass at 12.10. There will then be free time for lunch, and leisure to visit the newly opened Visitors' Centre, or perhaps explore points of interest in the city.

The 35-seater coach will depart from Our Lady and St John's church at 9.30am and leave Shrewsbury at 3.45, to return to Heswall for approximately 5.15pm.

If you would like to join this visit, please give your name and contact number with a £5 deposit or the full £12.50 to myself or a representative on any Sunday following the 11.15 Mass, before the 11<sup>th</sup> September, when the final balance is due. This is open to parishioners from both Holy Family and Our Lady and St John. (Note - Cheques payable to Our Lady and St. John's Church). For any further information please contact Sheila Smears on 342 4527.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL at OLSJ:** There will be a short meeting to discuss how to proceed with our Harvest Festival on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September after the 11.15am Mass**. Our theme is an International Harvest celebration and we would love for as many people to join in. If you need any further information please contact Joan on 342 5517. Please come.

**Latest news from Assam,** Father Cypri writes....

*This year the BAH students appear for the matric examinations and they all have done well. All of them have got 1st. Division with letter marks. BAH is grateful to all the parishioners and you who have kept encouraging and praying for them. I hope they will do well in their further formation.*

*Thank You very much. Praying for you all.*

*Jai Jesu*

*Fr. Cypri*

**Don't forget usual Assam collection after all Masses this weekend at Holy Family.**

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Margaret Kelly R.I.P.	OUR LADY & ST. JOHN
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	11:15 am	Mass – Joan & Bernard Larkin Wedding Anniversary	
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St. Cuthbert		Church redecoration taking place. Masses celebrated at Holy Family instead.	
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial			
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial		<b>Adoration same time but at Holy Family</b>	
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial		Church redecoration taking place.	
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary		Masses celebrated at Holy Family instead.	
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Thomas Hiepko R.I.P.	
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	11:15 am	Mass – Irene O’Neill Anniversary	

HOLY FAMILY	Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Ferial	12 noon	Mass – Stanton Family (Good Health)
	Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9:30 am	Mass – Val Marshall R.I.P (Anniversary)
			5:00 pm	Mass – Tom Horton R.I.P (Anniversary)
	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St. Cuthbert	9:00 am	Mass – Tim Dwyer R.I.P.
	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Derek Jones R.I.P.
	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Steven Corrigan R.I.P.
			<b>9:30 am – 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Adoration</b> Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord
	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Monica McNab R.I.P.
	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9:00 am	Mass – Cyril Roberts R.I.P. (Anniversary)
	Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ferial	12 noon	Mass – Sylvia Ward R.I.P. (Anniversary)
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9:30 am	Mass – William Landreth R.I.P.	
		5:00 pm	Mass – Johnny Forrest R.I.P.	

**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.

**Adoration: Holy Family:** Every Wednesday 9:30am until 7pm after morning Mass during September and 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:** None during September due to redecoration of the church.

**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 and Mary Latimer. *Please get in touch if there are any alterations.*