

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

OUR PARISH CHURCHES REMAIN OPEN DURING THIS CURRENT LOCKDOWN

As per the latest [Government Guidelines](#) both our Parish Churches are allowed to remain open for Mass. However, as a community, we must all do our bit to ensure that we are keeping each other safe. We can do this by making sure that we are familiar with the rules that have been set:

- ★ Please sanitise your hands on arrival and when leaving church.
- ★ Please wear a face covering when in church, ensuring your nose and mouth are covered.
- ★ Please sit where the stewards direct you, and remain in that seat throughout the service.
- ★ Please do not kneel as this reduces the distance to the person in front of you.
- ★ Please stand and sit at the same time as the congregation to maintain distancing to the person in front of you.
- ★ At communion, please maintain a single file and keep distanced from the person in front of you.
- ★ Approach the minister with your mask on and arms outstretched, receiving the host in your hand.
- ★ Move away from the minister and slip your mask open and place the host in your mouth.
- ★ Replace your mask and leave church, please do not return to a seat, or stand at the back of church.
- ★ Please do not mingle outside church, but leave the premises promptly.

It is appreciated that some of these requested may cause concern for some people, but our aim is to ensure that as far as possible our activities do not contribute to the spread of the virus. We do not know who has the virus, we must act as though we all have it and behave in a manner which seeks to protect others in our group.

Thank you for your co-operation & understanding.

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,
Carol Ross,
Jillie Huntingford,
Imelda Atherton,
Eileen Millard,
Pauline Pritchard,
Deacon Philip White,
Sara Bull,
Lil Skinner,
William Kerin,
David Johnston,
Phil Shaw,
Eileen Roberts,
Irene Fitzpatrick,
Frances Ford,
Maureen Jones,
Moirá Griffiths-Parr,
Andrew Whittingham-Jones,
John McNulty,
Susan McNulty,
Sister Kathleen Campbell,
Samantha Stevens



Please get in touch if there are any alterations.



HM Government



ENGLAND LOCKDOWN

STAY AT HOME

**THE NEW VARIANT OF CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING FAST.
WE ALL NEED TO PLAY OUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD.**

▶ LEAVING HOME

You must not leave, or be outside of your home or garden, except for a very limited set of exemptions e.g. to shop for basic necessities, exercise, go to work if you cannot do so from home, or to escape risk of harm.

▶ MEETING OTHERS

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone, except with your household or support bubble (if eligible to form one). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

▶ EXERCISE

You may exercise on your own, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household (when on your own). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

▶ BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS

Hospitality closed aside from sales by takeaway (until 11pm), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Alcohol cannot be purchased through takeaway or click-and-collect from hospitality venues.

▶ RETAIL

Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.

▶ WORK AND BUSINESS

Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.

▶ EDUCATION

Early years settings open. Primary and secondary schools and colleges move to remote provision except for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Most university students to move to remote learning.

▶ LEISURE AND SPORTING FACILITIES

Closed, with limited exceptions.

▶ ACCOMMODATION

Closed, with limited exceptions.

▶ PERSONAL CARE

Closed.

▶ ENTERTAINMENT

Closed.

▶ OVERNIGHT STAYS

You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.

▶ WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Weddings up to 6 people permitted in exceptional circumstances. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events of up to 6 permitted.

▶ PLACES OF WORSHIP

Places of worship can remain open and communal worship is permitted, but you must not mix with those outside your household or support bubble.

▶ TRAVELLING

You must stay at home. If you do leave home for a very limited set of exemptions, you should stay local in the village, town, or part of the city where you live where possible. Do not travel abroad unless an exemption applies.

▶ CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE

Shielding reintroduced across England. You should not travel to work, school, college or university and should limit the time you spend outside the home. You should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential.

▶ CARE HOME VISITS

Visits can take place with arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, or behind windows. Close-contact indoor visits are not allowed. No visits will be permitted in the event of an outbreak but end of life visits are permitted in all circumstances.

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

For more information go to:
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen



Jesus is baptized in the Jordan by John. No sooner has he come up out of the water than he sees the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice comes from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.' The tearing open of the heavens symbolises communication between God and human beings. It also heralds the end time. 'Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down' and the tearing of the veil of the temple from top to bottom at the death of Jesus. 'You are my Son, the beloved' reflects God's adoption of the Messianic King in the Psalms and the Servant Songs from Isaiah. The words also foreshadow God's words at Jesus' Transfiguration. Jesus' baptism also foreshadows that 'baptism' when he will be drenched in suffering and this will also be the destiny of those who wish to follow him. The gift of the Holy Spirit and the voice from heaven are the conferral of Jesus prophetic mission which will unfold throughout the Gospel as he confronts the mystery of suffering and death. Where Jesus has gone before, we follow.

Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 10th January 2021

Sun 10th January	The Baptism of the Lord (Psalter Week I)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Brian Cantillon R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Hannah & John Mutch
Mon 11th January	Ferial	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Ted Welch R.I.P.
Tues 12th January	St Aelred of Rivevaux	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - Intentions of Brian & Vivien Sharp
Wed 13th January	St Hilary	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Intentions of Suzy Smallwood
Thurs 14th January	Ferial	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Gary Lannigan R.I.P.
Fri 15th January	Ferial	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - Val Bennett R.I.P.
Sat 16th January	BVM on Saturday	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Michael McDonagh R.I.P.
Sun 17th January	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week II) <i>Day of Special Prayer for World Peace</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Brian Cantillon R.I.P.
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Kathleen Campbell & John Campbell R.I.P.



First Forgiveness & First Holy Communion 2021

If you would like to know how our Sacramental Preparation Programme is going to work this year, please watch this video:

<https://youtu.be/5ukGbOHj6vE>

If you have a child who will be 8 years or older in this academic year, he or she will be eligible to join the programme. Children at our parish school, Ladymount, will follow a programme of preparation there. For children who are in other schools, there will be a parish programme of preparation taking place with the catechists from Our Lady and St John.

If you wish your child to take part in the parish programme, please contact Father Stephen on 342 6581 or email father.stephen@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk.

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Tony Dunford, Robert Elliott & David Platt** who have recently died. May their souls rest in peace. Please remember to pray for their families at this difficult time.



NHS Coronavirus Advice for those with Coronavirus Symptoms or a Positive Test Result

If you have COVID-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, a loss or change to your sense of taste or smell), have received a positive COVID-19 test result, or live with someone who has tested positive or have symptoms.

- ★ Stay at home and self isolate
- ★ Arrange for a test by booking online or ringing 119

Follow the advice provided by your doctor or the test station.

Wirral Hospice St John's, Christmas Tree Collection and Recycling Scheme

CANCELLED!

We are very sorry but we cannot carry out our Christmas tree collections due to the severity of the current Covid-19 situation



For more information about refunds please visit the Wirral Hospice Website

www.wirralhospice.org/treecollection

Pray for those with Coronavirus



Please keep everyone who is currently suffering from Coronavirus in your prayers. We especially pray for two members of our local clergy who are poorly with Coronavirus:

Father Raymund Burke,
Parish Priest at St Werburgh's, Birkenhead
&
Father Paul O'Grady,
Parish Priest at St. Winefride's, Neston

Watch Masses said by Father Stephen on our YouTube channel Our Lady and St John Heswall

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw>



Visit the parish

Website



at

www.rcchp.org.uk

Do you know anyone that doesn't have access to the internet?
A paper copy of the weekly newsletter can be sent to them in the post. Just drop a line to the Parish Secretary.



Ways to Stay in Touch with Parish News

Visit the Holy Family Pensby Facebook page



Sign up for the weekly parish newsletter via email
To join send an email to Victoria Hanlon



contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

Have your contact details changed recently?
If they have, please let the Parish Secretary know.

contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk