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

Workers are lined up, hoping to be taken on for the day. The landowner offers them the usual daily wage, a denarius and they go off happily to work. He comes out again at 9am, midday and 3pm and hires more workers for “a fair wage.” He then comes out an hour before the end of the working day, finds straggling, would-be workers and hires them with no salary stipulated. At this point the parable is about a surprisingly generous landowner. Jesus’ hearers might think about a bountiful God always ready to share his goodness.

The mood shifts dramatically when payment time comes. Not the owner but his bailiff is told somewhat illogically to distribute the wages, “starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” This is an instance of the power of the parables to orient by disorienting. When the realism of the parable breaks down, the deeper meaning of the parable emerges. Those who had barely worked up a sweat receive a denarius, and we can almost hear the rest of the workers chatting approvingly in the hope of receiving more. Yet each received the same daily wage.

Their anticipated joy turned immediately to grumbling: “The men who came last have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” The generous and good landowner now appears to be both legalistic and arbitrary, saying, “I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Have I no right to do what I like with my own (money)?” The order of justice is maintained; the grumbling workers have received what they agreed upon. Justice provides the background against which goodness can appear as true goodness. The grumbler’s complaint is not simply economic, but “you have treated them the same as us.” They are defining their personal worth in contrast to others and are not so much angered by what happened to them as envious of the good fortune of others.

The final words of the landowner unmask their deeper problem: “Why be envious, because I am generous?” literally “is your eye evil, because I am good?” In Matthew “the lamp of the body is the eye, which should be plucked out, if it causes you to sin.” The attitude of the grumbling workers distorts their view of the world. When envy poisons a person’s perception, an act of goodness and generosity to others blinds people to their own and other’s good fortune.

Not to rejoice in the benefits given to others is to cut ourselves off from those benefits that we have received. Our eyes, too, can become evil. Let us pray over the times when we have felt resentful over the goodness given to others and think of ways that God has been gracious and merciful to us.

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 **6th 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.

SPUC NESTON are having an evening with a fabulous local singer Susan Hedges on **Friday 13th October** at 7:30pm in St Winefride's School Hall, Mellock Lane, Neston. Susan is a multi-award winning singer/songwriter, who has performed here and internationally, and even for Royalty and was recently in the Musical "Moggies the Mewsical" in Liverpool. Tickets are only £5 which includes light refreshments and it's bring your own drink and glasses. For tickets ring Margaret on 336 2050.

Family Ceilidh

at the British Legion, Heswall on
Friday 29th September.

This is open to family and friends of Our Lady & St. John and Holy Family. **Tickets are going fast** - please contact Joan Larkin 342 5517 as soon as possible to get your tickets (£5 each) or buy them from the box office at Holy Family.

The Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi will be celebrated in Chester Cathedral by kind permission of the Dean & Chapter, on **October 3rd 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?

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS will take place at Our Lady & St. John's on **Sunday 8th 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. All welcome.

Wirral Food Bank: Thank you to both parishes for all your donations last week. The contributions are as follows, Holy Family 30.73kgs and OLSJ 19.87kgs.

10th Cursillo Weekend in the Shrewsbury Diocese to be held at Wistaston Hall, Crewe on **12th to 15th October 2017.** See poster at the back of church for further details.

shrewsbury@cursillouk.org

Anselmian Association Dinner will be held at the College on **Friday 29th September**, 7pm for 7:30pm. Tickets cost £30 pp and are available from the Association at anselmianassociation@st-anselms.com

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.

Speakers: Miss Barbara Davies will explore how and where society encourages us to find joy; Deacon Tony Crisp will give the Gospel writers' answer to our search: The Eucharist.

Date: Saturday, 7th Oct 2017.

Times: 10:00-13:00

(9:30 Registration/Refreshments)

Venue: Ellesmere Port Catholic High School, CH65 7AQ.

All Enquiries: Barbara Davies, 07730 526 821

barbara.davies@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Registration: Helen Jones, 0151 652 9855

helen.jones@dioceseofshrewsbury.org



**Wednesday 9:30am-7:30pm &
Saturday after 12 noon Mass
both at Holy Family during September**

Asylum Link Merseyside [ALM]: ALM are holding a fundraising Concert on **Saturday 7th October** at St Anne's Church, 7 Overbury St, Liverpool, L7 3HJ at 7.15pm and are seeking our support. ALM is involved in very much a hands-on Christian activity and, as well as shelter, also provides food, clothes and toiletries to very needy asylum seekers. English Language lessons are also much needed. 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

Caritas (formerly Catholic Children Society)

Would all box holders in Holy Family parish 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.

Lately Dead of the Parish

Your prayers are asked for the Repose of the Soul of **Alan Christian** (Jane Everett's dad) who died suddenly recently.

Alan's Requiem Mass takes place at Holy Family on **Monday 25th September at 11am (note change of date from previously advised)**.

Please remember his family in your prayers at this sad time.

May he Rest in Peace.

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.

Last Week's Collection Amounts

OLSJ:	17.09.2017	£488.86
HF:	17.09.2017	£602.53

Sunday 8th 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 1st October]**. Instead, parishioners are invited to take part in Cafod's Harvest Fast Day, on Friday 6th 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 20th October (pm) until after lunch Sun 22nd 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 / 0161 477 2783 / 07761 138947. Lifts may be available if required.



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

VACANCIES

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School - Deputy Head Teacher

Owing to the retirement of our Deputy Headteacher, the Governors are seeking to appoint a committed, enthusiastic practising Catholic teacher to the post of Deputy Headteacher in our successful school.

Visits to the school are strongly encouraged and can be arranged by contacting the school office on 0151 652 8454.

Applications and supporting letters must be submitted using the CES application form on the CES website or by contacting the school directly. All online applications and supporting statements must be followed up by posting signed paper copies to Miss Jane Bradley, Headteacher at the above address.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Friday 29th September 2017

Date of interview: Wednesday 18th October 2017
Start Date: January 2018

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

Sat 23 rd Sept	St Pio of Pietrelcina	6:00 pm	Mass – Vin & Mary Williams Joseph & Margaret Hall	OUR LADY & ST. JOHN
Sun 24 th Sept	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:15 am	Mass – Parishioners	
Mon 25 th Sept	Ferial		Church redecoration taking place. Masses celebrated at Holy Family instead.	
Tues 26 th Sept	Ferial			
Wed 27 th Sept	St Vincent de Paul		Adoration at Holy Family	
Thurs 28 th Sept	Ferial		Church redecoration taking place.	
Fri 29 th Sept	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels		Masses celebrated at Holy Family instead.	
Sat 30 th Sept	St Jerome	6:00 pm	Mass – Bernard Wright R.I.P.	
Sun 1 st Oct	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:15 am	Mass – Edward Murphy R.I.P.	

HOLY FAMILY	Sat 23 rd Sept	St Pio of Pietrelcina	12 noon	Mass – Henry Finn R.I.P (Anniversary)
	Sun 24 th Sept	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30 am	Mass – Alan Christian R.I.P.
			5:00 pm	Mass – Dennis Skean R.I.P. (Anniversary)
	Mon 25 th Sept	Ferial	11:00 am	Requiem Mass - Alan Christian
	Tues 26 th Sept	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Peter & Liz Fishwick
	Wed 27 th Sept	St Vincent de Paul	9:00 am	Mass – Rita Jones (Birthday)
			9:30 am – 7:30 pm	Adoration Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord
	Thurs 28 th Sept	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Pauline Fletcher & Family
	Fri 29 th Sept	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels	9:00 am	Mass – Roy Savage R.I.P.
Sat 30 th Sept	St Jerome	12 noon	Mass – Eileen Morgan (Speedy Recovery) (NO ADORATION TODAY, BAPTISM TAKING PLACE AFTER MASS)	
Sun 1 st Oct	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30 am	Mass – Rita & Cliff Jones (Wedding Anniversary)	
		5:00 pm	Mass – Special Intention (Rees Mogg Family)	

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 7:30pm after morning Mass during. On 1st 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, Mary Latimer and Alexander Hennessey.

Please get in touch if there are any alterations.