

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

Reflection on Today's Gospel

By Father Stephen

Though the temptation of Jesus calls to mind the testing of Israel by God during the forty years in the desert, it also evokes the original falling away of humanity in Adam. Satan introduces the first two tests with the words, "If you are the Son of God..." calling to mind the image of Adam created as a child of God. What the devil proposes to Adam and Eve is that they will be immortal and will be "like gods." Although human yet created in the image of God, they want to transcend humanity and usurp the power of the Creator. Jesus is then tested to show that he is Son by startling demonstrations of divine power: changing stones into bread and commanding the angels.

Jesus reverses the sin of Adam. Though called from birth "God with us", Jesus will not manifest his equality with God by demonstrations of self-serving power but will be called "a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners." He is the servant who will not break the crushed reed or quench the wavering flame. He will draw to himself all who labour and are overburdened not by overweening power, but by being gentle and humble of heart. By accepting the fullness of humanity, Jesus is truly Son of God.

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,
- Gerry Smith,
- Joe Lucas,
- John Moroney,
- Ken Davies,
- Madge McGrath,
- David Gorman,
- Norman Corish,
- Carol Ross,
- Jillie Huntingford,
- Imelda Atherton,
- Eileen Millard,
- Pauline Pritchard,
- Deacon Philip White,
- Sara Bull,
- Lil Skinner
- Margaret C. Hiepko,
- William Kerin

Please get in touch if there are any alterations.

✠ Stations of the Cross During Lent ✠

Holy Family

At Holy Family as is traditional, we will be praying Stations of The Cross after Mass each Friday during Lent. If anyone wishes to lead the devotion, there are plenty of resources available in the sacristy. Please sign the sheet in the Sacristy corridor. Thank you.

Our Lady & St John

At Our Lady and St John, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed after Mass on Mondays and Tuesdays during Lent. Please try to join us in this devotion. Thank you.

Saturday Morning Rosary



We pray the Rosary every Saturday morning at 9.30 at OLSJ, for all in the parish who are sick and for all who need prayers. Please join us whenever you can and if anyone has any particular intention they wish to be included please let Fr Stephen know.

"Where Two or Three are Gathered in My Name, I Am in Their Midst"



Fairtrade Fortnight 24th February - 7th March

A big thank you to our local supermarkets, each of whom gave us free samples of the Fairtrade goods sold on their shelves. **Tesco, M&S, CO-OP, Morrisons and Sainsburys** all contributed. Thanks also for donations made by parishioners. A cheque for £56 has been sent to the Fairtrade organisation.

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world.

Next Justice & Peace Group meeting: The next J&P meeting will take place on **Monday 9th March at 7.30pm** at Holy Family church. This meeting is open to parishioners from either parish. Come along and find out what we do.

Self-Denial in Lent - Calling All Parishioners

For Lent this year, parishioners from both parishes are encouraged join in a program of self-denial. This program has been put together by our own Justice and Peace group with the approval of Father Stephen. Please make sure you take a **"Our Journey Together Through Lent 2020"** leaflet home with you this weekend, to see how we, as a parish, can make a difference this Lent. Please read the leaflet to see what is suggested for week 1. Suggestions for the following weeks will be printed in the newsletter.



The next Monthly Prayer Breakfast will be on



Saturday 14th March at 8:30am

in the Meeting Room at OLSJ.
This month it will be hosted by the parishioners of St. Peter's. No need to book, just turn up, everyone welcome.

Many thanks for your generous donations during February. The totals are as follows: Holy Family 92.02 kgs and OLSJ 13.72 kgs. Many thanks for this much needed support.



Baptisms in February 2020



We warmly welcome *Felicity & Sophia Garner* who were baptised at OLSJ on 23rd February 2020.



Parking Issues at Holy Family

We would like to draw your attention again, as we have received comments recently about parking on Pensby Road outside Church during Mass. People are parking cars far too close to the service road entrance outside Church and **seriously restricting vision** for our neighbours and residents and Parishioners who are trying to safely get onto Pensby Road from the service road. Pensby Road is a fast moving road at the best of times with, sadly, not many adhering to the 30mph limit. **Please park considerably** and let's not wait for an accident to occur. We would ask you once again, if possible, to use the Church Car Parks, and please, don't leave huge gaps between cars so that we can maximise the number of cars that we can accommodate. We have arranged for the rear car park to be "lined" and the lining in the front car park to be refreshed, this will take place in a few weeks Thank You.

News from Assam

Fr Philip writes to ask our prayers for ten boys who are sitting exams this week. He also asks for our prayers for Fr William Kullu who is very sick and for Bishop Joseph whose ordination anniversary falls this month.

Fr Philip has sent us some fresh photos of the boys with Bishop Albert. He has also sent a copy of one of the prize winning entries for The Holy Family English Essay competition. The photos and the essay will appear on the notice board shortly.

Fr Andreas writes and tells us that he has been posted to a new parish nearer a college where he is studying.

He also tells us that the three girls we are supporting, Celestina, Marestella & Phoolwanti are all fine and continuing their studies. And he sends his love and prayers to us all.

***** Don't forget *****

The monthly **Assam** collection will take place after all Masses **THIS Sunday, 1st March** at Holy Family.

Holy Family 200 Club

New session will commence on **Sunday 5th April 2020** envelopes for new session will be available from 22nd March and 29th March at all masses at Holy Family.

Many thanks for your support but new members are required for the next session. Please see Ronnie Buckley if you wish to join.

Sat 29th February	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	6:00 pm	Mass - Marion Morris Anniversary	O U R L A D Y & S T J O H N
Sun 1st March	First Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week I)	11:15 am	Mass - John Campbell R.I.P.	
Mon 2nd March	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass - Mary Brownrigg R.I.P. ✠ <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>	
Tues 3rd March	Ferial	9:00 am	Mass - Intentions of William Kerrin ✠ <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>	
Wed 4th March	St Casimir	9:00 am	Celebration of Word and Sacrament	
		9:30 am to 8:30 pm	Adoration Come and spend some quiet time with Our Lord	
Thurs 5th March	Ferial		No Mass	
Fri 6th March	Family Fast Day & World Day of Prayer		No Mass	
Sat 7th March	Ss Perpetua & Felicity	6:00 pm	Mass - Janine & Fred Overton	
Sun 8th March	Second Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week II)	11:15 am	Mass - Bernie Burchell R.I.P.	

H O L Y F A M I L Y	Sun 1st March	First Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week I)	9:30 am	Mass - Intentions of Pauline Pritchard
			5:00 pm	Mass - Patricia Bessant (Birthday Thanksgiving)
	Mon 2nd March	Ferial		(Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Tues 3rd March	Ferial		(Mass at OLSJ at 9am)
	Wed 4th March	St Casimir	9:00 am	Mass - Mr & Mrs Michael & Pat Bessant (Wedding Anniversary)
	Thurs 5th March	Ferial		No Mass
	Fri 6th March	Family Fast Day & World Day of Prayer		No Mass
	Sat 7th March	Ss Perpetua & Felicity	12 noon	Mass - Special Intention
Sun 8th March	Second Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week II)	9:30 am	Mass - Kathleen Dunne R.I.P.	
		5:00 pm	Mass - Maureen Barton (Speedy Recovery)	

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.