

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

Important - Coronavirus Update

As advised by the Council of Bishops, we will be putting in place a number of measures, as a Parish, to help prevent the spread of the Corona Virus. A separate leaflet will be issued with the recommendations. Please do read it carefully and follow the advice.

Reflection on Today's Gospel

By Father Stephen

Jesus asks the woman who has come to the well for a drink and the woman responds with great surprise that he would even speak, no less request a drink given the hostility between Jews and Samaritans. Jesus does not answer her objection but rather says that if she really knew the gift that God is offering her and who he was, she would be thirsting for living water. "Living water" has a deep double meaning, for it means fresh flowing water, not well water, and also water that gives life. Those who drink this water will never thirst and this water will be a spring welling up to eternal life. The woman says, "Give me some of this water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water."

She hurries back to the town and the townspeople listen to her testimony, come to Jesus and when they meet him, they hear his word and know he really is the saviour of the world. Like the woman we come to faith and through immersion in the living water of baptism become missionaries who bring others to Christ.

✠ 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.

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



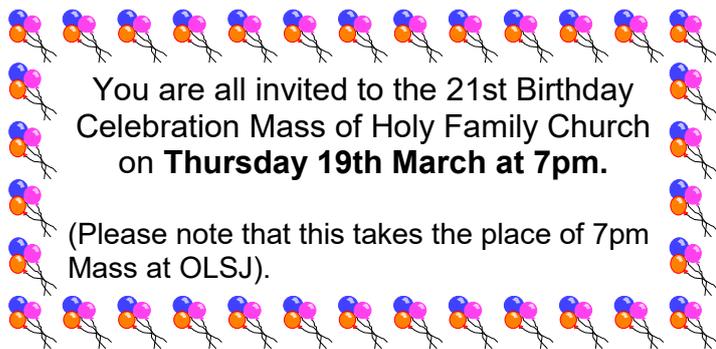
Please get in touch if there are any alterations.

✠ May They Rest in Peace ✠

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Anne Clark, Hayley Roberts and James McDermott** who have recently died. May their souls Rest in Peace.

- Anne Clark's Funeral Service will take place on **Tuesday 24th March at 9:15 am** at Our Lady & St John.
- Hayley Roberts' Funeral Mass will take place on **Thursday 26th March at 1pm** at Our Lady and St John.
- James McDermott's Funeral Service will take place on **Monday 30th March at 12:30pm** at Holy Family.

Please remember to pray for their families at this difficult time.



You are all invited to the 21st Birthday Celebration Mass of Holy Family Church on **Thursday 19th March at 7pm.**

(Please note that this takes the place of 7pm Mass at OLSJ).

Stage 3 of Our Journey Together through Lent

Sweets and Chocolate

This is a traditional thing to 'give up' for Lent. Perhaps we might include sugar in tea or coffee? Some children (and adults!) are addicted to sweet drinks or breakfast cereals. Do without a pudding? Can we give any of these up for the full week, or a day, or just one meal?

Why are we doing this? Can we compare the slight 'craving' we might feel with what it must be like to be desperately hungry for any kind of food? The small saving we make by this self-denial will make a huge difference to one or two of those who are starving.

What do Cafod do with this money? This Spring Cafod highlights its help given to local experts. One of these is Sister Consilia in Zimbabwe. She is a trained and highly skilled pharmacist who spends her time tirelessly working to care, support and heal the people she lives among.

Spare Cafod envelopes are at the back of church which can be handed in at any time during Lent.

WANTED: any unwanted gift bags, Christmas/Birthday or any celebrations/ bottle bags too. Also if you have any unwanted gifts(new) they would be much appreciated.



WHAT FOR: Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund Coffee morning which will take place on **Saturday 6th June at the URC Heswall.** There will be a box in the porch to leave any of the above. Thank you- Joan Larkin



Red Missio Boxes Would all box holders in both parishes bring the boxes to church for emptying and counting?

Our Lady and St. John: Boxes can be left in the sacristy or handed to Ian Butler.

Holy Family: Boxes can be left in the sacristy or handed to Mary/John Wrigley.

Donations also gratefully received. Would all box holders please ensure their name and address are clearly written on the box?

Coronavirus News - Things to Consider

In light of the Coronavirus outbreak, if you are unable to come to Mass, please do consider signing up to receive this newsletter electronically, to keep up to date with what is going on in the Parish. To sign up to receive the newsletter via email on a weekly basis, please drop Victoria Hanlon a line at contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk.

Equally, did you know that you can watch Mass over the internet on your laptop, tablet or phone? Simply go the website www.churchservices.tv You can watch Mass live from parishes all over the UK and Ireland. Our own cathedral in Shrewsbury streams Mass live during the week.

Also, if you are staying at home to self-isolate, please do consider letting Father Stephen or Jeff Telford know, so that they can keep in touch with you, especially if you are living by yourself.

Saturday Morning Rosary

We pray the Rosary every Saturday morning at 9.30 at OLSJ, for an end to the Coronavirus as well as for all in the parish who are suffering from the affects of it.



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"

Volunteer with Oxfam



Oxfam is looking for new volunteers to help out in their Heswall shop. The days that they most need help with are Tuesdays and Saturdays. If you are able to spend just a couple of hours helping out please speak to Beck the manager of the Heswall shop on 342 8416 or pop into the shop for further details.

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

CAFOD
Just one world



Lent Lunches



Dates: Fridays 6th & 20th March and 3rd April

Time: 12:15 - 13:30

Please consider coming to one of our three Lenten lunches. Whilst the URC (next to Tesco's in Heswall) host this Friday lunchtime event, it is a joint effort by all those involved. The money raised is split equally between **Christian Aid** and **CAFOD**. All the soup is home made and served with crusty bread, followed by tea/coffee, Fairtrade Biscuits and grapes. Make a note in your diary and please come and support us.



Confirmation will take place on June 10th at St. Winefrides Neston. Any young person in Year 8 or above who wishes to receive the Sacrament should give their name, phone number and email address to Fr. Stephen. The initial meeting will be on

Sunday 5th April at 6pm with preparation from Sunday 19th April.

Tickets for our annual **Easter Egg Raffle** at Holy Family will be on sale at the Box Office from this Sunday. Lots of prizes to be won. Tickets £1 per strip. Thanks for your support.



Assam News

Fr Philip writes from Assam to ask whether we have photos or videos of our church/parish/locality that we might send to him to show the boys and others – as a means of getting to know each other better. He also extends an invitation for us to send a representative over to Dibrugarh to see first hand the boys and girls we are helping and the places and conditions in which they are living.

Please contact Fred Taylor 342-5922 if you wish to talk about any of Fr Philip's letter.

Assam Collection Totals:

January 2020 £247.70

February 2020 £181.79

Thank you for your continued support.



Churches Together with the Youth Fellowship are pleased to invite you to a **Grand Afternoon Tea** at St Peter's Centre on **Saturday 28th March from 2:30pm to 5pm**. There will be children's crafts and entertainment as well as raffles and stalls. All proceeds will be going to Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Open Doors and YF Funds. Tickets cost £10 per adult (over 11's) and £5 per child (under 11s). Advance booking required via the St Peter's Parish Office or Christine Blair 342 7387.

Thank you message from Stephen Blair (Trustee of the Rock of Joy Trust)



*Dear members of the congregation,
I am writing to thank you so much for the extremely kind donations you have made to the Rock of Joy Trust in response to Josh Campbell's presentation. You have shown true Christian love and generosity over the years and this continues to make a major impact on the lives of the neediest children in Uganda. These particular funds will be spent on putting in an ecologically effective kitchen using recycled material. Currently the burning of fresh wood produces a huge amount of smoke and affects the health of the cooks in our school in Kampala.*

God bless you, Stephen Blair

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

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.

Legion of Mary Meetings

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

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| Sat 14th March | Ferial | 6:00 pm | Mass - Martin Aslett R.I.P. | O U R L A D Y & S T J O H N |
| Sun 15th March | Third Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week III) | 11:15 am | Mass - Clem & Frances Fishwick | |
| Mon 16th March | Ferial | 9:00 am | Mass - Tim Hetherington R.I.P. ✠ <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> | |
| Tues 17th March | St Patrick | 9:00 am | Mass - Stan Orton R.I.P. ✠ <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> | |
| Wed 18th March | St Cyril of Jerusalem | 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 19th March | St Joseph | | No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 7pm) | |
| Fri 20th March | Ferial | | No Mass (Mass at Holy Family at 9am) | |
| Sat 21st March | Ferial | 6:00 pm | Mass - Joe & Margaret Hall R.I.P. | |
| Sun 22nd March | Fourth Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week IV) | 11:15 am | Mass - Jean Casson R.I.P. | |

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| H O L Y F A M I L Y | Sun 8th March | Second Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week II) | 9:30 am | Mass - Bernadette Burchell R.I.P. |
| | | | 5:00 pm | Mass - Intentions of Mariette Skates |
| | Mon 16th March | Ferial | | (Mass at OLSJ at 9am) |
| | Tues 17th March | St Patrick | | (Mass at OLSJ at 9am) |
| | Wed 18th March | St Cyril of Jerusalem | 9:00 am | Mass - Maureen Partson (Speedy Recovery) |
| | Thurs 19th March | St Joseph | 7:00 pm | Mass - For the Parish 21st Birthday Celebration of the Consecration of Holy Family Church - All Welcome! |
| | Fri 20th March | Ferial | 9:00 am | Mass - Holy Souls ✠ <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> |
| | Sat 21st March | Ferial | 12 noon | Mass - Special Intention |
| Sun 22nd March | Fourth Sunday of Lent (Psalter Week IV) | 9:30 am | Mass - Our Parish Family | |
| | | 5:00 pm | Mass - Bernie Burchell R.I.P. | |

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.