

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel

By Father Stephen

Jesus issues four commands today: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who treat you badly. He then rejects a culture of violence characterised by a tit-for-tat mentality and proposes instead a strategy for breaking the cycle of evil. Again, the command is repeated: Love your enemy and do good. Why? The command is rooted in the very nature of God who is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Jesus goes on to say, 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.' Love is not simply an emotion but a fundamental attitude that seeks the good of the other and responds to his or her need. Forsaking punishment does not constitute biblical mercy which is, rather, compassionate love and concern expressed beautifully in today's Responsorial Psalm: 'He redeems your life and crowns you with love and compassion.' Luke's Good Samaritan, who rescues a half dead traveller, shows mercy. Jesus lives what he proclaims, he eats with and reaches out to those Pharisees who oppose him and gives of himself to those who beg for healing or forgiveness. The dying Jesus prays: 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.'



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.



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.

☞ 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.

Dates for you Diary 2019 from the Holy Family Social Committee

- ❖ Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea: *19th May*
- ❖ Parish BBQ: *9th June*
- ❖ Strawberry Tea: *13th July*
- ❖ Parish Meal: *Mid-September*

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.

Don't forget the next **Assam collection** at Holy Family will take place next **Sunday 3rd March**.

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.



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 19

1 st Prize	£25	No. 76	E. Cantillion
2 nd Prize	£10	No. 33	A. Richardson
3 rd Prize	£5	No. 83	A. Keenan

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.

Wirral Orchestra and Chorus with Cantorion Rhos Concert

on **Saturday 16th March at 7:30pm** at St. Hildeburgh's Church in Hoylake. In aid of the Clatterbridge Cancer Charity. Tickets £8 on sale from Lingham's Booksellers, Heswall or 645 5547 or pay on the door.





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



S.P.U.C. Rosary for the Unborn

S.P.U.C. is privileged to be partnering with the Knights of St Columba in their 50th anniversary year. In OLSJ



we are marking this special year by saying the Rosary for the Unborn before the Blessed Sacrament **next Wednesday, 27th February** at the beginning of Exposition (about 9:30am) and on the last Wednesday of each month. There will be special prayer cards at the back of church and also in Holy Family where Exposition is after 12 noon Mass on Saturdays.

We are asking for Our Lady of Guadalupe's help to stop the killing by abortion of unborn babies and that ALL human life will be respected, remembering that we are all made in God's image and likeness i.e. we all have a soul given to us by God at our conception, which of course includes all babies in the womb – **"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you"** Jeremiah 1:5

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



We thank those who are so loyal to their "Holy Hour" with Jesus on a Wednesday. We **URGENTLY** need more people prepared to give an hour of their time, on a regular basis or at least for a few weeks at a time, Jesus will welcome you.

Please Come

Confirmation Classes: Confirmation for children from either Parish, will take place mid-June at Holy Family. If you are in Year 8 or above and wish to receive the Sacrament, please give your name and contact details to Fr. Stephen.

Wirral Foodbank is extremely grateful for all of the fantastic support that Wirral Churches have given



us over the past few years, especially at Christmas 2018. We were overwhelmed by the support given to us by you all. However, you will undoubtedly have heard that the use of foodbanks has increased by 52% on this time last year, meaning that we are using up the food donated at Christmas at a very fast rate.

We know that many churches also like to have a collection for us during the Easter period. This year, we are not asking for chocolate or Easter Eggs, as our need for ordinary food products is so great. We are asking that if your church could collect for us, some items we really need. These are:

- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Tinned Carrots
- Soap Powder Tablets

Total for the last two week's collection, Our Lady & St John, 12.66 kg and Holy Family, 52.83 kg.

Ladies and Gents Over 55's Afternoon Tea

The next afternoon tea will be on **Tuesday 26th February 2-4pm** in the Meeting Room at OLSJ. Do come and enjoy a nice cup of tea and friendly conversation. Everyone welcome.



Fairtrade Fortnight **25th February to 10th March 2019**

Over the next two weeks there is the opportunity to show support for the exploited farmers in the poorer countries. Our local supermarkets Sainsbury's Tesco and the Co-op stock a wide range of Fairtrade goods and have given us some free samples of these. To help raise awareness of Fairtrade Fortnight, the Justice & Peace Group are **holding a free raffle**

after the 9.30 am and 5pm masses at The Holy Family church.

**DON'T FEED EXPLOITATION.
CHOOSE FAIRTRADE.**



Sat 23 rd February	St Polycarp	6:00 pm	Mass – Winifred Lewis Anniversary	OUR LADY & ST. JOHN
Sun 24 th February	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week III)	11:15 am	Mass – Margaret Gannon	
Mon 25 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Daryl Woodward	
Tues 26 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Dolores Carter	
Wed 27 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 28 th February	Ferial	11:00 am	Funeral Mass – Stan Orton	
			No 7pm Mass	
Fri 1 st March	St. David		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am)	
Sat 2 nd March	BVM	6:00 pm	Mass – Kathleen O'Farrell R.I.P.	
Sun 3 rd March	8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week IV)	11:15 am	Mass – Intentions of Hilary Clark	

HOLY FAMILY	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.
	Mon 25 th February	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Tues 26 th February	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Wed 27 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass - Jean & Russell Herbert R.I.P (Anniversary)
	Thurs 28 th February	Ferial	9:00 am	Service of Word & Sacrament
	Fri 1 st March	St. David	9:00 am	Mass – Holy Souls (November List)
	Sat 2 nd March	BVM	12 noon	Mass – Harry Rylance R.I.P.
	Sun 3 rd March	8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week IV)	9:30 am	Mass – Gordon Orr R.I.P.
			5:00 pm	Mass – Melissa Callaghan R.I.P (Recently Died)

Legion of Mary Meetings

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

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.

Confessions

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

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

Mothers' Prayers

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