

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel by Father Stephen

A scribe asks Jesus, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" For the Jews of that time, God's love for his people was revealed in the Sinai covenant and in observing all his statutes and ordinances. By Jesus' time these had been codified into six hundred and thirteen prohibitions or commands. The question of the scribe is genuine. Jesus responds by quoting the same Torah (covenant law) that the scribe so ardently studied. He cites the opening verses of the Shema: "Hear, O Israel," recited every day by all Jews, summoning the people to total love of God with heart, mind, soul and strength, a love that springs out of gratitude for what God has done for them.

Citing another text from the Torah Jesus then says that the second commandment is "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." "As yourself," means as though he or she were yourself or as if you were in the same situation as your neighbour. Today the neighbour may be as near as one's spouse or as distant as a homeless person huddled in a shop doorway out of the extreme cold.



**He is King of Kings
Mighty GOD
HEAD of Our
CHURCH**

**Our GOD humbly awaits YOU in the monstrance
under the form of Bread every
Wednesday 9:30am-8:30pm at OLSJ
AND
Saturday after 12 noon Mass at Holy Family**

S.O.S. – only one person responded so far!!

OUR MEETING ROOM

Help is needed for an 'Autumn Clean' to our Meeting Room. This facility has been invaluable to all of us at Our Lady and St John and so that we can keep it looking as good as it did on the first day we had it, we have to do an annual clean. So, please put your name forward and come along on **Tuesday 6th November at 7pm**. It is important that a representative from each of the groups who use the room on a weekly/monthly basis are there to sort through the cupboard. Please give Joan a call on 342 5517 ASAP.



Mary Holgate and Margaret Stanley from Our Lady and St. John invite you to come and join them **every Saturday morning at 9:30am** at Our Lady and St John, to say the Rosary and pray for parishioner, Mary Brownrigg who is very poorly at the moment.

"For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." **Matthew 18:20**



Parishioners who need our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those in both parishes who are sick at home or in hospital, including:

- ❖ Catherine Maschke
- ❖ Carol Saunders
- ❖ Gerry Smith
- ❖ Joe Lucas
- ❖ Leonora Reilly
- ❖ Iris Christian
- ❖ John Moroney
- ❖ Ken Davies
- ❖ Mary Brownrigg
- ❖ Madge McGrath
- ❖ David Gorman
- ❖ Norman Corish



Please get in touch if there are any alterations.

First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion

2019: 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 2019. 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.

Do you know anyone interested in becoming a Catholic?

Father Stephen will shortly be starting a program of preparation. If you are interested in joining the program, please contact Father Stephen on 342 6581 or email

father.stephen@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk.

Father Stephen is also looking for parishioners who would be willing to help him run this and future programs.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham 29th April to 2nd May 2019. If you are interested and would like some more information, please contact Ann Parsons on 342-7229.

**SEAFARER CENTRE**

We are collecting items for the Seafarer Centre to give to our men and women who sail the sea and spend many months away from home. Over the last few years, we ask for your donations which will be wrapped in Christmas Paper and given to our visiting Seafarers. There will be a box in the meeting room at OLSJ, where you can place any of the following items

- Toiletries such as shower gel, toothpaste, deodorant
- Confectionery such as chocolate bars, boiled sweets
- Woolley hat, scarf, fingerless gloves, socks, baseball cap
- Christmas card or festive note with handwritten message signed with your Christian name only
- Pocket bible, rosary beads, playing cards

We are asking for help on **Thursday 29th November** after 7pm Mass, to come along and help wrap these gifts. Refreshments available. Thank you.

REMINDER! Holy Family Assam Collection will take place after all Masses **THIS Sunday, 4th November.**

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☜

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Tony Butcher** who has recently died. Tony's Memorial Service will take place at Our Lady and St John on **Monday 12th November at 11am.**

May his soul Rest in Peace. Please remember to pray for his families at this difficult time.

November is the Month of The Holy Souls

The envelopes for the Remembrance of your Loved Ones and Offerings are now available in the porch at both churches.

- **At Holy Family**, please place your completed envelopes in the basket by the Sacred Heart Statue.
- **At OLSJ**, please place your completed envelopes in the box at the back of the church.
- **Alternatively**, you can post the envelope through the presbytery letterbox.

May we take this opportunity to remind you, because we receive so many Intentions during this month that it's simply not possible to say an Individual Mass for each and every intention. The Mass is simply styled as "Holy Souls", please rest assured however that Masses will be said regularly throughout November and in the coming months, and all your intentions are remembered at those Masses.

At Our Lady and St John, a Mass to remember the Deceased of the Parish of the previous year will take place on **Thursday 15th November at 7pm.**

Spanish Evening: Many thanks to all who attended the recent Spanish themed supper at OLSJ and made it such a fun occasion. Congratulations to Martin Greaney, winner of Pin the Tale on the Donkey! The event raised over £400 for the charity Change a Child's Life to go towards the cost of repairing the cowsheds at Maria Immaculata Education Centre in Kenya so that the children can have milk to drink.

COME TO LUNCH IN NOVEMBER

As promised we are returning with a lunch on **Tuesday 20th November at 1.00pm** in the Meeting Room at OLSJ. The lunch is open to pensioners both men and women. It is a home cooked lunch and the cost is £4.50. If you would like to come and enjoy good food and company, please give Helen a call on 342 7824 **before** Thursday 15th November 2018.

OLSJ Saturday Evening Readers' Rota: As always, we're looking for more readers for the Saturday evening Mass. I will be putting the new 2019 rota together within the next couple of weeks and so, if you think it is something you would like to try, please contact Frankie Wise on 07828 820569.

Holy Family 200 Club

Week 3

1 st Prize	£25	No. 111	C. Ion
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 9	Mr Guntrip
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 23	A. Everett

Week 4

1 st Prize	£25	No. 184	J. Lucas
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 84	D. Gillham
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 95	D. Ireland

Thank you to the members who have promptly paid subs. There are a few outstanding amounts please can you ensure these are brought up to date as soon as possible. If you cannot get to Mass at Holy Family, please ring me on 07729034075 and I will gladly call and collect.



St Peter's Singers Advent Concert, Saturday 1st December at 7.30pm

at United Reform Church, Heswall (please note change of venue) Gounod St Cecilia Mass & Bizet Te Deum, Soloists - Barbara Ruzsics; Peter Bates; Jonne Quint; Piano Stephen Hargreaves, Musical Director - Adrian Griffiths. Tickets £12 available from Lingham's Bookshop.

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.



OLSJ Piety Stall: Do come and have a look at the lovely selection of Christmas cards, advent calendars, diaries, candles and other gifts for sale at the back of Church. All items

individually priced. Please put money for any Piety Stall items, in the wall box by the defibrillator.

The OLSJ Parish Support Group will be next meeting on **Wednesday 7th November**. Please contact one of the Support Group if you have any suggestions or issues for consideration at the meeting. Thank you.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Calling all parishioners of Holy Family and OLSJ:

Ladymount school are looking for a number of representatives from our Parish Community to attend a special **Remembrance Assembly at 9:20am on Thursday 8th November** at the school. Following the assembly, representatives will be asked to join in a two minutes silence on the playground (and an opportunity to see our remembrance garden - with homemade recycled poppies) and then invited to join in a 'Tea and Talk' session in one of the classrooms. If you are interested in attending to represent our Parish, please could you let Father Stephen know, so that the school can make the necessary arrangements?

OLSJ Flower Group

We are meeting at **2.30pm on Friday 9th November** to do the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday. Please bring any suitable greenery you have. Newcomers welcome.

Ministry Rotas at Holy Family

The Ministry Rotas for the coming 6 months will be prepared within the next 2 weeks. If you wish to take yourself off any rota, or indeed add yourself to a rota, then please speak to Rev Jeff as soon as possible. We particularly need Readers and folks willing to come onto the cleaning and flower rota for Church. As I've said previously, "things" don't just happen, there are people behind "things" MAKING them happen. So, if you have a little spare time that you could give to YOUR Church then please speak to Canon Stephen or myself.



The next **Monthly Prayer Breakfast** will take place on **Saturday 10th November @ 8:30am** in the Meeting Room at OLSJ.

No need to book, just come along.

Next Justice & Peace Group Meeting

The next meeting is on **Monday 12th November, at 7.30pm** in the Holy Family church. Parishioners of both parishes are invited to come along and see what we do.

Sat 3 rd November	St Winefride	6:00 pm	Mass – Brian Kearney R.I.P. <i>(Confessions 5.15pm-5.45pm)</i>
Sun 4 th November	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week III)	11:15 am	Mass – Derek Jones R.I.P.
Mon 5 th November	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – George Griffith Anniversary
Tues 6 th November	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Mim Rodgers R.I.P.
Wed 7 th November	Ferial	9:00 am	Celebration of Word and Communion
		9:30 am to 8:30 pm	Adoration - Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord
Thurs 8 th November	Ferial	7:00 pm	Mass – Andrew Walker
Fri 9 th November	Dedication of The Lateran Basilica		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)
Sat 10 th November	St Leo the Great	1:00 pm	Sophie Courtney and Daniel Povall Wedding Service
		6:00 pm	Mass – David Morley 4 th Anniversary <i>(Confessions 5.15pm-5.45pm)</i>
Sun 11 th November	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week IV) Remembrance Sunday	11:15 am	Mass – For the War Dead

OUR LADY & ST. JOHN

HOLY FAMILY	Sun 4 th November	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week III)	9:30 am	Mass - Tom Lacey R.I.P (Anniversary)
			5:00 pm	Mass – Special Intention
	Mon 5 th November	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Tues 6 th November	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Wed 7 th November	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Sara & Ken Bull
	Thurs 8 th November	Ferial	9:00 am	Service of Word and Sacrament
	Fri 9 th November	Dedication of The Lateran Basilica	9:00 am	Mass – William McNeil R.I.P (Anniversary)
	Sat 10 th November	St Leo the Great	12 noon	Mass – Moira Williams R.I.P (Anniversary) <i>(Confessions 11.30am-11.55am)</i>
	Sun 11 th November	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week IV) Remembrance Sunday	9:30 am	Mass - For the Victims of Conflict
			5:00 pm	Mass – Norman Bennett R.I.P (Anniversary)

Legion of Mary Meetings

Every Monday morning at 10:45am in the meeting room at OLSJ.

Mothers' Prayers

Every Monday morning at 9:30am in the meeting room at OLSJ.

Confessions

Our Lady & St John: Saturday 5:15pm – 5:45pm

Holy Family: Saturday 11:30am -11:50am

Adoration

Holy Family: Every Saturday after 12 noon Mass. On 1st Saturday of the Month, Divine Mercy devotions, prayers are included.

Our Lady & St John: Every Wednesday 9:30am – 8:30pm after morning Mass.