

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.

Please be reminded that in these difficult times ***there is no duty to come to church, and no obligation to attend Mass on Sunday.*** Currently infection rates on the Wirral are at their highest levels ever. The government has issued advice for those who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, summarised below:

- ★ The new national lockdown guidance, which applies to everyone, means that you must not leave or be outside of your home and garden, except for limited purposes which are set out in that guidance.
- ★ We are advising clinically extremely vulnerable people to stay at home as much as possible.
- ★ You can still go outside for exercise or to attend health appointments, but try to keep all contact with others outside of your household to a minimum, and avoid busy areas.
- ★ You may receive further advice from your medical professionals.

Don't forget that you can watch Mass from the parish via our [YouTube](#) channel as well as from our [Diocesan Cathedral in Shrewsbury](#).

Thank you for your co-operation & understanding.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

By Father Stephen



Jesus arrives after John the Baptist has been arrested (literally 'handed over') a fate that will await Jesus himself and his followers after his death. He proclaims the good news of God, that is, a new privileged time when God's manifestation of power and care for the people is on their doorstep. He then summons them to a change of heart, to take a good look at their lives and put their trust in the good news.

This new beginning includes the calling of disciples and the confronting of evil. Jesus is not a solitary prophet but one who calls companions. He enters the lives of four people engaged in their ordinary occupations, simply saying, "Follow me." They immediately drop everything and follow him. Discipleship involves being with Jesus and doing what Jesus does. They follow Jesus enthusiastically, but their fate will be like the different hearers of word in the parable of the sower. Satan will steal the commitment from some, some will fall away during persecution and ultimately all will abandon Jesus at the cross. Mark is interested not only in portraying the power of Jesus to elicit an immediate response but wants to tell a story of the challenges and failures that can await people as they respond to his call.

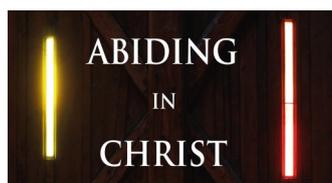
Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 24th January 2021

Sun 24th January	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week III)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Sarah Davies R.I.P. Birthday Remembrance
	<i>Day of Special Prayer for Openness to the Word of God</i>	11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Bernie Burchell R.I.P.
Mon 25th January	The Conversion of St Paul	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Henry Bernard McGurk R.I.P.
Tues 26th January	Ss Timothy & Titus	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - Dot & Family
Wed 27th January	St Angela Merici	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Anné & Alex Intentions (Wedding Thanksgiving)
Thurs 28th January	St Thomas Aquinas	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Dan Miller Birthday
Fri 29th January	Ferial	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - John Walker
Sat 30th January	BVM on Saturday	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - The Barnish Family
Sun 31st January	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week IV)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Harry Rylance R.I.P.
	<i>Day of Special Prayer for Racial Justice</i>	11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Richard Potts R.I.P.

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of
**Robert Elliott, David Platt, Michael Maddox
 & Archbishop Philip Tartaglia**

who have recently died. May their souls rest in
 peace. Please remember to pray for their families
 at this difficult time.



Christian Unity Week 2021

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is usually
 held in January each year. The Churches
 Together of Heswall, have decided to postpone
 this event until later in the year, so that it can be
 celebrated in person, together.

WARNING - Covid-19 Vaccine Scams

You may have seen in the media that the police
 are warning people about a number of Covid-19
 Vaccine scams going on. Police have warned that
 fraudsters are sending out fake text messages,
 emails and phone calls in an attempt to steal
 people's personal data and financial details.

REMEMBER....

- ⇒ You will **NEVER** be asked to pay for the
 vaccine....it's free for everyone.
- ⇒ You should **NEVER** give out your personal
 details over the phone or via text or email.

The NHS will **NEVER** ask you to press a button on
 your keypad or send a text to confirm you want the
 vaccine, and will **NEVER** ask for payment or for
 your bank details.

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,
 Moira Griffiths-Parr,
 Andrew Whittingham-Jones,
 John McNulty,
 Susan McNulty,
 Samantha Stevens,
 Claudia Marsh



Please get in touch if there are any alterations.



A Message From Reuben Purchase, Diocesan Mission Catechist

IF NOT NOW, WHEN? It's Sunday of the Word of God. I've a suggestion – why not sign up to with our own home-grown Mission for Catechesis, to study the Word of God more deeply via our world-class library of formation resources. Register with our Catechetical partners at franciscanathome.com/shrewsbury. It's available to everyone! You can use as much or as little of the library of several hundred online workshops as you see fit - either alone, and ad hoc, or as part of a tailored track for your parish team. If you want to help us with the Mission's vision to form a new generation of evangelists, you could become a mentored student on the Diocesan Certification programme.

Your Diocesan mentor is available to help implement all options for the formation of ministers and catechists alike. You can contact him anytime at reuben.purchase@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. Be the change you want to see!

Please follow the Mission on our new website – www.weareallcatechists.com

And follow us on social media –

<https://www.facebook.com/weareallcatechists>

<http://www.instagram.com/weareallcatechists>

<http://www.twitter.com/allcatechists>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgLVgfUIN3HarGh2AP803qA>



A Quick Legal Note about Our Live Streamed Masses

As you are aware, all of our Masses are being live streamed on YouTube, to make Mass available to all our parishioners who are unable to attend Mass in person.

We are legally obliged to inform all parishioners who attend Mass in person, that for GDPR purposes, recognisable images may be published as an integral part of the livestreamed service.

This just means that although the camera is usually focused on Father Stephen, parishioners can be seen coming up to receive communion (usually just the back of people's head). If you have any concerns about this, please speak to Father.



NHS Coronavirus Advice for those with COVID-19 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.

PARISHIONER OUTREACH

Do you know of anyone that may need a bit of shopping or a phone call and you are unable to help them yourself?

Do get in touch, as we have a group of parishioners who are willing to lend a hand. Please contact Victoria Hanlon at contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk or telephone Father Stephen at the presbytery and we can organise for someone to help out.

Things we can help with:

- Phone call for a chat
- Picking up shopping
- Picking up a prescription
- Walking a dog

**Year of St Joseph****Prayer from the Roman Missal**

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

Ancient Prayer to Saint Joseph

Oh Saint Joseph whose protection is so strong, so great, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain from your Divine Son for me all spiritual blessings through Christ Our Lord, so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh Saint Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name, and kiss His fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. Saint Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

**Pray for those with Coronavirus**

Please keep everyone who is currently suffering from Coronavirus in your prayers. We especially pray for Father Paul O'Grady, the Parish Priest at St. Winefride's, Neston as he continues to make a recovery from Coronavirus.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to God,
who alone makes us dwell in safety:
For all who are affected by coronavirus,
through illness or isolation or anxiety,
that they may find relief and recovery:
Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are guiding our nation at this time,
and shaping national policies,
that they may make wise decisions:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,
that through their skill and insights
many will be restored to health:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the vulnerable and the fearful,
for the gravely ill and the dying,
that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the intercession of Mary, Help of Christians and
Health of the Sick: *Hail Mary...*

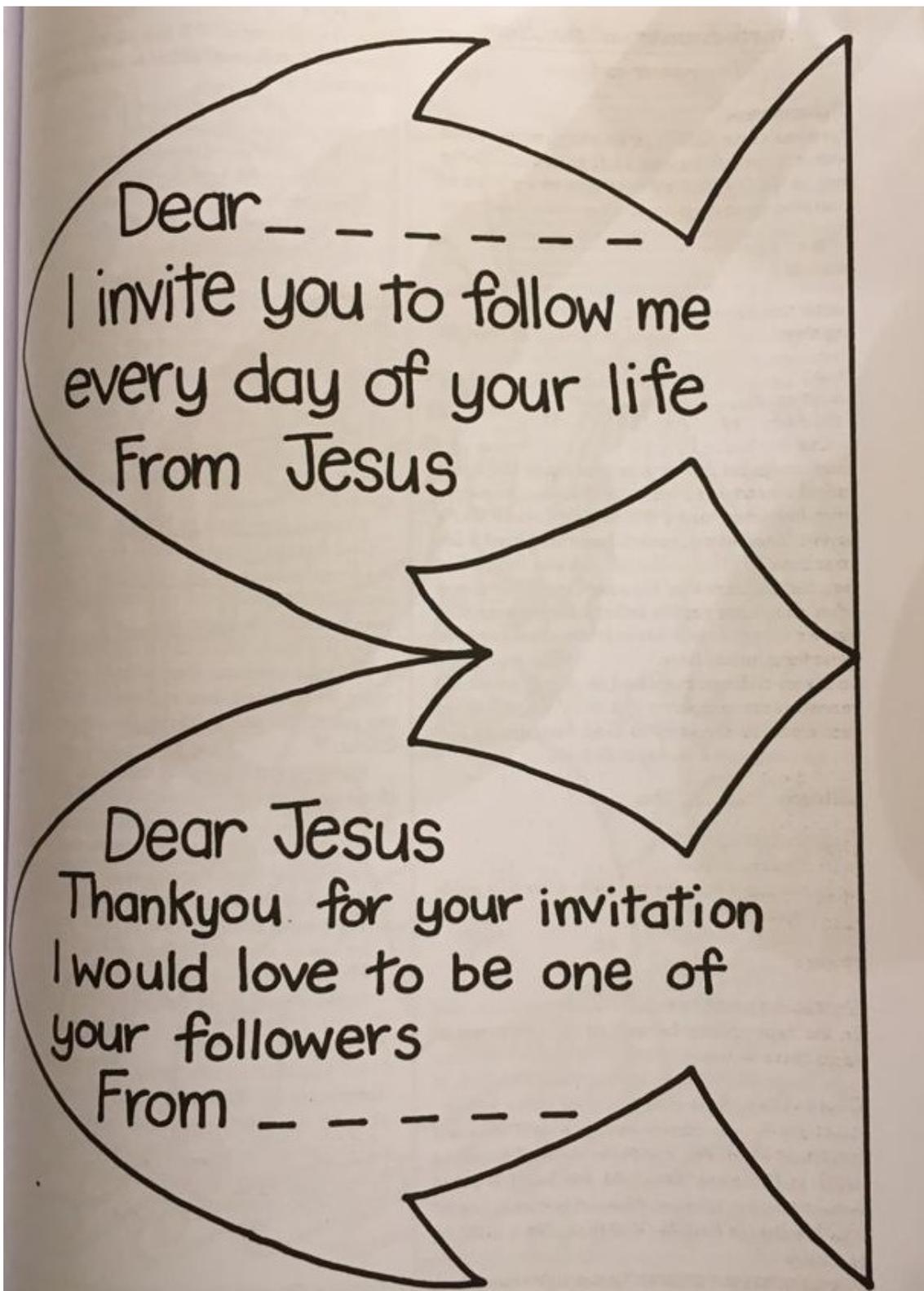
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.



Children's Sunday Liturgy Page

This week's Children's Liturgy video can now be viewed from our YouTube channel or click on this link

[Children's Liturgy YouTube Video](#)





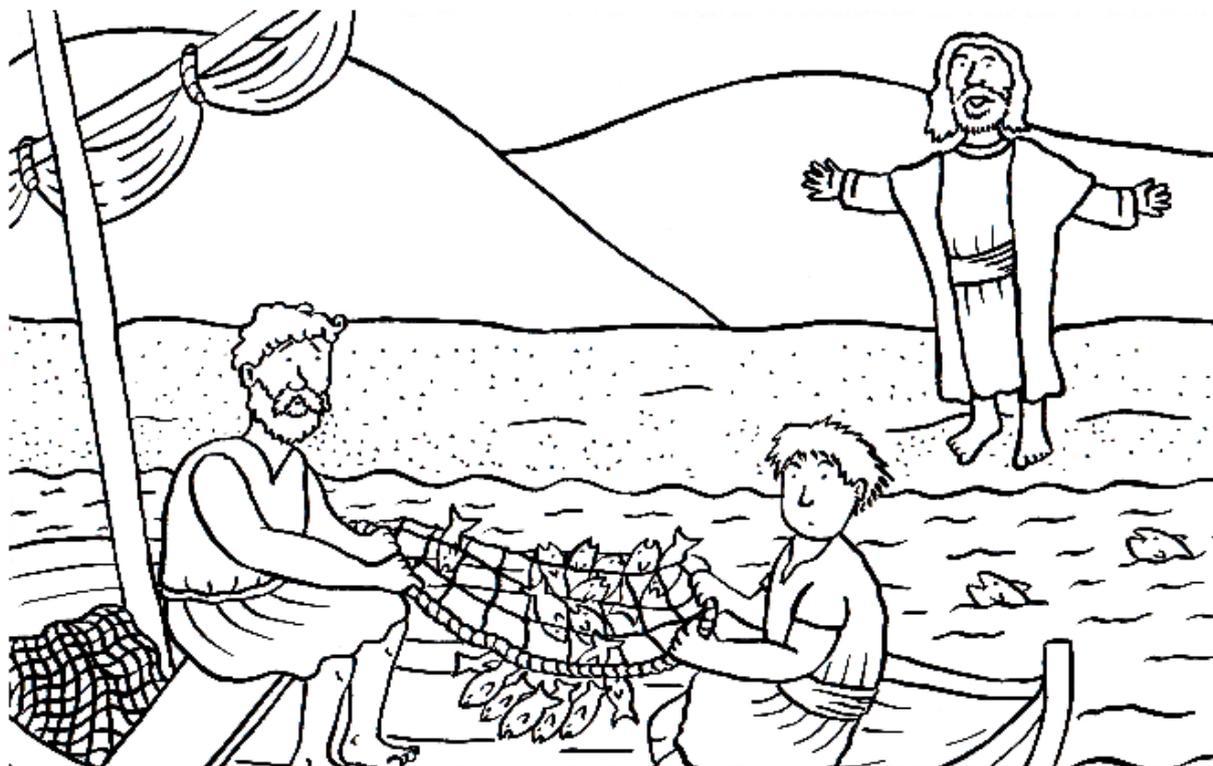
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A picture for you to colour in.

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gospel: Mark 1:14-20*



Find out more about children around the world at cafod.org.uk/kidzzone

Love creates a family

Sharing our way of living in the family

Everyone is part of a family and is invited

21st Jan - Love shares

18th Feb - Love reaches out

18th March - Love uplifts

29th April - Love heals

27th May - Love creates a home

16th Sept - Love generates wisdom

14th Oct - Love unites

All sessions will take place on Zoom from 7.30 to 8.30pm

To participate please email families@focolare.org.uk



An Invitation to Join the Focolare Families Zoom Sessions

Parishioners, Victoria and Gianni Interi would like to invite you to a series of special online events. If you are interested and/or want to talk to them about these, please ring 07966620159 or email interis@ginteri.co.uk

The pandemic has brought into focus the importance of relationships, care and connection, inviting many of us to re-evaluate our lifestyles and priorities. Within the Focolare Movement, the New Families, made up of families from all over the world, aim to bring the spirit of being a family everywhere by putting the words of the Gospel into action - in their homes, communities and wider society so as to contribute towards building the one human family.

From January 2021, the New Families in GB are launching a course looking at the different aspects of Love and how we can live these practically in our lives together as families - whether it is how we work, share, communicate, reach out to others and find a balance.

We are all part of a family and so the course is open to all who are interested in its topics. We take inspiration from living the Gospel, those from all faiths and convictions are welcome.

To participate in any of the GB Families' sessions, please email families@focolare.org.uk. A single zoom link for all the sessions will be sent.

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