

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



The gospel tells us of the healing of Simon's mother-in-law. Jesus is told of her illness and without speaking a word, he goes to her, takes her by the hand and helps her up. The fever leaves her and immediately she begins to serve them. This shows that the healing power of Jesus can be a liberation leading to greater service of others.

Crowds of sick and possessed people come to the door and Jesus cures many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another and casts out many devils, but he will not allow them to speak because they know who he is. He then gets up and leaves the house in the morning long before dawn (the subsequent hour of his death sentence and of the discovery of the empty tomb) and goes off to a lonely place and prays there. The scene of his testing the desert of wilderness is now where he communes with God his Father in prayer. The disciples find him, tell him that everyone is looking for him, and he responds with a renewed commitment to his mission of proclamation and confronting the power of evil.

Masses for the Week Commencing Sunday 7th February 2021

Sun 7th February	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week I)	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Parishioners
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Aileen Pocok R.I.P.
Mon 8th February	SS Jerome Emiliani & Josphine Bakhita <i>Day of Special Prayer for Victims of Trafficking</i>	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Michael Foley R.I.P.
Tues 9th February	Ferial	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - William & Hannah O'Brien R.I.P.
Wed 10th February	St Scholastica	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Brian Cantillon R.I.P.
Thurs 11th February	Our Lady of Lourdes <i>World Day of Prayer for the Sick</i>	9:30 am	OLSJ	Mass - Tim Dwyer R.I.P.
Fri 12th February	Ferial	8:30 am	YouTube	Mass - Colin McArdle & Family
Sat 13th February	BVM on Sunday	12 noon	Holy Family	Mass - Pat Whitfield R.I.P.
Sun 14th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Psalter Week II) <i>Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed</i>	9:30 am	Holy Family	Mass - Mr D. Collister
		11:15 am	OLSJ	Mass - Parishioners

☞ May They Rest in Peace ☞

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Brenda Evans, Claudia Marsh, Rose Ann Whelan & Edward (Ted) Wilson

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

Please also keep in your prayers, the family of **Joan Cathleen McKenna**, who was a member of this parish for many years, raising her family of Bernadette, Josephine, Rosemary, Michael and Paul, in Downham Road before moving to Somerset after the death of her husband. Some years ago she moved to the Leek area and sadly died last week, aged 93, of old age, after being cared for at home by her family.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday 17th February

There will be two Masses on Ash Wednesday:

Holy Family at 9:30 am

OLSJ at 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated slightly differently this year in accordance with the guidance issued by The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

- The Ashes will be prepared without the use of oil or water.
- The Ashes will be blessed in the usual way after the Homily.
- The Priest will say, just once, to the whole congregation "Repent, and believe in the Gospel".
- The Distribution of ashes will take place at the end of Mass **before** Communion.
- Ashes will be distributed by sprinkling the Ashes on the top of the head without saying anything. The faithful **must also keep their face coverings** in place during the distribution of Ashes.

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,
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,
Maira Griffiths-Parr,
Andrew Whittingham-Jones,
John McNulty,
Susan McNulty,
Samantha Stevens,



Please get in touch if there are any alterations.



Our **Children's Liturgy Pages** are being designed by one of our young parishioners who is volunteering with the Children's Liturgy Team for her Duke of Edinburgh award. She will be designing the activity sheets each week by hand. See page 6 for her first contribution.



Letter of Thanks

'On behalf of Wirral Churches' Ark Project, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of £158.00 received on 22/12/2020 in respect of the sale of 50 packs of Christmas cards at £3.00 each and a donation of £8.00.

Since our organisation began, our mission has been to provide resources which encourage, inspire and challenge people who are homeless to transform their lives. Over the years we have supported many individuals at risk and have helped our clients to secure permanent long term accommodation. We are grateful for your support as donations such as yours enable us to provide the extras that usual funding sources do not cover.'



Don't Forget - The next Assam Collection will take place after Mass at Holy Family **THIS Sunday 7th February**.



'Walk For Water' – Action for Lent Holy Family Justice & Peace Group

This year Cafod are appealing for support of the many poor people who suffer simply because of their need for drinking water, something we all take for granted. Cafod tells us how individuals need to walk many miles everyday simply to supply their family with water.

To help us join in this campaign we are asking parishioners (from either parish) to provide either **Volunteers** to walk, or, **Sponsors** who will offer their support for each mile walked.

For example, sponsorship could be at 50p per mile and limited to 40 miles, to provide a donation of £20. The distance and limit will be at the discretion of the individual sponsor. The donations will be collected at the end of Lent. Cafod envelopes will be available for cash or cheques and bank transfers can be arranged.

Volunteers can be individuals, families or other groupings, give themselves a 'fun' name or simply remain anonymous. Sponsors can select their Volunteers or choose to be randomly allocated to a Volunteer and also to remain anonymous if preferred.

Will those willing to help, either as Volunteers or Sponsors please contact :

Fred Taylor at 342-5922 or any J&P member.

walk.cafod.org.uk

Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes



Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes will be live streamed on church services tv, <https://www.churchservices.tv/svdpknutsford> from St Vincent de Paul, Knutsford at **9.30am on 11th February 2021**. A recording will be available to watch on the church services TV website.

We will then be hosting a zoom social gathering that evening at 8pm, if you would like details to join in please email secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk or text/call 07451 249267.



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.



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.



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](#)



**A Message from Charlie Bough,
Chairman of the Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund**



Dear Congregation and Parish of Our Lady and St John and Holy Family,

A Happy New Year to you all!

As Chair of a small charity such as Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund, it is always a pleasure to thank our supporters and friends for their remarkable kindness. It is therefore with great pleasure that I thank you all for supporting Joan Larkin in her quest to run a Charity Lottery on our behalf. The £2750 you have helped her to raise is not a small amount of money and no small amount of effort either.

2020 was, as we know, an odd one, but our Charity must continue to support the local community. We therefore needed to rewrite our rulebooks. A physical camp was deemed to be impossible however the Trustees and Committee unanimously agreed to run a Virtual Camp. Where would we have been this year without Zoom, Facetime and the myriad of other social media platforms that are available? Our Virtual Camp week was a huge success and allowed us to reach more families than ever. Moving forward, this will now provide a fantastic new formula to enable us to interact with our families throughout the year. We have also launched Heswall Camp Book Club, which allows us to offer our support during the tough home-schooling period and beyond.

We will continue to strive for new ways to help our community and seek new families that would benefit from a week-long camp. To support this aim, we are also looking for new members to join our Charity. If you would like to help shape the future of Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday Fund, then please do take the opportunity to talk with Joan or contact myself. We would be only too happy to discuss why we love our charity and how you may be able to help.

Please don't feel that you have to be a formal member to support us or make recommendations, we are always here to listen.

Once again, to all you wonderful friends of Heswall Camp - thank you for your amazingly kind support. On behalf of the Trustees, I wish you all health and happiness.

Kind regards,

Charlie Bough

Chairman

🌐 <http://heswallcamp.org.uk/>

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyzzNjNscAoxuWubVYv04Lw)



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.

Visit the parish

Website



at

www.rcchp.org.uk

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@ourladyand
stjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)

Have your contact
details changed
recently?
If they have,
please let the
Parish Secretary
know.
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stjohn.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk)