

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel

By Father Stephen

Luke's Gospel is often called the "Gospel for the poor," since Jesus blesses those who are literally poor rather than the poor in spirit, as does Matthew. Yet his blessing of the poor does not romanticize poverty and the Gospel is more concerned to point out the dangers of wealth than to praise the virtues of the poor. The rich will be sent away empty; they have already received their consolation. Worldly cares, riches and pleasures will choke the growth of God's word; the rich are motivated by greed and a lack of concern for others, so they will suddenly be struck down at the very moment they gaze upon wealth stored up for many years and muse that it is time to eat, drink and be merry. Though in the Gospel Jesus fulminates against the rich, in the Acts of the Apostles the newly born Church shares goods instead of abandoning them; almsgiving is stressed as an obligation to help the poor, not as an optional good deed. People of some means welcome Paul and share their resources. In his final exhortation to the Ephesians Paul tells them to work to support the poor and weak.



RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

17th February 2019

Today, is RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY. The theme this year is "**Dignity for ALL Workers**", recognising the problems faced by ethnic communities in our country. The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales ask us to earnestly pray for an end to racism and ethnic exploitation in our workplaces. As Disciples of Christ, our responsibility is to ensure that ALL people at work are treated justly and with respect and dignity.

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
- ❖ Carol Ross
- ❖ Veronica (Ronnie) McAllister
- ❖ John Smith



Please get in touch if there are any alterations.

Please join us on **Saturday mornings** to pray the rosary for parishioner, Mary Brownrigg and for all in the parish who are sick and all who need prayers. **All are welcome to join us each Saturday at 9.30am.**



During 2019, on the last Wednesday of each month at OLSJ, we will be saying the Rosary for the Unborn before the Blessed Sacrament during Adoration. Please do join us if you can.



Holy Family Music Group: The Music Group at Holy Family parish are looking for any musicians who would like to join our group. At present our small group consists of 3 guitars and a clarinet but we would love to welcome anyone who plays an instrument with confidence, to support the music and hymn singing at our 9:30am Sunday Masses. The group plays once a fortnight. If you are interested, please contact Pauline Eaton on 0151 648 5243.

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Stan Orton and Doris Christian** who have recently died.

- Stan's Funeral Mass will take place on **Thursday 28th February at 11 o'clock** at Our Lady and St John.
- Doris's Funeral Mass will take place on **Monday 4th March at 12:30pm** at Holy Family.

May their souls Rest in Peace. Please remember to pray for their families at this difficult time.

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S LIFELINE WIRRAL Can you help?

Lynne McGonigle, the local organizer, has appealed for help in finding host families. She says:

"We are looking for people who live on Wirral with a spare bedroom who could look after 2 children age between 9 and 11. It would be for 2 weeks either 1st to 14th June or 15th to 29th June. Contact me for more information by email lynneccll@outlook.com or phone on 07506 727821."

Legion of Mary Stall in Birkenhead Market: Phyllis would like to thank everyone who has donated items for the Legion of Mary stall that she helps to run on a monthly basis. If you have any spare medals, rosary beads, prayer books or other Holy items, please donate them to Phyllis for the stall. Thank you.

Uganda Trip: Josh Campbell, an altar server from OLSJ, is once again going to Uganda with the Heswall based charity Rock of Joy and the Ecumenical Youth Group. He has done most of fundraising himself so far but there is a fabulous fundraising night coming up on **9th March**. Wirral Boys and Girls School Big Band and Concert Band. 2 course meal and entertainment £15 a ticket. It would be lovely to get a table from the parish (8 per table). Please contact Monica or Josh Campbell if you are interested.



Refreshments After Sunday Mass at OLSJ: For the month of February, all donations given at Sunday Refreshments will be donated to the charity **Mary's Meals**. Visit their website to find out more about this charity www.marysmeals.org.uk

Gift Aid – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The end of the tax year is drawing ever closer. If you Gift Aid your offertory donation it is important that you check you are paying sufficient tax to cover the amount we will reclaim under Gift Aid. If you are no longer paying tax or not enough tax to cover the claim you should contact us urgently:

Holy Family: Fred Taylor 342 5922
OLSJ: Bernard Larkin 342 5517



Heswall
Disabled Children's
Holiday Fund

IRISH FUNDRAISING EVENING



TICKETS NOW ON SALE -

Our Irish Night is happening on **Friday 1st March at 7:30pm**. All proceeds to *Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund*. Tickets are £10 each including a light supper. Bring your own drinks. On Sale after Masses on Saturday and Sunday or phone Joan on 342 5517.

Please note, that the price of The Tablet magazine has increased in 2019 to £3.60. Thank you.



Raising money for Christian Aid by answering difficult questions!

Tickets are available for a Quiz & Supper Night at St Peter's Centre, Lower Heswall on **16th March at 7pm**. Teams can be up to a maximum of six people. So, let's get a team (or two) together to represent OLSJ and Holy Family. Supper is included in the price and a bar will be available. Suzy Smallwood currently has 12 tickets and can be contacted on 07875404128 or suzy.smallwood1963@gmail.com Price (including supper) is £8 per person.

Holy Family 200 Club

Week 18

1 st Prize	£25	No. 85	Mrs Moorhead
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 142	M. Rowe
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 66	B. Gernan

Trade Justice: Did you know that two UK banks organized \$2 Billion-dollar odious loans to Mozambique, a very poor country? Most of the money did not reach the poor for whom it was intended. America has prosecuted some of the people involved but we have done nothing. There is an online petition and more information about this injustice via tim@jubileedebt.org.uk

The Carmelite Monastery of The Annunciation in Birkenhead



invites you to

The Solemn Profession of Sister Maria Graziella of Jesus Crucified, icd

On Monday, March 25th at 11.00am.

Celebrant: The Right Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Shrewsbury. All are warmly welcome to join with the community in thanking Almighty God, for this grace-filled day. Refreshments will be available after the Ceremony.



World Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March 2019

"***Come - Everything is Ready!***" has been written by Christian women of Slovenia. The venues are Church of the Good Shepherd, Heswall at 1.45pm and Holy Family Church, Pensby at 7.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided afterwards. Do come along and join us, everyone welcome.

For more information about the World Day of Prayer visit www.wwdp.org.uk

A Thank You from Holy Family Parish, Ramallah

Dear Father Stephen and friends at the Holy Family Church,

It is with great joy, that we, at the Holy Family Church in Ramallah (Palestine), received the Christmas wishes from the faithful at the Holy Family Church in the UK. We felt the love and closeness of every one of you to our parish and families.

The letters and Christmas cards sent by you made us live in the spirit of Christmas, to spread the love and compassion of our Saviour to all, especially to those "forgotten" faithful. With your Christmas wishes, we know that we have brothers and sisters, and that we are members of the same Body of Christ, where "if one part suffers, every part suffers with it; and if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it" (1Corth 12, 26).

May God bless you and all the members of your Parish.

With my sincere wishes,

Father Jamal Khader

Parish Priest at Holy Family Church, Ramallah

THIS WEEKEND

Retired Priests' Fund – Special Collection

This weekend, (**16th & 17th February**) the special collection for the Retired Priests' Fund will be held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to help meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests. Special envelopes are available for you to use. A Leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how to make a regular donation to the Fund by Standing Order, or how you can make your donation by cheque. It also explains how to Gift Aid your donation. I ask that you give as generously as you can to this very worthy cause and would also like to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support.

With every blessing,
+Mark, Bishop of Shrewsbury

Adoration

**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



As part of the Darwin Shrewsbury Festival, **Shrewsbury Cathedral** is proudly hosting a lecture by Father Andrew Pinsent entitled "***Darwin and the Invisible Gardener: Perspectives on Science and Faith***" on **Monday 18th February at 7pm**. Entrance is free. The lecture will be 45 minutes long with 15 minutes for a Question and Answer session at the end. Everyone welcome.

Fully escorted **Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 13th May 2019**. £649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all taxes, luxury transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full Irish Breakfast each morning and 4 Course Dinner each evening. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours included. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £100. Groups and Individual bookings welcome. Contact **Patricia** on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

Sat 16 th February	BVM	6:00 pm	Mass – Tim Hetherington Anniversary	OUR LADY & ST. JOHN
Sun 17 th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week II) Day of Prayer for Racial Justice	11:15 am	Mass – Holy Souls	
Mon 18 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Marie Hearty	
Tues 19 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Margaret McGurk & Family	
Wed 20 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	
		9:30 am to 8:30 pm	Adoration - Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord	
Thurs 21 st February	St Peter Damian	7:00 pm	Mass – Michael Sugrue R.I.P.	
Fri 22 nd February	The Chair of St Peter		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)	
Sat 23 rd February	St Polycarp	6:00 pm	Mass – Winifred Lewis Anniversary	
Sun 24 th February	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week III)	11:15 am	Mass – Margaret Gannon	

HOLY FAMILY	Sun 17 th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week II) Day of Prayer for Racial Justice	9:30 am	Mass – Harry Rylance R.I.P.
			5:00 pm	Mass – Intentions of Helen Henry
	Mon 18 th February	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Tues 19 th February	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Wed 20 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass - Mr & Mrs E P Barsby
	Thurs 21 st February	St Peter Damian	9:00 am	Service of Word & Sacrament
	Fri 22 nd February	The Chair of St Peter	9:00 am	Mass - S & L McKay & Baby Grandson Jack
	Sat 23 rd February	St Polycarp	12 noon	Mass – In Thanksgiving
	Sun 24 th February	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week III)	9:30 am	Mass – Harry Doolan R.I.P. (Birthday Remembrance)
5:00 pm			Mass – Agnes Jenkins R.I.P.	

Legion of Mary Meetings

Every Monday morning at 10:45am 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.

Mothers' Prayers

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