

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

## Reflection on Today's Gospel By Father Stephen

A younger son asks his father for his share of the inheritance. He then leaves for a distant country, squanders the money, suffers degradation and starvation and ends up feeding pigs. He then decides to return home, but his motivation is quite selfish. He prepares a little speech for his father: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son, treat me as one of your paid servants."

While he is still a long way off, his waiting father sees him and 'moved with pity' he runs to the boy, clasps him in his arms and kisses him tenderly. The son launches into his speech, but in the embrace of his loving and compassionate father, he doesn't get chance to say, 'Treat me as one of your paid servants.' The father instead says, 'Quick, bring out the best robe, and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Far from being welcomed as a servant the son is restored to the dignity of family membership. Then the father orders a party to celebrate his son being found again, being restored to life.



We warmly welcome 3<sup>rd</sup> Heswall Scouts and 7<sup>th</sup> Heswall Rainbows who will be joining us for Mothering Sunday at 11:15am Mass at OLSJ today.



## 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
- ❖ Peter Bowskill



*Please get in touch if there are any alterations.*

## Dates for you Diary 2019 from the Holy Family Social Committee

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



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.



**RECONCILIATION**

## Local Missionary Area

(formerly known as Local Pastoral Area) **Lenten Reconciliation Service** on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm at Our Lady and St John's Church.

## ☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **John Turner**, a parishioner from Holy Family, who has recently died.

Details for John's funeral are yet to be confirmed.

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

## Planned Giving – Next Year's Envelopes

Please note that next year's envelopes for Holy Family will be available from **this Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March**. Boxes for OLSJ parishioners will be available the following weekend, **30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> March**. The boxes of envelopes are in alphabetical order at the back of church. This year there are no addresses on the boxes due to GDPR, only names. It is very important that you make absolutely sure you are taking the correct box. Please collect your box as soon as you can and it would be helpful to pass on their box to anyone else you can see is present. The first Sunday of the new tax year is 7<sup>th</sup> April. Any questions please contact:

**Holy Family:** Fred Taylor 342 5922

**OLSJ:** Bernard Larkin 342 5517



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Heswall Scout Group News



**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.

**International Trip:** The Scout group are taking some of our young people on an International trip next year and we have organised a number of fundraising events. During April, we are collecting unwanted clean clothes, curtains, bed linen, paired shoes, soft toys and belts. Drop off at either Church, leave in my porch 43 Fishers Lane or phone 07592538346 to arrange collection. Spring is a great time to have a clear out and all for a great cause. Thanks for your support.

Don't forget the next **Assam collection** at Holy Family will take place next **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April**.

**Wirral Foodbank** This year at Easter, we are asking 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, 17.18 kg and Holy Family, 42.72 kg.

## Easter at Holy Family

The time is fast approaching when we ask for your support to enable fitting liturgies to take place. We ask for **READERS** and **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** to assist at the various Masses and Services. If you wish to exercise your Ministry over the Sacred Triduum please sign up on the sheets in the Sacristy Corridor as soon as possible. Once again, **ONLY** sign if you are sure of your attendance at the Mass/Service you have indicated.

Thank you. RevJeff



The **Easter Flower Collection** at Holy Family raised £128.65. Thank you for your generosity.

**Holy Family Easter Raffle:** Our ever-popular Easter Egg raffle has begun. Tickets on sale from the Box Office £1 per strip. Raffle will be drawn on Easter Sunday.



## *There are No Ordinary People*

An evening with Jeff Lucas & the Searchlight Theatre Company – Comedy, Story Telling, Theatre and Music..... **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.searchlighttheatre.org)



**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.

**Maundy Thursday:** Father Stephen is looking for volunteers to help with the washing of the feet for both parishes. Could you please let Father know if you are able to help?

# + 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.

## 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](http://www.DynamicCatholic.com/BestLent)



## Easter Triduum



### **Maundy Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

**7 pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper at OLSJ

### **Good Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

**10 am** Walk of Witness starts at OLSJ

**3 pm** Celebration of the Lord's Passion at Holy Family & OLSJ

### **Holy Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

**8:00 pm** Easter Vigil at Holy Family

### **Easter Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

**9.30am** Mass at Holy Family

**11.15am** Mass at OLSJ

**But NO evening Mass at Holy Family.**

## Join In....



### Lenten Lunches 2019

This year the Lenten Lunches will be held on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April** at 12:15 to 13:30. As before they are being hosted by the United Reformed Church (next to Tesco's 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](mailto:suzy.smallwood1963@gmail.com) or 07875 404128) or come to the first lunch for 11:45am.



### Our Journey Through Lent – Week 4 Time

There are many ways we can create time and use it more creatively or to help others. We can simplify our lives. Put our mobile phones and devices away for the evening. Turn the television off and spend time reading. Visit an elderly neighbour or someone who may be lonely. Join a charitable organisation -there are plenty of local ones. A short time in prayer and contemplation is never a waste of time. At the same time is there some way we can save a few pence as well?

**Why are we doing this?** Since time is so precious to most of us, it must be a real self-sacrifice to give it up or to share it with others. Yet how much of our time is simply wasted or squandered? By thinking about how we can use or share our time with others we are already making good use of our time. And the time we have is soon gone. It is another resource for which we are accountable.

**What do Cafod do with this money?** Most of Cafod workers are volunteers who give up their time and use it for others in this way. Cafod produces literature and prayers. Have you ever spent time reading any of this? They contain many informative ways of a good use of time.

**Spare Cafod envelopes are at the back of church.**

## Try Something New...

**FREE Chi Gong Classes for Lent!** 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. Wear comfortable clothing.

|                                |   |   |  |                                |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Sat<br>30 <sup>th</sup> March  | Ferial  | 6:00 pm   | Mass – Germaine Overton  | <b>OUR LADY &amp; ST. JOHN</b> |
| Sun<br>31 <sup>st</sup> March  | <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>Mothering Sunday</b><br><b>(Psalter Week IV)</b> |  | 11:15 am<br>Mass – Elaine Naughton R.I.P.                          |                                |
| Mon<br>1 <sup>st</sup> April   | Ferial  | 9:00 am   | Mass – Intentions of Paddy Dwyer                                   |                                |
| Tues<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> April  | Ferial  | 9:00 am   | Mass – Intentions of Stephen & Pauline Burke                       |                                |
| Wed<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> April   | Ferial  | 9:00 am   | <b>Celebration of Word and Communion</b>                           |                                |
|                                |   | 9:30 am to<br>8:30 pm   | <b>Adoration</b> - Come and spend some quiet time<br>with Our Lord |                                |
| Thurs<br>4 <sup>th</sup> April | Ferial  | <b>9:00 am</b>  | Mass – Stan Orton R.I.P.   |                                |
|                                |   | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Lent Reconciliation Service</b>                                 |                                |
| Fri<br>5 <sup>th</sup> April   | Ferial  |   | <b>No Mass (Mass at Holy Family)</b>                               |                                |
| Sat<br>6 <sup>th</sup> April   | Ferial  | 6:00 pm   | Mass – David Birch   |                                |
| Sun<br>7 <sup>th</sup> April   | <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>(Psalter Week I)</b>                              | 11:15 am  | Mass – The Ross Family   |                                |

|                    |                                |  |                       |  |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| <b>HOLY FAMILY</b> | Sun<br>24 <sup>th</sup> March  | <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>(Psalter Week III)</b> | 9:30 am               | Mass – Douglas Thompson R.I.P.   |
|                    |                                |  | 5:00 pm               | Mass – For the Parish  |
|                    | Mon<br>1 <sup>st</sup> April   | Ferial   |                       | <b>No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 8:30 am)</b>                                       |
|                    | Tues<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> April  | Ferial   |                       | <b>No Mass (Mass at OLSJ at 9am)</b>   |
|                    | Wed<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> April   | Ferial   | 9:00 am               | Mass – Beryl West R.I.P.   |
|                    | Thurs<br>4 <sup>th</sup> April | Ferial   | 9:00 am               | <b>Service of Word &amp; Sacrament</b>   |
|                    | Fri<br>5 <sup>th</sup> April   | Ferial   | 9:00 am               | Mass – Holy Souls (November List)<br><b>+Stations of The Cross after Mass+</b> |
|                    | Sat<br>6 <sup>th</sup> April   | Ferial   | 12 noon               | Mass – Brian Wright R.I.P.   |
|                    | Sun<br>7 <sup>th</sup> April   | <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>(Psalter Week I)</b>   | 9:30 am               | Mass – Pauline Williams 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.