

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel

By Father Stephen

The three Synoptic Gospels all give an account of the Transfiguration, but each has a different emphasis. While Matthew and Mark place it **after** Jesus begins his journey to Jerusalem, Luke puts it **before** Jesus 'resolutely sets out for Jerusalem.' (9:51) Only Luke has Jesus praying and only in Luke is there a conversation with Moses and Elijah about 'his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.' Themes dear to Luke emerge. As Jesus journeys to Jerusalem Luke includes the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the Importunate Widow and the Unjust Judge, the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, as well as significant teaching about discipleship and repentance. Luke's account of the Transfiguration functions as does the appearance to Moses at the burning bush as God's preparation for and approval of his ministry of prophecy and teaching. Like Moses, Jesus has in depth encounters with God his Father. In Exodus Moses' face shines as he talks to the Lord. This also fits in with Luke's stress on Jesus in prayer. Prayer is opening yourself to the mystery of God, raising your mind and heart to God. All the key events of Jesus' life are preceded in Luke by a time of prayer.



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 soul of **Norman Hayes** who has recently died.

Norman's Funeral Mass will take place on **Wednesday 27th March at 11:00 am** at Holy Family.

May his soul Rest in Peace. Please remember to pray for his family 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



The Easter Flower collection at Holy Family will take place on 17th and 24th March. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Upcoming Events

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

MISSIO **Red Mission Boxes** Would all boxholders at both Holy Family and Our Lady & St. John please bring boxes to church for emptying/ counting. Would everyone please make sure that their name and address is on the box (label is situated on bottom of box). Boxes can be left in the sacristy at either church or handed to Mary/John Wrigley at Holy Family or Ian Butler at OLSJ. Donations also gratefully received.

Treasurer Needed: The treasurer of a local scout group is wanting to retire after 15 years' service. Basic book-keeping skills and familiarity with online banking is desirable. If you are interested in this volunteer position with 4th Heswall Sea Scout Group, please contact Tony Hailwood at tonyhailwood@btinternet.com

Holy Family 200 Club: The new session will start on Sunday 7th April 2019 and envelopes will be available from 17th March 2019 at all Masses as Holy Family.



3rd Heswall Scout Group Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper (vegetarian option available on request) at the scout hut on **22nd March at 7.30pm.** £10 per ticket to include food and drink on arrival. There

will be a licensed bar. Come and join a team or bring a team. If you would like to come along, please ring Jean on 07966295388 by Thursday 14th March.

3rd Heswall Scout Group Gold Mine: Many of us have bits of broken jewellery lying around in boxes and drawers that individually hold little value. 3rd Heswall Scout Group are collecting all of these scraps to raise funds for the troop. Bring your gold in an envelope to Tricia Birch or Anne O'keeffe at Holy Family or David O'Hagan at OLSJ. Thanks for your support.

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.

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



Wirral Foodbank This year at

Easter, we are not asking for chocolate or Easter Eggs, as our need for ordinary food products is so great. We are asking that if you church could collect for us, some items we really need. These are Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Carrots and Soap Powder Tablets. Total for the last week's collection, Our Lady & St John, 20.11 kg and Holy Family, 36.54 kg.

There are No Ordinary People

An evening with Jeff Lucas & the Searchlight Theatre Company – Comedy, Story Telling, Theatre and Music..... **Monday 1st April** at The Church of the Good Shepherd, Heswall. Begins at 7:30pm, tickets £10 in advance or £12 on the door, suitable for ages 12+. Tickets can be bought in advance online at www.searchlighttheatre.org

Wirral Trade Justice and Christian Aid: HSBC is one of the largest banks in the world. It claims to be concerned about the impact of fossil fuels on climate change. However, it is willing to provide finance for the construction of coal fired power stations in Vietnam, Bangladesh and Indonesia. HSBC provides more finance for the fossil fuel industry than for renewable energy. Wirral Trade Justice would like to support the Christian Aid campaign to ask HSBC to make the 'Big Shift' from supporting fossil fuels to financing renewable energy. On Thursday April 4th please join us in our peaceful lobby of HSBC in Heswall at 1:30pm. Any questions please contact Alan Vernon (Chair of Wirral Trade Justice) on 342 3398.

+ Lent 2019 +

Pray....

+ Stations of the Cross during Lent +

Our Lady and St John

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed after Mass on weekday mornings.

Holy Family

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed after 9am Mass on a Friday.

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.



Listen....

Don't Give Up Chocolate for Lent.....

Instead, discover simple ways to transform your life in forty days. Join our parish for **BEST LENT EVER**, a **free** email program from Dynamic Catholic that is designed to help you have a life-changing Lent. Each day, you'll receive a short inspirational video that will help you . . .

- Find areas for growth
- Build better habits
- Spark lasting change

Sign up at www.DynamicCatholic.com/BestLent

Called to Holiness, Gifted for Mission: The second of 4 diocesan talks will be by Fr Jonathan Brandon, Wednesday 20th March in St. Columba's, Chester (7pm-9pm). It will be repeated in Shrewsbury the following Saturday. Further details can be found on the diocesan website.

Join In....



Lenten Lunches 2019

This year the Lenten Lunches will be held on **Friday 22nd & 29th March** and on **Friday 5th & 12th April** at 12:15 to 13:30. As before they are being hosted by the United Reformed Church (next to Tescos in Heswall). Please consider joining us for lunch. The proceeds will be divided between Christian Aid and CAFOD. If you can help at one of the lunches, please let me know, Suzy Smallwood (suzy.smallwood1963@gmail.com or 07875 404128) or come to the first lunch for 11:45am.

Our Journey Through Lent – Week 2 Wine/Soft Drinks



Can we give up alcohol for a week, or a day, or just one drink? For non-alcoholic drinkers and children, our favourite soft drink or simply a cup of tea or coffee?

Why are we doing this? In this small act of self-sacrifice many of us will drink a glass of tap-water as a substitute. For millions of poor people, this glass of water is simply not available, or, if it is, it is dirty water and often after being carried for several miles.

What do Cafod do with this money? One of Cafod's most popular projects is to build wells and water pumps in areas of shortage. In Africa they have even provided bicycles and employment/training for local pump engineers to maintain these wells.

Spare Cafod envelopes are at the back of church.

Try Something New...

FREE Chi Gong Classes for Lent!

Parishioner, Marian Jones, is offering all parishioners free Chi Gong classes every Thursday during Lent 2019. The classes will take place **every Thursday** in the Meeting Room at OLSJ from **10:30am** for ½ hour of gentle exercise ending with a short relaxation, followed by tea and biscuits.

Chi Gong is gentle flowing exercise and is simple to perform. It aids circulation and improves balance. Suits any age group. No need to book, just come along and give it a try. Wear comfortable clothing. Everyone welcome.

Sat 16 th March	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Beryl West R.I.P.	OUR LADY & ST. JOHN
Sun 17 th March	Second Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week II)	11:15 am	Mass – David Morley Birthday	
		12:30 pm	William Morley Baptism	
Mon 18 th March	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Marylin Clarke	
Tues 19 th March	St Joseph, Husband of Our Lady	9:00 am	Mass – John Campbell Birthday	
Wed 20 th March	Ferial	9:00 am	Celebration of Word and Communion	
		9:30 am to 5:30 pm	Adoration - Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord	
Thurs 21 st March	Ferial		No Mass	
Fri 22 nd March	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at Holy Family)	
Sat 23 rd March	Ferial	6:00 pm	Mass – Ruth Hughes Anniversary	
Sun 24 th March	Third Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week III)	11:15 am	Mass – Hazel Campbell Anniversary	

HOLY FAMILY	Sun 17 th March	Second Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week II)	9:30 am	Mass – Doris Christian R.I.P.
			5:00 pm	Mass – Holy Souls (November List)
	Mon 18 th March	Ferial		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Tues 19 th March	St Joseph, Husband of Our Lady		No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Wed 20 th March	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Winifred Lewis Birthday
	Thurs 21 st March	Ferial	9:00 am	Service of Word & Sacrament
	Fri 22 nd March	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass – Intentions of Beryl Gernon (Birthday Thanksgiving)
	Sat 23 rd March	Ferial	12 noon	Mass – Stan Orton R.I.P.
	Sun 24 th March	Third Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week III)	9:30 am	Mass – Douglas Thompson R.I.P.
			5:00 pm	Mass – For the Parish

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.